



OHIO SOUTH STATE REFEREE COMMITTEE
A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION



Off the Field Control

Ohio South
Intermediate Referee
Training

Off the Field Control

- Have you ever seen a game with an unruly coach or a fan?
- What did it do to the referee?
- What did it do to the game?



Off the Field Control

Referees ... **When** do you deal with unruly coach or fan behavior?

Assistant Referees ...
When?



Referees and AR's - **How** do you deal with such unruly behavior?

Off the Field Control

- Do's ??
- Don'ts ??



Off the Field Control

DO

As per Brian Hall (FIFA Referee and former Mgr of USSF Referee Training) ... Use

Ask-Tell-Remove
Approach

Off the Field Control Coaches

Advice for dealing with coaches...

Ask-Tell-Remove Approach

1. Ask coach to behave
2. Tell coach their misbehavior will no longer be tolerated (change or else, their choice)
3. Ejection



Ask-Tell-Remove Approach

ASK – Referee asks the coach to refrain from the poor behavior

- “Coach – please, I am refereeing the game. Let me do my job without your help.”
- “Coach – Please Shhh!”
- “Coach – I hear you, but please let me referee the game.”

Ask-Tell-Remove Approach

TELL - Tell the coach their poor behavior will no longer be tolerated.

- “Coach - I am telling you your behavior is not acceptable. Please change it or I am going to have to take further action.”
- “Coach - the decision is yours.”

The coach decides what happens next - it's on their shoulders

Ask-Tell-Remove Approach

REMOVE – the final step is ejection.

- “Coach – please leave the field. The match will not continue until you are gone. If you don’t leave, we will end the match.”
- You and your AR’s then walk to the center of the field and wait for the coach to leave.
- Coach doesn’t leave? You and your AR’s then leave the field and immediately call your referee assigner.

Off the Field Control Fans and Parents

Ask-Tell-Remove
Approach

Ask-Tell-Remove Approach Fans and Parents

ASK - Ask the coach to deal with fans.

NEVER, NEVER deal with fans yourself!

“Coach - Please, you are responsible for the conduct of your fans. Their screaming is getting in the way of me doing my job (or the game). If it continues and no one deals with it, we have to suspend or terminate the game.”

Ask-Tell-Remove Approach

Fans and Parents

- 'I'll give you a couple minutes to go over and tell your spectators to stop their dissent.'
- Knowing that if they don't deal with their team's spectators, the game can be terminated and their team could be punished with a loss ... the coach is forced to take action.
- The game is stopped as the coach walks all the way across the field - **the walk of shame**. The focus is now off the referee and on the coach and spectators.

Off the Field Control Fans and Parents

Brian Hall's advice for
dealing with fans ...

Same basic approach...

But have the coach
deliver the message to
parents....



1. Coach **asks or tells** the fans to behave
2. If the coach does not (or cannot) control their team's fans, game can be terminated.

Bench Control

More Brian Hall advice for referees....

DO ... Deal with coach and fan misbehavior



1. Referees **MUST** protects their AR's.
2. Makes the game more enjoyable for everyone!

Off the Field Control

DON'T

Over-React

Be Argumentative or Abusive

Yell or Finger Wag

Make Empty Threats

Ask Questions or Make Comments that
invite a Reply

Be Over-Tolerant of Wrongful Comments

Brain Teaser 10

You are the referee in a match where the fans are completely out of control. One of the fans is constantly yelling at your AR's (and you). You stop the match and ask the coach to go over and deal with their unruly fans. The coach makes the "walk of shame", talks to their fans and you restart the match. But the loudmouth fan continues to attack you and you AR's.

What do you do? (Choose one or more of the answers that are correct)

- A. Go over and show the loudmouth fan a Red Card
- B. Give the coach a Yellow Card
- C. Give the coach a Red Card
- D. Terminate the game and leave the field
- E. Ask the coach to tell the loudmouth fan to leave