



Welcome

BAYS Spring 2025
Referee Assignor Meeting
March 23, 2025



Agenda

- Key dates/activities for the year
- Assigning
 - Using the site
 - Rearranged games
 - Late Cancel / Teams No Show
- Communication
- Updates
- Pre-game changes
- During the Game
 - Referee Abuse Prevention
 - Misconduct
- Game Report Changes



OVERVIEW



Key Dates and Activities for Spring

- Verify Pending Referee 2025 status and move certified refs to Active/Certified in Referee Admin
- Grades 3-8 Game Schedule live – Target Date 3/27
- Season Start Grades 3-8 – Saturday 4/12
- HS Game Schedule Live – 4/17
- Season Start HS Grade 912/10/12 – Sunday 4/27
- Presidents' Cup Brackets Posted – Friday 5/2
- Seatbelt Saturday/Sunday 5/10-5/11
- Referee Appreciation Weekend – Saturday and Sunday 5/17-5/18
- BAYS Playoffs/PC Cup Held 6/15-6/21
- MTOC Weekend June 27-29
- Referees paid after Week 3, Week 6, Week 9, and season close on 6/30
- All the **BAYS rules** and the **2024 - 25 IFAB LOTG** are in effect this season
- Notes:
 - April vacation weekends (4/19 & 4/26/27) and Memorial Day holiday (5/24-25)
 - SAT dates 5/3 and 6/7
 - ACT date 6/14



Changes to the Laws of the Game

Law 4. Equipment

Players are responsible for the size and suitability of their **shinguards**.

Law 12. Fouls and Misconduct

Non-deliberate handball offenses for which penalties are awarded are to be sanctioned in the same way as fouls which are an attempt to play the ball or a challenge for the ball.

Law 14. The Penalty Kick

Part of the ball must touch or overhang the center of the penalty mark.

Encroachment by players will be penalised only if it has an impact (same philosophy as goalkeeper encroachment)

This summary reflects some of the most common situations in BAYS matches. Full changes with interpretations/explanations can be found in the [2024/2025 IFAB Laws of the Game](#) as adopted by FIFA.

It is recommended that you encourage referees to download the [IFAB Laws of the Game APP](#)



Changes to the Laws of the Game

More details for the Law 12 changes

Cautions for unsporting behavior

- a player must be cautioned for unsporting behavior:
 - if they handle the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack, except where the referee awards a penalty kick for a non-deliberate handball offense
 - If they deny the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick for a non-deliberate handball offense

Sending-off offenses

A player, substitute or substituted player who commits any of the following offenses is sent off for:

- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by committing a **deliberate** handball offense (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by committing a **non-deliberate** handball offense outside their own penalty area

Further clarifications re: Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity (DOGSO)

- where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by committing a **deliberate** handball offense, the player is sent-off wherever the offense occurs (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area).
- Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by committing a **non-deliberate** handball offense, and the referee awards a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned.



Assigning - Site Functionality

- Emails sent by clicking on blue envelope **automatically** CC in parent/guardian
- Other Official/4th referee slot available for all games
 - Town Paid - Shows as \$0 rate since all towns will pay/use slot differently as mentors, trainees, field marshals, etc.
 - Assignment tracks through Referee Pay Download
 - Functions like another assistant referee
- Game Update Messaging
 - Free form text box for Assignors to use to send explanations/links/directions
 - to referees upon assignment changes
 - to referees AND coaches about rescheduling



Rearranged Games that Do Not Play as Scheduled

- Move games to [Unscheduled](#) as **SOON** as you know game will not be played
 - Publicly viewable on team's schedule page
 - Notification sent to coaches
- [Replacement Game\(RG\) Process](#) - starts with the CR game report that game did not complete or kick off
 - Division Director makes Replay/No Replay decision that creates your RG
 - DDs may need prompting...
- Teams No Show - [MR 16](#)
 - Starts with CR reporting Refs showed up but NO teams came to the field
 - Charged to the HOME team (responsible for canceling with home assignor)
 - Do **NOT** double process as LC
- [Late Cancellation](#) process
 - By Thursday at 7pm for Sat/Sunday;
 - By noon the day before for Weekday games
 - Keep the email you get as back up
 - Be sure who is responsible BEFORE you select:
 - *Home/Away/50/50 split Fine assignment*



