



REGION 92 Evidence Policy

Approved: Pat Stanford,
Regional Referee Administrator
March 21, 2016

Pat Stanford

Approved: Roger Steele,
Region 92 Regional Commissioner
March 21, 2016

Roger Steele

AYSO Region 92 Evidence Policy

Last Edited on March 2, 2016



Purpose of the Policy

To clarify that referees are not authorized to review photographic or video evidence either during or after a game and to explain the consequences of presenting such evidence to a referee.

Policy on Evidence

1. The referee is empowered by the Laws of the Game to control the match, enforce the Laws, and to take action against team officials who fail to conduct themselves in a responsible manner (Laws of The Game, Law 5).
2. The Laws of the Game empower only the Referee (Center) to decide the call based on his view of the game and his interpretation of the Laws with support from the assistant referees.
3. Evidence, photographic, video, or other types evidence, does not have a role in enforcing the Laws of the Game. For instance, if the Referee states the ball crossed the line, for purposes of the game the ball did in fact cross the line because the Laws of the Game empower only the Referee to make this call.
4. There are no provisions for a Referee or Assistant Referee to consult with "instant replay," coaches, players, or spectators to review and/or contest a call. All Referee decisions about plays on the field are final.
5. Coaches are responsible for the behavior and conduct of their spectators. All coaches and referees are unpaid volunteers and donating their time to help deliver our program. AYSO asks our participants to refrain from negative comments about referees, coaches, and players from the sidelines. We expect our coaches to control their sidelines and lead their teams in complying with this rule. It is never acceptable to question the calls of a referee as it is disrespectful to that volunteer.
6. A coach/spectator should not, before, during or after a game, approach a referee to criticize or discuss the referee's performance. If you do have a discussion with a referee regarding the game, it is best to limit it to thanking them for their time. If you have a concern regarding refereeing of a game, do not try to reconcile it at the field during or right after the game. Please send your concerns to the Regional Coach Administrator, Regional Referee Administrator or Division Commissioner. Email addresses for these positions are available on the Region 92 website at www.AYSO92.org
7. We have many youth referees who support our program. In order to protect our youth from abuse, Region 92 has instituted a Zero Tolerance/Youth Referee Policy (<http://ayso92.org/supplemental-guidelines-policies/>). This policy states that it is unacceptable for any coach or spectator to criticize a youth volunteer and the Region will not tolerate any communication that is not positive. This includes comments about the youth referee's performance directed at the center referee or showing video of the match to the youth referee. If you have a concern regarding youth refereeing of a game, do not try to reconcile it at the field during or after the game. Please send your concerns to the Regional Coach Administrator, Regional Referee Administrator or Division Commissioner. Email addresses for these positions are available on the Region 92 website at www.AYSO92.org

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8. If a Coach, Assistant Coach presents or attempts to present any form of evidence to a Referee or Assistant Referee, the Referee or Assistant Referee is to decline to look at the evidence and caution the coach that evidence is not allowed. The Referee will then deduct one Sportsmanship point in the Courtesy to Referee category and document the name of the coach.
9. If a Spectator presents or attempts to present any form of evidence to a Referee or Assistant Referee, the Referee or Assistant Referee is to decline to look at the evidence and direct the spectator to their Coach for instruction on this policy. The Referee will then deduct one Sportsmanship point in the Courtesy to Referee category and document the name of the spectator.
10. If a Player presents or attempts to present any form of evidence to a Referee or Assistant Referee, the Referee or Assistant Referee is to decline to look at the evidence and Caution (Yellow Card) the player while instructing her/him that evidence is not allowed. The Referee will then deduct one Sportsmanship point in the Player Conduct category and document the name of the Player.
11. A second attempt by the same person during the same game to present evidence will result in the expulsion (of a coach or spectator) or Send Off (of a player), and loss of all Sportsmanship points in the respective category (Coach Conduct, Spectator Conduct, Player Conduct) along with all other penalties as documented in the AYSO Region 92 Discipline Policy.
12. The Regional Referee Administrator will track violations of this policy. A second caution of the same coach, spectator or player for violation of this policy during the same season will result in a 2-game suspension from all AYSO participation.

