

## Misconduct toward Game Officials;

Misconduct against referees may occur before, during and after the match, including travel to, or from the match. Misconduct may occur also at later times when directly related to duties of a game official as a referee.

Misconduct can be from a player, coach, team administrator, club official or team spectator who assaults or abuses any referee.

(1) Assault includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting on, grabbing or bodily running into a referee; head butting; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee's uniform or personal property, i.e. car, equipment, etc.

(2) Referee abuse is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee's property or equipment.

(3) Referee abuse also includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: using foul or abusive language toward a referee; spewing any beverage on a referee's personal property; or spitting at (but not on) the referee; berating; harassing; badgering; bullying; or publically humiliating a referee or referee's decision.

When you do not like a referee's decision, you can calmly and respectfully ask them for reconsideration, but ANYTHING beyond this strays into the area of dissent (card), Assault or Abuse. Walk away from the confrontation; contact the club organizer for complaints.

This club is affiliated with the U.S. Soccer Federation and therefore must adhere to the standards of the USSF. Please refer to Policy 531 available on line at: <http://www.ussoccer.com/Referees/Referee-development/Instructional-Materials.aspx> Referee Administrative handbook.