

## **ZERO TOLERANCE OF SIDELINE MISCONDUCT AND REFEREE ABUSE**

Written by Lester Pasarell

Sunday, 27 January 2013 21:07 - Last Updated Saturday, 02 March 2013 20:37

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### **ZERO TOLERANCE OF SIDELINE MISCONDUCT AND REFEREE ABUSE**

BAYSA has adopted a zero tolerance of sideline misconduct and referee abuse for spectators. Referees will stop the game, bring both coaches together, and give them a warning for spectator misconduct and abuse.

The second time this occurs, referee will end the game.

Coaches need to take responsibility and be accountable for management and control of sideline behavior. Referees will need to document concerns and issues so the association's D&P can address problem areas.

Referee assault (verbal or physical) could result in a ban from soccer.

#### **Referee Abuse Leads to Three Year Suspensions.**

In early December 2012, a hearing was held by the South Texas Youth Soccer Association D&P committee regarding alleged abuse of a referee. Three coaches and four players were charged with referee assault. The alleged assault had occurred during a BAYSA regular season game. The decision: One player found not guilty, three coaches and three players found guilty. Penalties: Two coaches each received three year suspensions.

One coach received a one year suspension. One player received a three year suspension and the other two players received three games suspensions (they got very lucky).

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#### **REMEMBER - THIS IS ONLY A GAME THAT IS SUPPOSED TO BE FUN.**

If you forget this, you might not play soccer again for a very long time.

#### **REFEREE ABUSE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!!!**

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