Why No Game	Conditions	Who Initiates	Refs Paid
Teams No Show	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Refs <i>at the field</i> · Neither team or coach show up · Fields are open and playable 	Center Referee by filing game report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes – If at the field · Original game shows with -1 suffix
Late Cancel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · One side or BOTH sides initiate a cancellation and fails to notify by stated window 	Referee Assignor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes – game reports AUTO-generated · Shows with -86 suffix
Forfeit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · One or both teams forfeit · Can happen if team does not have roster or credentialed adult w/in 15 minutes 	Division Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes – if at the field
Rainout/unplayable field - When teams show up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Game cannot be safely played or finished 	Referee Assignor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes – if at the field or on the way to the field
Rainout/unplayable field - When NO teams show up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Refs on the field but no teams show up then EITHER Teams No Show or Late Cancel – NOT Both 	Referee Assignor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Yes – if at the field or on the way to the field · No – if club closes fields at least one hour before game time
Clubs Close fields	Clubs close fields by BAYS required windows <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 7:00AM for morning games · 10:30AM for afternoon games 	Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · No



Assignor Communication

Links

Reach out for help to other local assignors



Referee recruiting letter



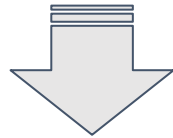
Facebook group



Slack channel

Major Updates...It's a Lot

- Pre-Game Ritual and Sportsmanship Statement
- Use of Guest Players
- Referee Abuse Prevention Levels replacing Zero Tolerance Ratings
- Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct In-game Resolution and Reporting



- All reflected in the revised BAYS game report for Center Referees

BEFORE the GAME



Credentials

All team officials (max of 3)
who are on the team sideline
MUST WEAR the Current Year
2024 - 2025
Credential

2024-2025

Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association

**Jeremy
Solomons**



Credentials

Anyone on the team sideline **MUST** wear their credentials in order to be on the bench with their team.

If a coach/official does not have their credential, the referee **MUST** ask them to go to the spectator side of the field.*

If they refuse to leave the bench politely, they are refusing an instruction from a match official.

The referee **MUST** ask them to leave again.

If they refuse a **SECOND TIME**, the referee should show a **YELLOW CARD**.

If they **STILL REFUSE**, the referee should show another **YELLOW CARD**, which will mean the coach is **SENT OFF** and must leave the field, and they will miss the next game too.

Law 5.3

Referee takes action against team officials who fail to act in a responsible manner and warns or shows a yellow card for a caution or a red card for a sending-off from the field of play and its immediate surrounds, including the technical area

*Note: there is one exception to this for certified deaf/hearing impaired interpreters.

2024-2025

Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association

**Jeremy
Solomons**



Rosters and Check-in

Pre-Game Check-in Process

- 2 printed paper official rosters required
 - If only one printed, still okay if opposing coach agrees, and then they just take a picture
- Referee will check-in the players making sure their names are *printed* on the roster and they have unique jersey numbers
 - New BAYS request that jersey #s ***should be printed*** on official rosters by clubs
- Referee will check the players for safety:
 - (5 S's): shirt, short, socks, shin guards, safe shoes
 - No jewelry. None at all. Wearable item policy Cultural or medical items must be made safe.
 - No hard casts

Spectators

- Spectators must set up on one side of the field, teams on the opposite side. At least 5' off the touchline
- No one behind the goals or on the endlines.



Rosters and Check-in

New Guest Player Policy

[BAYS Guest Player Policy](#) is in effect for the Spring 2025 season.

How is the Playing Up Process at the Game Field Handled?

The following needs to occur when a coach uses a Guest Player in their game.

1. The coach must provide the referee at the field with **two paper copies** of their official game roster and **two paper copies** of any official roster(s) listing any Guest Player(s).
2. Coaches are responsible for making sure that all players playing in the current game are listed with a unique jersey number, across all rosters, prior to providing the rosters to the referee.
3. **Coaches should write in the current Game ID# on all of the rosters handed to the referees.**
4. The referee should give the opposing coach a copy of all the rosters provided. The opposing coach should keep these rosters.



Rosters and Check-in

Guest Players

1. **Assigned Team Roster:** All players on the assigned team roster who are NOT playing in the current game should be crossed out.
2. **Guest Player Roster(s):** All players NOT playing in the current game EXCEPT the Guest Player(s) should be crossed out.
3. Referees must use the rosters to check the players in.
 - a. They should treat Guest Players meeting the above requirements as fully rostered and eligible for the match and report any issues or events related to those players in the same fashion as any other player in their game report. It is not the responsibility of the referee to verify that the guest players meet the policy requirements—That is the responsibility of the coach.



Rosters and Check-in

Guest Players

1. Referees must add to their game report (check a box for each team) that the Guest Player Policy was used to allow guest players to play in the game on a particular team. No names or other info needed.
2. Referees check-in players on the rosters provided. If the rostered players are questioned, it is the Division Director, or Grade Director, as needed, who will determine the outcome of the game.
3. Referees **MUST** keep all rosters for all games until the end of the season.



Pre-Game Sportsmanship Statement

Purpose

Mass Youth Soccer and BAYS require that the Sportsmanship Statement listed below be read prior to ALL games.

