



To: Referees Working Women's Professional Soccer

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Subject: **Headsets in the Technical Area**

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A question has arisen regarding the use of headsets by team officials in the technical area. Be advised that their use is not a violation of the Laws of the Game.

- The International Board's Referee Committee decided in 1997 not to prohibit mobile phones on the players' bench.
- Although this policy has not been specifically extended to headsets, walkie-talkies are used in FIFA competitions.
- A separate communication from a FIFA official in 2001 indicated that, based on a prior incident, a coach was allowed to give instructions by phone to his assistant in the technical area.

Accordingly, subject only to the requirement that the team official behaves in a responsible manner, mobile phones, headsets, walkie-talkies, and other similar communication devices may be used in the technical area.