



OHIO SOUTH STATE REFEREE COMMITTEE
A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION



Referee Ethics On-Line Presentation

**Ohio South 2013
Intermediate Referee Recertification
Training**

What are ethics?

1. A set of moral principles
2. Standards governing the conduct by which all of us must function
3. A system of values and proper behavior

Conduct promoting the ideals of fairness and respectable character to all.

What are ethics for a soccer referee?

Individual Ethics Personal Integrity

Is it legal

How will it make me feel about myself

Group Ethics Team of Officials

Promote teamwork

Avoid open criticism

What's best for the team and the match

What are ethics for a soccer referee?

Game Ethics Before, During and After a Match

Physical Fitness

Game Preparation

Safety of Participants

Fairness ... Calm Demeanor

What are ethics for a soccer referee?

Outside Ethics Away from the Match

Avoid disparaging comments

Spectator Ethics Third Party Behavior

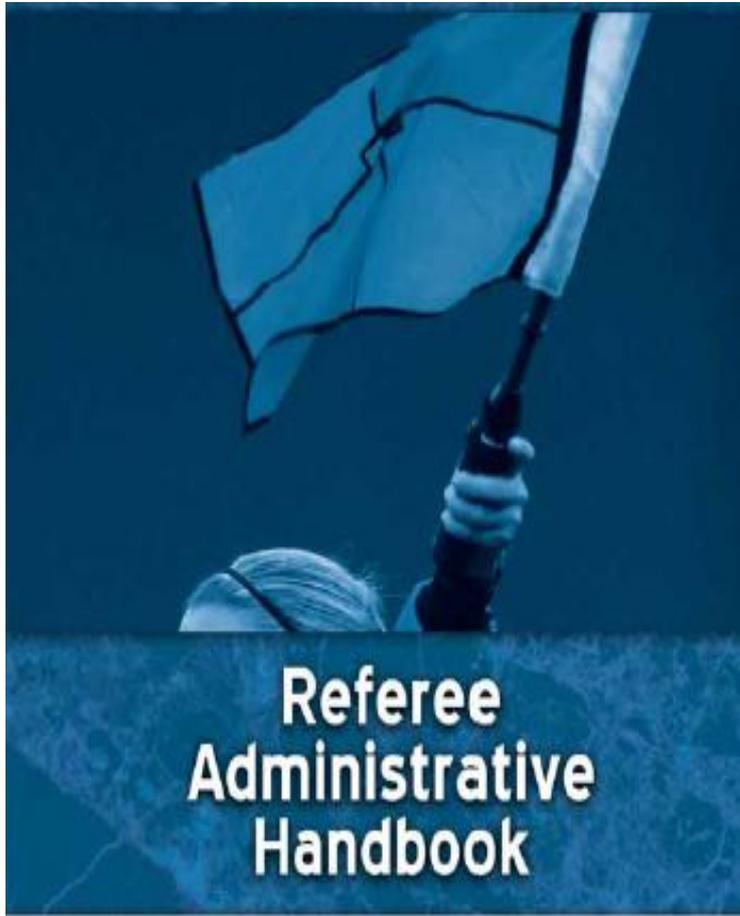
Refrain from offering opinions

Avoid confrontational situations

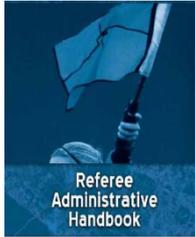
Referee Ethics

Standards of Acceptable Conduct

An Obligation to Uphold,
Promote and Conform
to an Endorsed Set of
Guidelines of Referee
Principles and Practices



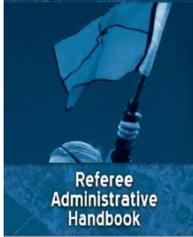
Referee Code of Ethics



Page 13-14.... I will:

1. always maintain the utmost respect for the game of soccer.
2. conduct myself honorably at all times and maintain the dignity of my position.
3. always honor an assignment or any other contractual obligation.
4. attend training meetings and clinics so as to know the *Laws of the Game*, their proper interpretation and their application.

Referee Code of Ethics



Page 13-14(cont.).... I will:

5. always strive to achieve maximum teamwork with my fellow officials.
6. be loyal to my fellow officials and never knowingly promote criticism of them.
7. be in good physical condition.
8. control the players effectively by being courteous and considerate without sacrificing fairness.
9. do my utmost to assist my fellow officials to better themselves and their work.

Referee Code of Ethics



Page 13-14(cont.).... I will:

10. not make statements about any game except to clarify an interpretation of the *Laws of the Game*.
11. not discriminate against nor take undue advantage of any individual group on the bases of race, color, sex, religion, or national origin.
12. consider it a privilege to be a part of the USSF and my actions will reflect credit upon that organization and its affiliates.

Referee Code of Ethics

BRAIN TEASER #13

It is considered as a breach of ethics, if you, as a game official, participate in a game not dressed in a proper USSF referee uniform.

TRUE

FALSE

Referee Ethics Exercise

Read through the following 3 referee ethical dilemmas.

Come to recertification class prepared to discuss "What Would You Do?"

1 - What Would You Do???

You are an AR in a tournament match, the GK is charged unfairly by an attacker and the referee stops play.

The GK is enraged, throws the ball away and violently shoves the attacker.

The referee awards a penalty kick.

The kick is good and is the margin of victory.

The losing team coach protests the match.

The referee is adamant that he had not stopped play and was correct in awarding the PK.

Both you and the other AR saw the stoppage and agree the referee has made a serious mistake.

2 - What Would You Do???

As an AR during a match, you are on the goal-line when a hard shot strikes the underside of the crossbar.

The ball completely crosses the goal-line (goal) and then spins back out and strikes the turf in front of the goal and bounces up.

A defender then heads the ball over the crossbar.

You signal a goal and run up the touchline.

At about 35 yards up the line, you are confronted by a player of the defending team, who attempts to strike you.

The referee finally gets between the defender and you and takes the defender aside to give him an earnest talking to.

After a short time, the referee disallowed the goal and restarted with a goal-kick.

3 - What Would You Do???

A number of "off duty" referees attended a game together and stood near the touchline among the regular spectators.

One of the referees was a parent of a player.

A fan (and friend of the "referee parent") was very verbal in his criticism of the game officials.

This fan tried to verify his criticisms with his buddy - the "referee parent" - and his colleagues.

Some referees responded and others kept silent.

One "off duty" referee, when pressed by the "referee parent", refused to respond and told him that he would not comment while he could be identified as an official by other spectators.

The "referee parent" chided him for overreacting.

This referee reminded the "referee parent" of the standards expressed by the Referee Code of Ethics.

The "referee parent" replied that the standards did not apply to him, because he was a parent first and referee second.