This REPLACES the post-game handshake line. There were too many unfortunate incidents when teams interacted after heated games so the intention is to avoid that post-game interaction.



Pre-Game Sportsmanship Statement

Procedure

After all pre-game activities are complete, both teams and the referee crew will line up at the Half Way Line of the Coaches Sideline.

Led by officials, all players and coaches will walk across the field and line up facing spectators, 5 yard from the sideline.

The Sportsmanship Statement will be read by a **representative of the Home team** to all coaches, players and spectators.

Referees are not reading the statement

Following the reading of the script, players will perform a pre-game handshake.
(Home team to walk down the line of Away Team).

After the pre-game handshake, all players and coaches will return to benches and starting players will assume positions on the field of play.

Center Referees will check a box in their game report that Sportsmanship Stmt was read or not.
Club will receive reports based on this



Pre-Game Sportsmanship Statement

Text the will be read:

Mass Youth Soccer and BAYS share a mission to provide a safe, fun, and inclusive soccer experience for all participants.

All participants deserve the right to play in an environment free from hostile and distracting behavior. Please do your part to create a positive soccer experience for all.

Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated, and sanctions may be applied for violations of policy or codes of conduct.

It is the referee's discretion to terminate the game if any threatening or discriminatory statements are made or for anyone entering the field of play without permission.

Enjoy the game, have fun, and show respect for each other.



DURING the GAME



Policy 53 I-9

RESPECT THE CALL

The **PENALTY SUMMARY document**
is available on the Mass Youth Soccer website



Policy 53 I-9

- Protect and Support Referees and Better Soccer Environments
- Applies to all misconduct towards officials from participants.
- Stronger penalties to Coaches, Spectators, and PLAYERS
- Mass Youth Soccer policy extended sanctions to spectators
- Insulting, Belittling, Insinuating, or Taunting Behavior undermining referee classified as Gross Misconduct.
- Minor Multiplier results in Triple Punishment



Policy 53 I-9



PENALTY OVERVIEW

The Penalties Matrix defines consequences associated with physical and non-physical offenses against Referees.

NON-PHYSICAL OFFENSES of gross misconduct, abuse, and / or assault

NON-PHYSICAL*	MIN. GAMES	TIME
Insulting, Belittling, Insinuating or Taunting Behavior Undermining Referee Authority	2	
Harassment, Intimidation, Retaliation, Abusive, or Threatening (Non Physical) Language	4	
Aggression, Attacking, Derogatory, Cyberbullying, Doxing or Threatening (Physical / Violence) Language	6	6 - 24 Months
Offensive or Discriminatory Act	10	12 - 24 Months

PHYSICAL OFFENSES of gross misconduct, abuse, and / or assault

PHYSICAL*	MIN. GAMES	TIME
Minor or Slight Deliberate Touching	3	1 - 6 Months
Pushing, Grabbing, Pulling, Squeezing, Pinching, Lightly Slapping, Use of Object in Non Striking Manner, or Physical Property Damage	10	6 - 24 Months
Hitting, Punching, Elbowing, Kicking, Biting, Spiting, Choking, Tackling, Throwing or Use of Object or Any Part of Body (Forearm, Knee, Head) in a Striking Manner		12 Months - Lifetime

(*) **Disclaimer:** These are only a few examples of abuse – other actions or statements may also fall into this category.

KEY PENALTY FACTORS

- Single offenses are at **minimum the prescribed game penalty or time penalty** for non red zone offenses
- Penalties can be **both game and time depending on severity** / circumstances
- Second time offenders receive **double punishment**
- Third time offenders receive a **lifetime ban**
- More than one offense at the same time is **at least the punishment for the most serious offense**
- Offenses against minors are automatically subject to a **“minor multiplier”** resulting in **triple punishment**
- **One offense warning per league** to be managed by states and leagues collaboratively
- Game consequences are **inclusive of 1 game penalty for any red cards given**
- Optionality for **50% penalty for first offense from a minor**

Please follow your current reporting structure – updated reporting procedure will be a part of Phase 3.



Policy 53 I-9



NON-PHYSICAL ABUSE

Contact doesn't have to be made for damage to occur. Non-physical abuse – hurtful language and aggressive behavior – has no place in our game. It disrupts matches, interferes with the referee's ability to do their job, and it hurts the game for everyone. Left unchecked, non-physical abuse takes an emotional toll and has the potential to escalate into physically dangerous situations. The updated policy is designed to eliminate this behavior.



Policy 53 I-9

NON-PHYSICAL ABUSE

LEVEL 1: VERBAL TAUNTING

Speech or gestures intended to belittle the referee, damage their credibility, and undermine their ability to effectively officiate the game.

DEFINITION

Insulting, Belittling, Insinuating or Taunting Behavior
Undermining Referee Authority.

