

SIDELINE CONTROL

IYSA has requested that we stress sideline control at every referee Entry and Refresher clinic. Loud, obnoxious, profane language and criticism of players, coaches and referees by coaches and spectators is becoming so prevalent that it is undermining the sportsmanship and developmental benefits of youth soccer. Left uncontrolled, it leads to referee abuse and assault as well as attacks on players, coaches and other spectators. *It is the number one reason referees stop officiating.*

IYSA rules make the coach responsible for his own actions as well as those of his players, assistant coaches and spectators reasonably thought to support his team. Illinois law provides for mandatory jail sentence and fines for those who assault sport officials.

When sideline disturbances becomes threatening or interfere with the orderly conduct of the game, referees should inform the coach that he must control his sideline or the game will be abandoned (terminated). If the referee cannot tell which team's spectators are at fault, tell both coaches. Give the coach two (2) minutes to get the matter under control (stopped). If the disturbance doesn't stop, the referee should abandon the game and he/she should leave the field with the linesmen. He/she should report the situation to the league and the league will decide the outcome of the game. Never restart a game after it is abandoned.

**REFEREES SHOULD HAVE NO CONVERSATIONS OR
ATTEMPTS AT CONTROL WITH SPECTATORS !!!**

DEAL ONLY WITH COACHES !!!

All referee abuse and assaults must be reported to the IYSA and assault should be reported to the police and to the Referee Committee.

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