

May 1-7, 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: 5/1/2022, 10:30 AM

Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct, Coach Misconduct

Age of Teams: U13

Gender of Teams: Girls/Women

Description of Reported Person: Head Coach for [REDACTED], Goalie for [REDACTED]

Report: In the 68th minute [REDACTED] was playing goalkeeper. A player from [REDACTED] was on a breakaway and was coming across the top of the penalty box. [REDACTED] reached out and knocked the ball away with her hand. After 3-4 seconds the ball went out of play. I conferred with AR1 to discover if [REDACTED] had touched the ball outside of the penalty box. He informed me she had, and [REDACTED] was shown a red card for DOGSO handling. Play was then restarted with a direct free kick at the spot of the infraction.

Head coach [REDACTED] dissented the call, saying things along the lines of it was terrible. This was his third outburst of the game, and he was shown a yellow card for dissent.

In the 73rd minute the ball was right in front of the bench for [REDACTED]. At this time [REDACTED] began to complain about the overall calls I had made throughout the game, saying things along the lines of my calls were terrible throughout the game, and that I didn't know what I was doing. I blew the whistle for the end of the game and [REDACTED] continued to dissent as I was walking away. At this point he took a few steps on to the field to continue his dissent. He was then shown a 2nd yellow card for dissent followed by a red card for his 2nd yellow. I then continued to walk away and while I was walking away [REDACTED] said "you're a piece of shit".

Of note, while there was no more misconduct given, when the manager for [REDACTED] came to collect his team's player cards, at that time he proceeded to tell the referee crew that we did not know what we were doing and that we blew the game. He also asked for our badge numbers and told us he was sending in the video.

When we went to the parking lot, the GK's mother asked me and [REDACTED] why she was dismissed. This is a non-issue as she was not yelling at us, the keeper just had the wrong idea that if she stood in the box she could hit the ball when it was out of it. She was polite about it and was mostly concerned with if the keeper would be able to play in her next game or not. The reason I bring this up is that while this was happening [REDACTED] and his dad went to their car. While they were doing this the [REDACTED] manager followed them to their car and continued to tell [REDACTED] that he was a bad referee and demanded his badge number.

Contest Date/Time: 5/1/2022, 9:00
Incident Type(s): Coach Misconduct, Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U19
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: Coach [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] was shown a red card in the 58' for abusive language, loudly yelling "You need to learn how to call this fucking game, your fucking reffing is shit," following a caution to [REDACTED] head coach for irresponsible behavior. Coach failed to leave the field until instructed to do such in a timely fashion with play resuming soon after.

[REDACTED] of [REDACTED] got called for a foul in the 90' in front of AR1 and responded by getting in AR1's face yelling: "What the fuck was that fucking call, fuck off. What are you fucking doing?" Player was issued a red card for abusive language and promptly left the field of play.

Contest Date/Time: 5/1/2022, 8:00 am
Incident Type(s): Coach Misconduct
Age of Teams: U13
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: -22:00 minute, coach's player [REDACTED] was cautioned for failure to maintain required distance/delaying restart on a free kick.

-40:00 minute, coach's player [REDACTED] cautioned for dissent after arguing a foul call and being warned previously for such actions during the match

-61:00 minute/extra time due to injuries, [REDACTED] was cautioned for dissent after not receiving a penalty kick in which he simulated a foul by jumping up and flopping back to the ground, then dissented by action of throwing his arms up in the air and yelling, "Referee, what are you looking at?" His teammate was immediately taken down and awarded a PK. It was his second caution and he was sent off.

-62:00 minute, before taking of the penalty kick, coach dissented by continuously yelling onto the field "hey ref what are you calling, what are you calling, do you know what you're calling" and was cautioned.

-Post game when getting player pass from coach for red card, he asked me what the first caution was for on [REDACTED]. I explained it to him and he responded that I had to provide his player a warning. I let him know there is nothing in IFAB rules that require a warning, especially as blatant as his player was with it. Then while shaking my hand, and squeezing it so hard it hurt, he told me, "Just like the game, you don't know what you are talking about." I then issued his second caution for dissent and then red card for second caution.

While walking away with the passes after the ejections he also yelled, "My team knows how to play soccer ref!"

Contest Date/Time: 5/1/2022, 7:00 PM
Incident Type(s): Spectator Misconduct
Age of Teams: U17
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Description of Reported Person: [REDACTED] parent sideline

Report: In the first half with [REDACTED] leading 1-0, AR2 signaled for offside, negating an [REDACTED] goal. AR2 confirmed to me that the player who kicked the ball into the goal was in an offside position when he received the pass. There was dissent from both the players and touchline.