EXAMPLES

- **Questioning Competence:**
"Do you even know the rules?"
- **Mocking Appearance or Abilities:**
"Did you forget your glasses?"
- **Accusations of Bias:**
"What's the other team paying you?"
- **Dismissive Language:**
"You suck."
- **Aggressive Tone:**
"You're the worst ref we've ever had."

RECOMMENDED APPROACH

If you have concerns about a call, respectfully ask the referee for clarification. Share your perspective calmly, avoiding yelling, insults, or offensive gestures.

Disclaimer: These are only a few examples of abuse – other actions or statements may also fall into this category.



Coaches may ask questions before the start of the game. Coaches may not approach the referee at half time or at the end or after the game except to:

- Respond to an Official who has initiated a conversation
- Point out emergency or safety issues
- Call for substitutions
- Ask the Officials to clarify ONLY: type of restart/direction of throw-in or indirect vs. direct free kick
- Ask for the time remaining in the half

BAYS limits the items that can be "clarified"

Policy 53 I-9

NON-PHYSICAL ABUSE

LEVEL 2: HARASSMENT/INTIMIDATION

Occurs when language or body language is intended to make a referee feel unsafe but where the threat of violence remains unspoken.

DEFINITION

Harassment, Intimidation, Retaliation, Abusive or Threatening (Non-Physical) Language.

EXAMPLES

- **Using Expletives:**
"That call was complete \$H*t!"
- **Personal Attacks:**
"You're a F-ing joker!"
- **Escalating Intensity:**
"You can't make a single good f***** call!"
- **Getting In The Referee's Face.**

RECOMMENDED APPROACH

Take a moment to gather yourself before you speak to the referee. Ask for clarification calmly, aiming for constructive communication rather than causing conflict.

Disclaimer: These are only a few examples of abuse – other actions or statements may also fall into this category.



Coaches may ask questions before the start of the game. Coaches may not approach the referee at half time or at the end or after the game except to:

- Respond to an Official who has initiated a conversation
- Point out emergency or safety issues
- Call for substitutions
- Ask the Officials to clarify ONLY: type of restart/direction of throw-in or indirect vs. direct free kick
- Ask for the time remaining in the half

BAYS limits the items that can be "clarified"

Policy 53 I-9

NON-PHYSICAL ABUSE

LEVEL 3: THREATS/DEROGATORY LANGUAGE

When aggressive language or threats of violence enter the mix – or when abuse spills online.



DEFINITION

Aggression, Attacking, Derogatory, Cyberbullying, Doxing, or Threatening (Physical / Violence) Language.

EXAMPLES

- **Threatening To Inflict Harm On A Referee:**
 - "You're gonna pay for that!"
 - "I'll see you in the parking lot"
 - "I'm going to shove that card down your throat!"
 - "You better watch your back!"
- **Public Attacks Online** such as uploading a post to social media attacking the referee.

RECOMMENDED APPROACH

When you feel frustrated by a referee's call, take a moment to pause and breathe. Reflect on how your reaction impacts your experience and the overall atmosphere of the game for everyone involved.

Disclaimer: These are only a few examples of abuse – other actions or statements may also fall into this category.



Policy 53 I-9

NON-PHYSICAL ABUSE

LEVEL 4: OFFENSIVE OR DISCRIMINATORY ACT



U.S. Soccer is inclusive of everyone. Discrimination – attacking referees for who they are, or offending their dignity – will not be tolerated.

DEFINITION

Discriminatory or derogatory words or actions on account of race, skin color, ethnicity, nationality, social origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, language, or religion.

EXAMPLES

- Racial or ethnic slurs.
- Offensive gestures.
- Homophobic language.
- Using harmful or sexist stereotypes.

RECOMMENDED APPROACH

Remember that soccer is for everyone. We're all human, and everybody deserves the opportunity to enjoy the game without being made to feel bad about who they are.

Disclaimer: These are only a few examples of abuse – other actions or statements may also fall into this category.



Policy 53 I-9



PHYSICAL ABUSE

Physical abuse makes the game unsafe for everyone. It's also easy to avoid. Outside of friendly handshakes, there's never a reason to touch the referee. Any unwanted physical contact is considered physical abuse. Physical violence can also result in criminal charges, lawsuits, or medical liability.



Policy 53 I-9

PHYSICAL ABUSE

LEVEL 1: MINOR OR SLIGHT TOUCHING

Even minor deliberate touches can be unwanted and make referees feel unsafe and are considered physical abuse.



DEFINITION

Minor or Slight Deliberate Touching.

EXAMPLES

- Tapping the referee's shoulder to get their attention.
- Touching the referee's chest with your finger.
- Grabbing the referee's jersey to get their attention.
- Intentionally bumping lightly into the referee.

