

June 5-11, 2022

These reports have been redacted, condensed, and edited for clarity and to protect the identity of the officials, players, coaches, and teams involved in them. This document is to simply demonstrate to the soccer community types of behavior being reported by officials on fields in Minnesota.

Contest Date/Time: 6/5/2022, 12:15
Incident Type(s): Coach Misconduct
Age of Teams: U12
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: ██████████

Report: ██████████ - red card for foul/abusive language in the 2nd half, about the 48th minute. He was talking to my AR about how he felt the calls were one-sided, so I stepped in and told him it's because the white team isn't fouling you. He got up and raised his voice at me, saying number ██████████ was only getting called because of his size. When he stood up he said, "Fuck you, you fucking suck." He was complaining the whole game so I didn't give him a yellow as a warning.

Editor's Note: Please note this was a U12 game and the referee who was subjected to this language is 14 years old.

Contest Date/Time: 6/4/2022, 3:00
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct, Coach Misconduct
Age of Teams: U17
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: ██████████, ██████████

Report: Throughout the match the ██████████ coach was complaining about stuff but just a quick "THATS NOT A FOUL"; no big deal, but it happened a good amount.

In the 76th minute of the Match, the ball went over the goal line, I looked to my AR and waited for her to make eye contact as I was unsure whether to go with a goal kick or corner and needed info. It took a couple seconds before she made eye contact with me, and did not know which direction either, after this non-verbal communication, I went with a goal kick for ██████████. ██████████ Coach started loudly and publicly complaining how long it took for that call to be made. (can't remember verbatim) I told ██████████ player to hold the kick and wait for the whistle, and came over to the ██████████ technical area and proceeded to say something along the lines of, coach I don't want to be hearing any more dissent from you, this is a warning (maybe I said I won't be happy if there continues to be dissent, I can't remember the exact wording).

Coach then proceeded to loudly speak something along the lines of "can I coach, I'm here to coach, can you do your job?" which I perceived as provocative and combative. He also mentioned something along the lines of me taking 5 minutes to make an elementary call. I cautioned the coach, he then repeated and said let me do my job and you do yours, I said coach, "You're on thin ice" and then something along the lines of it might be a good idea to end this argument. The argument ceased, play resumed no further issues with the coach.

He refused to shake my hand after the game while shaking everyone else's hand, but that's just rudeness not misconduct.

After the conclusion of the Match, a rostered player who did not suit up due to injury had approached the crew on the pitch. He proceeded to call me incompetent and mentioned something about my eyes but cannot remember the exact comment. I promptly displayed a red card for Abusive Language.

Contest Date/Time: 6/5/2022, 2:00 PM
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct, Spectator Misconduct
Age of Teams: U14
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Report: In the 47th minute, [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] had a breakaway opportunity on net from about midfield, and was being challenged by [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) for the ball. As both players got closer to the box, both players began battling for the ball, shoulder to shoulder at first, until [REDACTED] pulled [REDACTED] down to the ground outside of the box. I called a foul and my AR1 called me over ([REDACTED]) informing me that from his angle, the defender was the second to last defender, and advised a DOGSO red card given that the attacker had a clear and obvious goal scoring opportunity. I agreed with him and gave [REDACTED] a red card for DOGSO. The coach demanded an explanation, which my AR1 gave to the coach because I was writing the information down and giving space to the kicker as he had asked me for his 10 yards.

After the match, as we were walking back to our benches, a parent was complaining loud enough for us to hear that the game was poorly refereed and that myself, the center had "no control over the game whatsoever." [REDACTED] initially spoke to him asking him to calmly stop talking and to leave the team area, as we had another game to start. I shortly joined the conversation as I was writing down the team scores for the tournament to submit. When I joined the convo, he said to me "what are you squaring up or something?" because I had my arms crossed. I calmly stated that I was not and that I was just standing there, and both myself and [REDACTED] continued to ask him to leave the area.

He then said that I was a "stupid boy and didn't know how to referee", to which I replied that I was 19, which was followed up by a laugh and "yeah, tell me that when you can drink a beer". [REDACTED] then asked for his name to include in the game report, to which he replied it was "[REDACTED] [REDACTED]", which we assumed was a false name, and left the technical area while continuing to say that we were horrible officials. However, he was walking with a kid from [REDACTED] before and after the confrontation, and the kid was either [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) or [REDACTED] ([REDACTED])

Contest Date/Time: 6/6/2022, 7:00
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U12
Gender of Teams: Girls/Women
Person Reported: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Report: At approximately minute 17, [REDACTED] player [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) was advancing downfield with the ball, beginning a promising attack. Player [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]), a defender from [REDACTED], proceeded downfield and charged into [REDACTED] recklessly and without a play for the ball. [REDACTED] used significant force in the charge, toppling her opponent. An unsporting behavior caution was issued for [REDACTED] due to the severity of the foul. After the fact, [REDACTED] complained of a possible head injury and was treated by the coach appropriately.