In the 80th minute during a stoppage, AR2 waved me over to tell me the parents on the sideline were being more hostile, adding they were dropping f-bombs. I stopped the match, called AR2 over by me, and instructed the [REDACTED] coach to address and admonish his fans. He complied, walking across the field to address them. After he finished, we restarted the match. AR2 did not report any additional problems with the sideline.

[Editor's note: the AR in this incident was a player for the club whose parents were abusing him/her.]

Contest Date/Time: 5/2/2022, 8pm
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U17
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: In the 78' minute of the match a mass confrontation broke out between the two teams after a goal was conceded by [REDACTED]. The [REDACTED] keeper grabbed the ball after the goal and players from [REDACTED] began to crowd him, trying to get the ball from him to speed up the restart of play. From this, pushing started and ultimately a fight broke out on the field. [REDACTED] was sent off in the 80' for screaming abusive language as loud as he could at the [REDACTED] players, saying things like "You fucking faggot" and "Bitch" and other offensive language.

In the fight, neither myself or the AR caught the people who threw the punches. Their numbers were obscured and then I got caught up in it all and couldn't issue misconduct for VC on either teams' players.

Contest Date/Time: 5/2/2022, 7:35
Incident Type(s): Other
Age of Teams: U15
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]
Description of Reported Person: Team Manager

Report: 48:37: [REDACTED] Keeper [REDACTED] lowered his shoulder while in control of the ball and launched at opponent that was running by but not contesting for the ball. Penalty Kick was awarded for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was cautioned for Unsporting Behavior. AR confirmed seeing same situation. [REDACTED] coach yelling from the sideline told me I owed him an explanation

and I told him I didn't owe him an explanation but that his keeper launched at another player who wasn't making an attempt to play the ball.

50:05: [REDACTED] player was attacking goal in the opponents' penalty box and was tackled from the ball but I did not view this as a foul or worthy of a penalty kick, [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] said directly to me, "Ref, what the Fuck are you looking at?" He was sent off for offensive and abusive language

50:05: [REDACTED] coach yelled at me from the sideline that I owed him an explanation on the send-off. I reiterated to him that I did not owe him anything but that all he needed to know was that his player swore at me. He kept on telling me that I owed him more than that and would not move on and was cautioned for Dissent.

58:30: [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] was cautioned for unsporting behavior and penalty kick awarded to [REDACTED] as foul that occurred in the penalty area and took away scoring opportunity.

75:00: Parent was on the goal line coaching and instructing team. I advised him that he cannot coach from a goal line and to please go to the touchline. He yelled at me not to worry about him and do my job. The parent was then asked to leave. He would not leave and I went to the coaches and advised that the match would not continue until the parent left. The manager for [REDACTED] said he is no longer on the goal line and not coaching. I advised him that I would not continue the match until the parent that was asked to leave is out of sight. The team manager ran over to him and we waited until he was leaving. While going back over to the bench the team manager again yelled at me from the end line that he wasn't coaching. I advised the team manager to discontinue dissenting me or I would take further action. He told me to do my job, so I cautioned him for dissent. He replied that I can give him purple or any color I want so I cautioned him again and sent him off.

Post-Game: the parent of the player for [REDACTED] respectfully approached me on the field to ask why his son was sent off. I told him that he would be supplied that in the game report through his coach. Upon returning to the touchline, the [REDACTED] coach approached me again to reiterate that I owed him an explanation for the keeper's caution. I informed him again that his player launched unnecessarily into his opponent. He again told me that I owed him a better explanation than that. I reiterated that IFAB rules do not require me to provide him with an explanation and MN SRC advises us to refer the coach to the game report in which my AR will confirm my action of the caution of the keeper.

Contest Date/Time: 05/02/2022, 6:30 p.m.

Incident Type(s): Coach Misconduct

Age of Teams: U19

Gender of Teams: Girls/Women

Person Reported: Head Coach [REDACTED]

Report: Coach [REDACTED] was the sole coach in the [REDACTED] technical area. He had been complaining about calls periodically during the match. In the 73rd minute I stopped play and asked Coach [REDACTED] to step away from the team bench to warn him that his complaints were trivial and unnecessarily

increasing the temperature of the match. He continued to complain before I even stepped back onto the pitch, so I cautioned him for unsporting behavior. I also note that Coach [REDACTED] informed me upon the issuance of the caution that he would be including my behavior in his "report."

Contest Date/Time: 5/3/2022, 6:30 PM

Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct

Age of Teams: U16

Gender of Teams: Boys/Men

Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: In the 40th minute of the 1st half, [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] received a Caution/yellow card for Unsporting Behavior after committing a late and reckless foul on an opposition player.

In the 14th minute of the 2nd half (54th minute of the game), [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] received a second Caution for Dissent and as a result was shown a red card/ejected from the game.