RECOMMENDED APPROACH

Respectfully get the referee's attention without touching them – and, even in the heat of the moment, make a conscious effort to keep your hands to yourself.

Disclaimer: These are only a few examples of abuse – other actions or statements may also fall into this category.



Policy 53 I-9

PHYSICAL ABUSE

LEVEL 2: INTENTIONAL CONFRONTATION



Escalation of using contact to intimidate or provoke a physical confrontation – or causing damage to property – without the intent to cause bodily harm.

DEFINITION

Pushing, Grabbing, Pulling, Squeezing, Pinching, Lightly Slapping, Use of Object in Non-Striking Manner, or Physical Property Damage

EXAMPLES

- Shoving the referee.
- Forcefully grabbing the referee's arm.
- Throwing a water bottle at the ground in front of the referee.
- Dumping the referee's bag into a trashcan.
- Aggressively grabbing the referee's jersey.
- Following the referee to the parking lot or to their car.

RECOMMENDED APPROACH

Understand that this behavior not only won't change the outcome on the field, it will keep you out of the game for a long time. Channel that energy to drive better on-field performance. Remove yourself from the situation if you need to calm down.

Disclaimer: These are only a few examples of abuse – other actions or statements may also fall into this category.



Policy 53 I-9

PHYSICAL ABUSE

LEVEL 3: VIOLENT CONTACT



Malicious, violent contact intended to cause bodily harm – this is considered assault and can result in criminal punishment, legal suits, and medical liability.

DEFINITION

Hitting, Punching, Elbowing, Kicking, Biting, Spitting, Choking, Tackling, Throwing or Use of Object or Any Part of Body (Forearm, Knee, Head) in a Striking Manner

EXAMPLES

- Kicking the referee's shin.
- Throwing a punch at the referee.
- Placing hands on the neck to choke the referee.
- Throwing a water bottle with intent to hit the referee.
- Intentionally kicking the ball at the referee.

RECOMMENDED APPROACH

Before physical abuse ever escalates to this level, there are plenty of opportunities to choose another course of action. Remove yourself from the situation and give yourself time for your anger to defuse before doing something with serious long-term consequences.

Disclaimer: These are only a few examples of abuse – other actions or statements may also fall into this category.



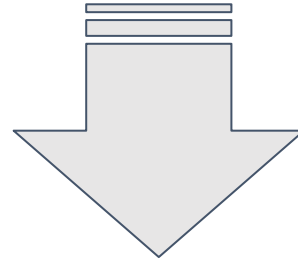
Policy 53 I-9

- Useful video for clubs to show coaches to summarize new policy and penalties
- Should also be sent to families and shown by coaches at their preseason meeting with their team players and parents.



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

When any misconduct, **not directed at the referee**, occurs or is reported



The REFEREE MUST STOP the GAME

Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

Observed/Heard by Referee Crew

If a member of the referee crew witnesses or hears that a player or coach is being subject to derogatory language or discriminatory actions, the incident should be addressed according to the IFAB Laws of the game.

Reported to Referee Crew

If a member of the referee crew did not hear or witness directly but a player or coach reports the incident to the referee, the Center Referee should implement the following steps:

- Stop the game, if necessary, or use stoppage in play.
- Send both teams to their respective technical areas.
- Gather the referee team.
- Bring both coaches together.
- Explain the situation to the best of your ability and understanding.
- Direct the coaches to resolve the issue immediately.
- Resume the game if issue is resolved
- If the coaches are uncooperative, or a resolution cannot be initiated or reached in a reasonable amount of time (resolution not to exceed 5 minutes), the referee will abandon the game immediately.



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

Derogatory Language and Discriminatory Actions include but are not limited to:

- Discriminatory or derogatory words or actions based on race, skin color, ethnicity, nationality, social origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, language, or religion.
- Sexually explicit statements, sexual flirtations, advances, propositions, subtle pressure for sexual activity, comments, questions, jokes, or anecdotes.
- Jokes or gestures that include reference to race, skin color, ethnicity, nationality, social origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, language, or religion.

Center Referees will report.



