

Match Officials Pre-game message for the Team managers

Name _____ OSA Number _____

To the Team Officials,

The District Referee Coordinator has asked me to provide you with his message. Please take a minute to read and ask me any questions before the game begins. Thank you,

Dear Coaches and Team Manager(s):

I wanted to write to let you know that the Match Officials for this game are experienced and trained professionals. They have attended and successfully completed OSA Courses, attended Upgrading clinics, focused on study of the Laws of the Game, received on-field training and fitness testing. Finally, they have successfully passed exams on the LAWS including video in-game incident review, situation analysis and decision making.

With that in mind, I will ask the following:

- Please do not vocally disagree nor dispute any of their game decisions for any reason. Examples are: handball, goals being scored, fouls, offside and penalty kicks being awarded.*
- If, you or your staff does vocally disagree with referee decisions, I have instructed them to politely ask you to stop disrupting the game. Please understand that the Match Officials are not required to provide you an explanation of their decision. If they decide to explain the call - that is their choice to do so, but not mandatory.*
- If, the disagreement continues, you will be asked to leave the Field of Play and be removed from the game.*
- If you are removed, you **MUST** leave the Field of Play immediately and you cannot return at the end of the game for any reason, specifically not to confront the Officiating team.*
- If, you are removed from the game, the Match Official **MUST** complete a Special Incident Report and file it with the District or League.*
- Based on that report, you will face Discipline under OSA policy for Team officials, which can include game suspensions, fines or both. The level of Discipline increases if you used any Offensive, Insulting or Abusive language or gestures towards any of the Officiating team, even following the game conclusion and including any interaction in the parking lot.*

We understand that our Officials are not perfect and that we need to continually work with them to improve their skills and knowledge. If, you have any comments, complaints or questions about the Officiating, please feel free to write the NSA and me at: niagarasoccer@cogeco.net DRCNiagara@cogeco.net. We will fully investigate your complaint and take educational actions, if deemed necessary.

We sincerely appreciate the work and time you spend to coach and thank you in advance for your patience, understanding and respect of our Match Officials.

Yours in Soccer,

Lou Braid

NSA District Referee Coordinator, Match Official Instructor and Assessor