

Coaches and Referees

Improving Relations for the Good of the Game

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Coaches and Referees Improving Relations for the Good of the Game

Whether referee or coach, the aim is for kids to enjoy the beautiful game and to create an environment to help them excel.

This session explores various ways to make the coach-referee relationship cooperative rather than adversarial.



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(With show of hands)

How many refs do we have here
today?

How many coaches?

How many of you play both roles?



Photo: Indian River Soccer Association

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- FLIP CHART:
 - What coaches like from referees
 - What coaches dislike from referees
 - What referees like from coaches
 - What referees dislike from coaches



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Below some of the most common responses:

- What coaches like from referees
 - Staying with the play
 - Consistency
- What coaches dislike from referees
 - Inconsistency
 - Not knowing the Rules of Competition
 - Nitpicking over uniform details



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Below some of the most common responses:

- What referees like from coaches
 - Good manners
 - Focusing on their team, not the officiating
- What referees dislike from coaches
 - Abuse toward officials
 - Inciting with their actions poor behavior from players and parents
 - Not knowing the rules; e.g., handball, back pass to keeper, offside, no-offside on various restarts
 - Getting berated for offside calls from coaches who are in no position to have made the judgment
 - Encouraging players to cheat



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- Scenarios with the audience for discussion:
 - How coaches and players can make the refs' job easier before the game: e.g., player check-in?
 - If a coach has a legitimate beef, what's the best way to approach the officials?
 - How should refs handle abusive parents?
 - How should coaches handle abusive parents?



Referee Education



Zone 1

- GR 9 Recreational Referees - Small Sided and Recreational Matches
 - GR 8 Referee - Competitive Youth Matches
 - GR 7 Referee - Adult and Top Level Matches
- GR 6 State Referee - High Level Adult and Regional/National Youth Matches

Zone 2

- GR 5 National Referee Candidates - Regional, National and D2 and below Matches

Zone 3

- GR 4 & 3 National Referees - Professional Matches



Referee Education

Every level must attend yearly recertification
rule changes and interpretations

Resources specific to courses
books, videos, training topics and other instructional
materials are available for download to improve
developing officials of all levels.

State Associations

On going with mentoring, assessing and continuing
education.



Coach Education

Multiple coaching resources and courses are available

from US Youth Soccer, U. S. Soccer, your National State

Association and the NSCAA.