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct



MASS YOUTH SOCCER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MISCONDUCT REPORTING, RESPONSE, AND RESOLUTION MATRICES

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Version 1.2 Feb. 2025

VERBAL MISCONDUCT MATRIX (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

VERBAL	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Misconduct Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minor or brief incident of targeted yelling that is not providing constructive criticism or encouragement• Instance of targeted blaming• Instance of targeted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single instance of sexually derogatory language (minor report to the Center for SafeSport)• Consistent berating• Multiple instances of targeted yelling /	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consistent verbal harassment as detailed in Tier-2, spanning the duration of a season, multiple seasons, or years• Threats of physical or sexual abuse



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

VERBAL MISCONDUCT MATRIX (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

VERBAL	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Misconduct Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor or brief incident of targeted yelling that is not providing constructive criticism or encouragement • Instance of targeted blaming • Instance of targeted humiliating • Instance of condescension • Instance of abusive, derogatory language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single instance of sexually derogatory language (minor report to the Center for SafeSport) • Consistent berating • Multiple instances of targeted yelling / singling out an individual (over the course of several soccer activities) • Verbal manipulation to control individual's actions • Multiple instances of abusive or derogatory language. (over the course of several soccer activities) • Threats of retaliation for reporting misconduct (<i>also report to Mass Youth Soccer and the Center for SafeSport</i>) • Discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, perceived disability, gender identity, age (over 40), genetic information, ancestry - sex, or sexual orientation (minor report to the Center for SafeSport) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent verbal harassment as detailed in Tier-2, spanning the duration of a season, multiple seasons, or years • Threats of physical or sexual abuse • Overt and frequent discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, perceived disability, gender identity, age (over 40), genetic information, ancestry, sex, or sexual orientation

This full document is [HERE](#)



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

PHYSICAL MISCONDUCT MATRIX (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

PHYSICAL	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Misconduct Examples Non-exhaustive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singular incident of unwarranted physical touch not explicitly sexual in nature by a minor (e.g., grabbing an arm) • Single instance of physical intimidation using actions or gestures to elicit fear • Single instance of destruction of property not directed at a person (e.g., throwing or kicking equipment) • Instance of pushing, hitting, or spitting player to player (Adult to Minor Tier 3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single incidents of unwarranted physical touch of a minor by an adult not explicitly sexual in nature (e.g., grabbing an arm) • Frequent instances of destruction of property not directed at a person (e.g., throwing or kicking equipment) • Instance of destruction of property directed at a person (i.e., throwing equipment at a player is Tier 3) • Multiple instances (over the course of several soccer activities) of pushing or spitting at a person (Adult on Minor, Tier 3) • Minor-on-minor assault or battery. (Not determined to be Tier 3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any assault of a minor by an adult • Battery resulting in hospital visit or other medical care • Any display or threat of use of a weapon for physical harm • Child neglect • Consistent and intentional withholding of adequate hydration, nutrition, medical attention, or sleep • Preventing victim from calling for help • Encouraging a player to return to play prematurely from injury • Forcing an athlete to assume a painful stance or position for no athletic purpose

This full document is [HERE](#)



Suspensions

for Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

for Referee Abuse Prevention (RAP)

Anyone asked to leave the game field as a result of either policy must remain

100 feet from the field or in the parking lot whichever is farthest from the field.

Anyone suspended who comes to the game field must remain (e.g. a parent bringing a player to the game)

100 feet from the field or in the parking lot whichever is farthest from the field.



AFTER the GAME



NO Post-Game Handshake

REFEREES are not to supervise a handshake line after the game.

REFEREES do not need to stop teams doing the handshake.

REFEREES do **NEED** to watch as the teams pack up to leave, especially if they do an unsupervised handshake.





BAYS

Updated Game Report

Mock up of Basic complete game report screens



Game Reports

Referees **SHOULD** complete
Game Reports
on the **DAY** of the game

At the very least by Sunday evening

Reminder: No Report means No Pay



BAYS - Game Report

About the Game



Preliminary Game Information



Game Conditions



Game Details



Score Report



Referee Abuse Prevention



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct



Penalty Cards & Injuries



General Game Comments



Submit

Preliminary Game Information



Did you travel to the field? *

Yes ▾

If you did NOT travel to the field, no game report needs to be filed. Contact your town Referee Assignor with any questions.

Assistant Referee #1 (Om Durukkar) was present *

Yes ▾

Assistant Referee #2 (David Morse) was present *

Yes ▾

Was the Pre-Game BAYS Sportsmanship Statement read to all participants/spectators? *

- Select - ▾

Game Conditions



Field Condition (Please describe field conditions)

Weather

- Select - ▾



Game Details



Did the game OFFICIALLY kick off? (All coaches wearing CREDENTIALS; Paper ROSTERS presented; Minimum # of PLAYERS present) *

Yes

Did the Home Coach appear at the field with a team ready to play with a valid roster and wearing a current coach credential? *

Yes

Did the home team provide you with an additional roster(s) listing guest players? *

- Select -

Did the Away Coach appear at the field with a team ready to play with a valid roster and wearing a current coach credential? *

Yes

Did the away team provide you with an additional roster(s) listing guest players? *

- Select -

Did the game go to full time? *

Yes

Actual Kick Off Time

End of Game Time



Score Report



Home Team Final Score - A-B Wolves: *

Enter final game score or score at time an incomplete game was terminated.

