

Coaches' Behavior on the Soccer Field

What a Soccer Coach *can* do during a Soccer Game:

1. Coach his team on how to play soccer within the technical area (10 yards either side of the midfield line.)
2. Plan substitutions.
3. Ask the referee for substitutions, and wait for acknowledgement from the referee.
4. Control the behavior of parents on the sidelines.
5. Be an example of how to conduct oneself during a game.
6. Support the referee's decision, even if it goes against your team.
7. Support the referee's disciplinary decisions. That is, if a yellow or red card is given out, make sure the offending player is replaced, and then told not to do the action again.
8. The coach can go onto the field during the game only if there is an injured player and the referee had signaled the coach to come onto the field.
9. If asked to do something by the referee, be cooperative.

What a Soccer Coach *cannot* do during a Soccer Game:

1. Tell the Referee what to do.
2. Question a Referee's call.
3. Go out onto the field to talk to the referee.
4. Harass or intimidate a Referee.
5. Cannot speak in a confrontational manner to the referee during the game.

What options are available to the BPAA Soccer Committee if a coach does not follow these rules?

1. The Soccer committee will try to investigate all reported cases of poor conduct by coaches reported to us by referees, parents, or BPAA Soccer Committee members.
2. If a coach is found to be not acting by the above rules, the coach will be asked informally or formally by a letter to refrain from this kind of behavior. If the behavior continues, the coach will be removed from his BPAA Soccer Coaching position.

What recourse does a Soccer Coach have to address what appears to be a bad Referee?

1. Inform the BPAA Soccer Committee Referee Coordinator or the BPAA Soccer Committee Chairman of what you thought was occurring during the game that the referee did not do well. Give the following information: Division (Boys or Girls), Date & Time, and place of the game. The BPAA Soccer Committee Referee Coordinator will keep a record of complaints on referees. From this record, the committee can determine what referees are better than others. The Soccer Committee will then try to use those referees that appear more favorable to the coaches.
2. Coaches can also give favorable comments to the Referee Coordinator, which are also helpful in determining who the BPAA Soccer committee will use as referees.