



Coaches' Behaviour on the Soccer Field

What a Soccer Coach can do during a Soccer Game:

1. Coach his/her team on how to play soccer within the technical area
2. Make sure each player on the team has an equal amount of play time on the field
3. Ask the referee for substitutions, wait for acknowledgement from the referee and ensure all players are substituted on a regular basis. (This allows each player adequate breaks for water and rest)
4. Be an example of how to conduct oneself during a game; be sure to encourage proper sportsmanship from all players and assistant coaches.
5. Support the referee's decision, even if it goes against your team.
6. The coach can go onto the field during the game only if there is an injured player and the referee has signalled the coach to come onto the field.
7. 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 ***see Note***
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.

A coach is allowed to question the referee when game play is halted. For example, a coach can ask questions during the half time break. However, we kindly ask that questions about calls not be asked during play

These rules are not meant to limit a coach's ability to ask questions. We encourage all coaches to ask questions. We just ask that questions are asked at the appropriate times.

What options are available to the Valley East Soccer Association if a coach does not follow these rules?

1. The Valley East Soccer Association will try to investigate all reported cases of poor conduct by coaches reported to us by referees, parents, or Valley East Soccer Association members.
2. If a coach is found to be not acting by the above rules, the coach will be asked informally or formally by email, letter or in person to refrain from this kind of behaviour. If the behaviour continues, the coach may be removed from his/her Valley East Soccer Coaching position.

What are the possible disciplinary actions that the Valley East Soccer Association could take?

1. A verbal / written warning
2. A 1 or 2 game suspension
3. Removal as a coach

Valley East Soccer Association reserves the right to follow the above mentioned steps in sequence OR to skip steps depending on each individual case.

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

1. Inform a member of the Valley East Soccer Association 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 Valley East Soccer Association member will inform the Head referee.

The Valley East Soccer Association will not allow any harassment of any type from anyone. This includes everyone, board members, Head Referee, Club Admin, Coach's, Referee's and any spectators. If you experience harassment from anyone please reach out and let someone know immediately