Away Team Final Score - Belmont B8 Buzzards: *

Enter final game score or score at time an incomplete game was terminated.

Score at half time (H-A) *

(e.g. 2-1. Enter in this format only #-#).

For incomplete games terminated before halftime, enter score at time of game stoppage.



▼ Referee Abuse Prevention

Were there any violations of the Referee Abuse Prevention Policy?

Yes

Selecting "Yes" will allow you to enter details.

Default will be to NO

▼ Referee Abuse Details

Add Referee Abuse Entry

What was the role of the person who violated the RAP policy?

You will be able to enter more than one selection if needed.

•Select one-

- Home Coach: Brookline Tigers
- Home Spectator: Brookline Tigers
- Home Player: Brookline Tigers
- Away Coach: Westwood United
- Away Spectator: Westwood United
- Away Player: Westwood United

Home Player: Brookline Tigers		<i>Header Prepopulates from selection above</i>	
Name (if known)	Jersey # (NA if coach or spectator)	Description to help identify	Apprx. Event Time



What type of violation are you reporting?

•Select -

- **Non-Physical/Verbal Misconduct or Abuse**
- **Physical Misconduct or Abuse**

- 1- Verbal Taunting:** Words or gestures that are insulting, belittling, insinuating, taunting, or undermine referee authority
- 2- Harassment/Intimidation:** Language or body language intended to make referee feel unsafe including harassment, intimidation, retaliation, abusive, or threatening (non-physical) language
- 3- Threats/Derogatory Language:** Aggressive, Attacking, Derogatory, Cyberbullying, Doxing or Threatening (Physical / Violence) Language
- 4 - Offensive or Discriminatory:** Discriminatory or derogatory words or actions toward referee based on race, skin color, ethnicity, nationality, social origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, language, or religion.

Describe in detail what was said or what the non-physical misconduct/abuse was. Include exact words spoken.

Text box for ref to fill in

[Add Another Referee Abuse Entry](#)



What type of violation are you reporting?

- -Select -
 - **Non-Physical/Verbal Misconduct or Abuse**
 - **Physical Misconduct or Abuse**
-
- 1- Minor or Slight Touching:** Minor or Slight Deliberate Touching
 - 2- Intentional Confrontation:** Pushing, Grabbing, Pulling, Squeezing, Pinching, Lightly Slapping, Use of Object in Non-Striking Manner, or Physical Property Damage
 - 3- Violent Contact:** Hitting, Punching, Elbowing, Kicking, Biting, Spiting, Choking, Tackling, Throwing or Use of Object or Any Part of Body (Forearm, Knee, Head) in a Striking Manner

**Describe in detail what was said or what the non-physical misconduct/abuse was.
Include exact words spoken.**

Text box for ref to fill in

[Add Another Referee Abuse Entry](#)



Penalty Cards & Injuries



▼ Yellow Cards

Were any Yellow Cards issued?

No

Selecting "Yes" will allow you to enter the details of the Yellow Card(s).

▼ Red Cards

Were any Red Cards issued?

No

Selecting "Yes" will allow you to enter the details of the Red Card(s).

▼ Injuries

Did any serious injury occur?

No

Selecting "Yes" will allow you to enter the details of the Injury.



▼ Players/Coaches Sent Off (Red Cards)

Remove

Player/Coach

- Select -

Name

Jersey # (Coach enter NA)

Team

- Select -

Type of Misconduct

- Select -

Apprx. Event Time

- Select -

Field Location (Specific)

-Select-

Describe the behavior that resulted in the Red Card

Be as factually specific as possible.

Add Another Red Card

TYPE OF MISCONDUCT

✓ - Select -

Serious Foul Play

Violent Conduct

Second Caution in Match

Denied Goal/Goal Scoring Opportunity - Foul

Denied Goal/Goal Scoring Opportunity - Deliberate Handling

Denied Goal/Goal Scoring Opportunity - Non-Deliberate Handling

Biting or Spitting at opponent or another person

Used Offensive, Insulting or Abusive Language

Used Offensive, Insulting or Abusive Language - directed at Referee

System will verify that if this new Red Card offense was selected that a RAP violation was submitted also. If not, the ref will get an error message that says to also submit a RAP violation.



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

Did you hear or see or were you told about any discriminatory, derogatory, or abusive language or behavior from the time you entered the field of play to when you exited the field of play?

Default to: **NO**

Option: **Yes**

If Yes above, then these questions appear:

Yes - I heard or saw it myself or one of the other match officials reported hearing it

No - I, or one of the Match Officials, was told about it by a player or coach

Then if YES I heard or saw it then these questions appear:

What was the role of the person who said or did the discriminatory, derogatory, or abusive language or behavior:

You will be able to enter more than one selection if needed.

