

Three steps for dealing with inappropriate behaviour

As referees there are times on many games where player and coach behaviour are in need of our control. As officials we are required to control players and coaches when their behaviour is inappropriate or outside the spirit of the game

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Step One: DEFUSING THE SITUATION

The first step in dealing with players and coaches in a heated situation is to maintain your composure.

Communication is a vital tool to any official, talk respectfully with the player or coach to mitigate the situation.

“Coach, I’ve heard your concerns and will keep an eye out but the comments need to stop”

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Step Two: A FORMAL WARNING

If a player or coach continues to misbehave or personally attacks a referee, you may need to issue them with a formal warning. This should be done in a stoppage in play. Avoid being confrontational, and ensure the warning is communicated to your partner.

“Coach, your behaviour is not appropriate, I am giving you a warning”

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Step Three: TECHNICAL FOUL

If the player or coach has not ceased their poor behaviour, it is important that we issue them with a technical foul.

Two technical fouls on an individual coach or player results in disqualification from the game.

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It’s important to remember that some situations can require going straight to step 2 or 3