At approximately minute 32, the [REDACTED] goalkeeper blocked a shot and the ball rebounded. A teammate deliberately passed the ball back to the goalkeeper, who picked it up. At this point, an IFK was awarded to [REDACTED] on the outside of the goal area.

When the IFK was taken, a defensive wall formed along the goal line. Player [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) was positioned to the side and farther out than the wall, and therefore encroaching on the kick. I marked off 10 yards, and the kick was taken. At my whistle, she charged forwards before the ball was tapped. A caution was issued, and the kick retaken.

On the retake, the ball was tapped slightly then kicked towards the goal by an [REDACTED] player. Its trajectory went towards the goal, directly above player [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]). At this point, she reached above her head with an arm (an unnatural and deliberate movement), blocking the ball from entering the goal. Had her arm remained at her side, the ball would have entered the goal. She was sent off for denying a goal scoring opportunity by handling the ball, and a penalty kick was awarded to [REDACTED].

Contest Date/Time: 6/6/2022, 6:00
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U14
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: [REDACTED] received a caution in the 1st half when he recklessly pushed an opponent with extended arms in the back, then received a 2nd caution in the 2nd half when he publicly dissented by slamming the ball into the ground after being called for a tripping foul which resulted in a penalty kick.

Contest Date/Time: 6/6/2022, 6:00
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U17
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: In the 28th minute of the second half, [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) received two cautions and a send off. All took place at the same time. The first caution was for dissent after a challenge for the ball which I called "no foul". Upset by this he swore because there was no foul committed against him. He then kicked the opposing player, who challenged and got the ball away from him, in the leg after the ball was kicked. I gave a

second caution for UB due to kicking the player behind the play. I then sent him off for receiving two cautions.

Contest Date/Time: 6/7/2022, 7pm
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U16
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: 44th minute [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] challenged the goalkeeper with excessive force. For his actions, player was shown a red card for Serious Foul Play

Contest Date/Time: 6/7/2022, 7:00 pm
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U19
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED] ; [REDACTED]

Report: At the 77th minute [REDACTED] had a clean slide tackle on [REDACTED]. Next [REDACTED] gave a hard push to [REDACTED] chest. Then [REDACTED] threw a punch at [REDACTED]. Players were then separated, and both were given red cards for violent contact and removed from the game.

Contest Date/Time: 6/5/2022, 12:10PM
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U19
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Report:

First Half

36' minute: [REDACTED] - Yellow Card: Dissent
37' minute: [REDACTED] - 2nd Yellow Card: Dissent

43' minute: [REDACTED] stated to [REDACTED] players on the field they were a minority team. None of referee crew heard the discriminatory comment. Players came together, Tempers flared and words were exchanged. Multiple [REDACTED] players were swearing at the [REDACTED] players. [REDACTED] apologized for his comments. MNSRC Discriminatory Events Protocol followed but prior to both teams being addressed [REDACTED] coach told center official his team was done and was not going to finish the match.

44' minute: [REDACTED] coach [REDACTED] told Center Referee his team was done playing. Match was stopped.

45' minute: [REDACTED] Coach [REDACTED] informed Center Official he would like to file a formal complaint. Reason for complaint: [REDACTED] players who were on the field during the match were swearing at him. He was unable to provide player jersey numbers

54' minute: (After match ended) A [REDACTED] parent reported to Center official she was sworn at by a [REDACTED] player. She could not provide the match time or number of the player. This occurred while the game was being played sometime in the first half. Investigation could not be completed due to lack of player and coach availability.

Contest Date/Time: 6/7/2022, 7:45 pm

Incident Type(s): Other

Age of Teams: U18

Gender of Teams: Girls/Women

Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Description of Reported Person: [REDACTED]

Report: There are no yellow or red cards to report for this match.

In the middle of the second half, [REDACTED] had a throw in, and [REDACTED] intentionally ran up within a yard of the MU player throwing the ball in. I told [REDACTED] to back up, and she took one step back (still not enough to provide the required distance) while saying to me "I'm five yards away." I blew the whistle to stop the throw in and started to approach [REDACTED]. She turned and started to walk away from me. In hindsight, at this point I should have given [REDACTED] a yellow card for failing to provide the required distance away from the ball as it is being put into play and/or for dissent.