•Select one-

- Home Coach: Brookline Tigers
- Home Spectator: Brookline Tigers
- Home Player: Brookline Tigers
- Away Coach: Westwood United
- Away Spectator: Westwood United
- Away Player: Westwood United

Home Player: Brookline Tigers			
Name (if known)	Jersey # (NA if coach or spectator)	Description to help identify	Apprx. Event Time



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

If Player or Coach is selected:

Did you show a Red Card to the player/coach?

Yes - Details are included in Red Card section

No - Provide details below: *(opens detail section like RAP submission info)*

**Describe in detail the discriminatory, derogatory, or abusive language or behavior
Include exact words spoken or describe actions**

Text box for ref to fill in

Did you direct the coaches to investigate and resolve the issue?

Yes

No

What happened after the incident?

- The offender left the field area as directed by me, *if a red card shown*, or by the Coaches, and no further incidents heard
- Coaches allowed offender to stay and no further incidents heard
- Coaches allowed offender to stay and incidents persisted but game continued
- Coaches allowed offender to stay and incidents persisted, and I terminated the game
- Coaches could not resolve, and I terminated the game.

[Add Another Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct Entry](#)



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

If **spectator** selected as violator:

Did you report the spectator misconduct you witnessed to the team coaches?

Yes - Provide details below: *(opens detail section)*

No - Provide details below: *(opens same detail section)*

**Describe in detail the discriminatory, derogatory, or abusive language or behavior
Include exact words spoken or describe actions**

Text box for ref to fill in

Did you direct the coaches to investigate and resolve the issue?

Yes

No

What happened after the incident?

- The offender left the field area as directed by me, *if a red card shown*, or by the Coaches, and no further incidents heard
- Coaches allowed offender to stay and no further incidents heard
- Coaches allowed offender to stay and incidents persisted but game continued
- Coaches allowed offender to stay and incidents persisted, and I terminated the game
- Coaches could not resolve, and I terminated the game.

[Add Another Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct Entry](#)



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct

Did you hear or see or were you told about any discriminatory, derogatory, or abusive language or behavior from the time you entered the field of play to when you exited the field of play?

Default to: **NO**

Option: **Yes**

If Yes above, then these questions appear:

Yes - I heard or saw it myself or one of the other match officials reported hearing it

No - I, or one of the Match Officials, was told about it by a player or coach

*Then if **NO** I was TOLD about it.*

What was the role of the person(s) reported to you for discriminatory, derogatory, or abusive language or behavior:

You will be able to enter more than one selection if needed.

•Select one-

- Home Coach: Brookline Tigers
- Home Spectator: Brookline Tigers
- Home Player: Brookline Tigers
- Away Coach: Westwood United
- Away Spectator: Westwood United
- Away Player: Westwood United

Home Player: Brookline Tigers			
Name (if known)	Jersey # (NA if coach or spectator)	Description to help identify	Apprx. Event Time



Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct – *reported to ref*

Describe in detail the discriminatory, derogatory, or abusive language or behavior reported to you
Include exact words spoken or describe actions

Text box for ref to fill in

Did you direct the coaches to investigate and resolve the issue?

Yes

No

What happened after the incident?

- Coaches had offender leave the field area and no further incidents heard
- Coaches allowed offender to stay and no further incidents heard
- Coaches allowed offender to stay and incidents persisted but game continued
- Coaches allowed offender to stay and incidents persisted, and I terminated the game
- Coaches could not resolve, and I terminated the game.

[Add Another Verbal/Physical/Sexual Misconduct Entry](#)



General Game Comments



Any additional comments or notes about the game

Submit





Thanks

Without the work you do, the league would not work

referees@bays.org



Useful Links

BAYS

Assignors Meeting Recap <https://bays.org/content/assignors-meeting-recap>

BAYS Laws of the Game Summary

<https://bays.org/content/laws-game-change-summary-2024-25>

BAYS MR 15: Support for Referees

<https://bays.org/book/bays-match-rule-15-support-match-officials>

BAYS Referee Abuse Prevention Policy

<https://bays.org/content/referee-abuse-prevention-policy>

Mass Youth Soccer

Reporting Misconduct <https://mayouthsoccer.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Reporting-Response-and-Resolution-Matrices-2.2025.pdf>

Language Incidents or Discriminatory Acts Response Guidelines

<https://mayouthsoccer.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Language-Incidents-or-Discriminatory-Acts-Response-Guidelines-Jan-2025.pdf>

Referee Abuse Policy Penalty Summary

<https://mayouthsoccer.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Referee-Abuse-Policy-531-9-Penalty-Summary.pdf>

IFAB

Law Changes <https://www.theifab.com/law-changes/latest/>

Download the APP <https://www.theifab.com/logapp>

US Soccer

Referee Abuse Prevention <https://www.ussoccer.com/rap>

