

REFEREES

No Excuse to Abuse

Please take time to read this message. We sincerely appreciate your time to this matter. Please pass this along to as many people as possible.

After many league matches, tournaments, club scrimmages and friendlies many references relate to the referees and/or the decisions they make. When further details arise often it is disappointing that responses by parents, fans, players and coaches that the instances are actual referee abuse.

Regardless of what program you are associated with VYSA, the board takes these matters very seriously. Our mission at VYSA demands that we fostering the physical, mental and emotional maturity of youth and we heavily influence their behavior by our behavior. Parents as you “set the example” for your children most effectively and concretely how to treat referees, here are some reminders and points to ponder:

- No one should be speaking to the referee other than the coach or team captains.
- Conversations and questions surrounding calls—yes. Disrespectful remarks—no.
- No one should be harassing referees or asst. referees under any circumstances.
- If a coach or team captain is asked to be quiet by the referee, comply at once, let it go, and play on.
- Give ‘em a break! Many referees are young and learning, just like players. Would you want your child yelled at by 32-40+ screaming parents, players and coaches.
- Consider the example you set for the very players you're charged with teaching the game to. Are you a good model of sportsmanship?
- Have you ever arrived to a game to find no referees? No asst. referees? How did the game go? Did people yell at you or the person who graciously offered to referee to help out? Was your biggest fear people yelling at you because you have seen how referees are treated?
- Have you ever seen a referee change a call after being yelled at? Is that even legal?
- Have you ever witnessed “make up calls”? Usually the game digressed with more poor calls didn't it?
- If you feel a Law of the Game has been misused by a referee, your avenue of recourse is to report it to the VYSA referee assigner or Director of Coaching.
- A Head Coach is in charge of the VYSA parents, players and supporters. Unruly sidelines are the coaches responsibility to educate and ask them to keep quiet or leave.
- No one has the right to badger a referee. This includes coaches, asst. coaches, managers and players.
- Every watch a game where the referee crew did a great job? Did you think of reporting that to the referee assigner? Balanced feedback is critical in order for your comments in general, to be considered valid.
- Many of our very own VYSA players have gone through referee clinics as a way to further their education themselves about the game we all love. Have you?

We are all passionate about the game, our teams and the club. Excellent!! Please do channel that passion in a positive and respectful way and remember we all represent VYSA and our community. Lets all represent VYSA proudly and do our part to keep “the beautiful game” beautiful.



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