I told [REDACTED] to come back and talk with me. She stopped walking away and turned around to face me but did not come any closer. She was probably 4-5 yards away from me. (I could tell because the turf field was marked with American football lines.) I asked her to come closer to me so I could speak with her, but she would not.

At this point, I took a few steps closer to her, and she took a few steps backwards away from me and told me again "I was five yards away." I told her "not to give me any more attitude," took a deep breath, and re-started play. [REDACTED] had not been called for any penalties up to that point, so I did not want to over-react, despite my frustration.

The match went on and there were no other incidents or fouls with [REDACTED] for the remainder of the match. The match ended in a 1-1 draw, and both teams showed good sportsmanship towards each other and the referees, saying "good game", etc.

However, as I was packing up my referee bag after the match, [REDACTED] and another [REDACTED] player approached me and asked for my first and last name. I asked [REDACTED] what she needed my name for, and she said "You know why." I responded that I didn't know why, and she said "You know what you did wrong." I then told her that she would need to explain to me what I did wrong, so her teammate then said that I was being too aggressive in asking her to come closer to me during the incident in the second half. I told [REDACTED] that I was sorry if I made her feel uncomfortable, but I needed her to come closer so I could speak with her. I told her I would ask that of any player on the pitch, and that it was not unreasonable. I said that if she still felt that she needed to report me, she had that right, and I provided my first and last

name, as well as my email address. After that [REDACTED] and her teammate walked away.

After packing up and walking to my car, [REDACTED] was standing with (presumably) her father who politely and respectfully asked me what happened. I started to explain the incident when [REDACTED] jumped in to explain it herself. The moment she said to her father that she told me "I'm five yards away" her father interrupted and said something like "honey, you can't do that" and "that's talking back to the ref." He then turned to me and said it was her second year of soccer, so she was still learning. I told him that I was sorry if I made his daughter feel uncomfortable, but I just needed her to come closer so I could speak with her. Her father then said I did a good job refereeing the match and that it wasn't a problem. His daughter looked away from me, and I walked to my car and left.

Contest Date/Time: 6/6/2022, 6pm
Incident Type(s): Coach Misconduct
Age of Teams: U10
Gender of Teams: Girls/Women
Person Reported: [REDACTED] Coach
Description of Reported Person: Dark haired female coach

Report: Coach complaining of call made. Saying, "that was a corner". I said, "it was a goal kick, I made the call." She said, "but ref it's a corner!" In a very rude way.

So then I blew my whistle and ran over to talk to her. I said, "I would appreciate it if you would stop yelling at me." Then she said again, "but it was a corner!" I then said again, "I would appreciate it if you would stop yelling at me." Then she said, "I would appreciate it if you would make the right calls!" Again, in a very rude and sarcastic way. I was stunned by her reply and turned and just walked away. After I walked away, I realized I should have given her a yellow card. I wish I would have because she deserved it. (this is only my first time having an interaction with a coach who was rude and shouting at me, for reference I am only 13 and will do better next time to try to remember to show the Coach a card).

Contest Date/Time: 6/8/2022, 5:30pm
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U18
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]
Description of Reported Person: [REDACTED] (away team) player [REDACTED]

Report: Away player [REDACTED] received caution for dissent (persistent complaints about referee calls) @ 19th min, public dissent about a throw in call. During half time, [REDACTED] (AR1) was talking with [REDACTED] coach, explaining an offside call he made in first half. Player [REDACTED] chimed in and commented publicly (dissent) about his offside call. I then gave him a second caution, followed with ejection.

The player continued to insult me and [REDACTED], until his coach stopped him. He didn't show any remorse.

Contest Date/Time: 6/8/2022, 1830
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: Adult
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: At minute 88, Player [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] fouled player [REDACTED] from [REDACTED]. It was a regular foul, no caution needed. [REDACTED] did not agree with my call and yelled at me you are an "idiot". I ejected him for offensive language. The comment was personal, public, and offensive.

At the end of the game when we were shaking hands with both teams in the center field, [REDACTED] approached me to call me you are a "fucking idiot". His teammates had to stop him so he could not get near me, I felt threatened by him.

Contest Date/Time: 6/9/2022, 7:00 pm
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U18
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Report: In the handshake line, [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] began fighting. At that point, I issued red cards to each player for violent conduct.

Contest Date/Time: 6/11/2022, 6:25pm
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U14
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: In the 70th minute, [REDACTED] committed a handball offense while standing on the goal line defending a corner kick as the ball was about to cross the goal line. A red card was given to [REDACTED] for denying the opposing team a goal by a handball offense. [REDACTED] was awarded a penalty kick.