Contest Date/Time: 5/3/2022, 7pm

Incident Type(s): Coach Misconduct, Spectator Misconduct

Age of Teams: U10

Gender of Teams: Boys/Men

Description of Reported Person: [REDACTED] Head Coach

Report: First- I was not the referee, I was a parent in attendance as a spectator (for the team opposite this coach). I felt compelled to submit this to support the referee, whom I have not met nor did I speak to him during or after the game. I want to be sure he is defended, as he took a lot of abuse.

The [REDACTED] coach became upset in the ~20th minute at what he believed was a missed offside call. He was very vocal and made animated gestures. This continued for a minute. The referee seemed to approach him, but it wasn't clear what was said.

The coach's extreme vocal frustration continued throughout the remainder of the first half, looking for calls. He would say things like "aren't you supposed to blow your whistle to restart (it was a dropped ball)". It was constant and excessive, which set the tone for what was to come.

At the half, the coach entered the field and approached the referee. He used the centerline to reenact how he viewed the player was offside. "He was right here when that ball was passed. you have to call that". He was very vocal and was yelling how he had to make that call. I couldn't hear what the official said to the referee, but I suspect he told the coach to stop arguing. I say this because the coach began to yell "I wasn't arguing, I am having a respectful conversation. THIS IS A RESPECTFUL CONVERSATION."

Late in the second half in a tie game, a [REDACTED] player on the attack went down due to contact near the corner flag. [REDACTED] were countering, so the referee did not see that this player was down. [REDACTED] lost the ball out of bounds, at which point the referee noticed the down player. No foul

had been called, and the referee mistakenly awarded [REDACTED] an indirect free kick restart vs. a [REDACTED] throw in. The coach elevated his verbal displeasure to an extreme level, directed at the referee's skill level. The [REDACTED] coach realized the error and instructed his players to kick the ball out of bounds. The coach said something to the effect of "even they knew you were wrong".

A few minutes later with the game tied, [REDACTED] pushed forward on a counterattack in a 2 v 1. The counter started with somewhat of a 50-50 ball that was fed forward. The ref was chasing the attack and didn't see that there had been a collision and a [REDACTED] player was down behind the play. [REDACTED] converted the goal.

The [REDACTED] coach SCREAMED his displeasure. YOU NEED TO STOP THAT PLAY. YOU MISSED IT. WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP PLAY LIKE YOU DID FOR THEM (when the play was stopped after the ball had been kicked out a few minutes earlier). This was as he slow walked onto the field to tend to his player. At this time the referee showed him a yellow. The coach applauded the yellow and made sarcastic comments about "good a yellow, thank you".

Several [REDACTED] parents (2-3) also joined the coach on the field in tending to the player, and communicating their displeasure while standing on the field around the player. "You need to protect the players. There was a head injury the play needs to be stopped the goal shouldn't count." The play was a quick counter that the referee was chasing to follow the play and the goal was scored within a few seconds of the players coming together.

Within a minute the player was up and walking off with the coach. As the coach walked off the player, he insisted he could "feel a bump forming on his head, so are you going to not count that goal?". General loud commentary continued and was ongoing for the rest of the match (about 1 minute).

After the match concluded, one of the [REDACTED] parents (who had been one of the parents on the field during the match) followed the referee to the sideline where his bag was placed. It was clear he was engaging the referee with discussion, feedback or questions. I couldn't hear the conversation, but from the referee's actions it was obvious he wasn't interested in this dialogue, and he made his exit.

Contest Date/Time: 5/6/2022, 7:05
Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct
Age of Teams: U15
Gender of Teams: Boys/Men
Person Reported: [REDACTED]

Report: [REDACTED] was making a run towards the goal and was overwhelmed by the defenders, who did not foul him, but took the ball. In frustration, he said, "There are too many fucking defenders, I can't get through!" or words to that effect. The ball then went out of play, and I paused the restart to issue a send off (red card) to him at the 8th minute of the second half. He proceeded to tell me that other referees had only given yellow cards for this. I told him that I didn't know or care what previous referees had done. I would not allow foul language on my field. He then left the field and the game continued.

Contest Date/Time: 5/7/2022, 5:55

Incident Type(s): Player Misconduct

Age of Teams: U17

Gender of Teams: Boys/Men

Description of Reported Person: red card [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]
yellow card- [REDACTED] on [REDACTED]

Report: The match quickly escalated in the second half, leading to violent conduct by several players from both teams (and both the team managers were yelling about every call I made). [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] tackled another player when the ball was not in play or in conflict between the two teams on the same side of the field. [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] was within two feet of me insulting my calls so I yellow carded him for dissent. [REDACTED] was previously warned to avoid using intentional and excessive force when going for the ball. He was in battle for the ball with [REDACTED]'s player, however, he was playing dangerously and, using excessive force, knocked over the other contender for the ball.