



Fourth Official Guidelines

June 12, 2008

In an effort for better communication and understanding in regard to the 4th official and his duties, I am sending these suggestions as a guideline to assist you in dealing with improper behavior with bench personnel.

1. Meet with the coaching staff before the game and discuss with them their official duties and responsibilities.
2. While we would like to have the head coach sit on the bench, there are some coaches that are more comfortable standing or prefer to roam the technical area.
3. While this is acceptable, only 1 person may convey tactical instructions. The "instruction giving coach" may at, no time, impede the movement of the assistant referee.
4. The coach and other officials must remain in the confines of the technical area, except in special circumstances, for example, a physiotherapist or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee's permission to assess an injured player.
5. The coach and other occupants of the technical area must behave in a responsible manner.
6. If a situation arises where there is irresponsible behavior, you are to **ASK** the person(s) to stop.
7. If there is another occurrence where there is irresponsible behavior, you are to inform that person that the behavior is not permissible and **TELL** them to stop.
8. If the non-accepted actions continue, you must **REMOVE** that person immediately.
9. This does not inhibit you from having someone removed immediately if the improper behavior is excessive.

In short, take these steps: **ASK**

TELL

REMOVE

At all times, you are to act in a professional manner, never berate, raise your voice or intimidate any one in the bench area.