



# Zero Tolerance Policy



- All persons responsible for a team and all the spectators shall support the referee. Failure to do so will undermine the referee's authority and has the potential of creating a hostile environment for players, the referee, and all the other participants and spectators.

**No one is to address the referee during the game except as allowed below.**

## **Coaches and Managers**

### **During the Game:**

- May respond to a referee initiating a communication
- May ask for substitutions
- May point out emergencies or safety issues

### **At halftime or at the end of the game:**

- May ask a referee to explain a rule(s) in a polite and constructive way
- May give a polite and friendly feedback to the referee
- Absolutely no sarcasm, harassment, or intimidation is allowed in any conversation with the referee.

## **Penalties:**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> minor infraction – The referee should ignore
2. 1<sup>st</sup> serious infraction – Caution or ejection depending on the seriousness
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> infraction – A verbal warning
4. 3<sup>rd</sup> infraction – Caution/Ejection
5. 4<sup>th</sup> infraction – Ejection

## **Spectators**

### **During the game:**

- May respond to a referee initiation a communication
- May point out emergencies or safety issues

### **Penalties:**

1<sup>st</sup> infraction – Referee should stop the game and ask the coach to quiet the offending spectator.

2<sup>nd</sup> infraction – Verbal warning. Referee should stop the game and ask the coach to warn the spectator that the next infraction will be an ejection or the referee will abandon the game.

3<sup>rd</sup> infraction – The referee shall instruct the coach to direct the spectator to leave the field. The referee should abandon the game if the spectator refuses to leave the field.

If the referee abandons the game, the referee shall file a report and notify the Sandwich Soccer Club Referee Coordinator.