

Please distribute to all teams, post on appropriate web sites, and any other appropriate communication medium

MANAGEMENT OF THE TECHNICAL AREA or BENCH AREA

Coaches/Trainers/Managers, et al., Referees & Technical Area Management

“Managing the Technical Area” is a USSF Referee Program Directive issued February 2, 2009. This directive defines the issues, and gives techniques for referees to deal with irresponsible behavior of non playing personnel during matches. This is CYSA-N and District 2 policy. **“ASK, TELL, REMOVE”** is a process for all officials to follow, and bench personnel to understand and obey relative to their conduct within the technical area.

Officials are being asked to use the following process/procedure

- **Ask**
 - If a situation arises where there is irresponsible behavior, you are to **ASK** the person(s) to stop.
- **Tell**
 - If there is another occurrence where there is irresponsible behavior, you are to inform that person that the behavior must not be permissible and **TELL** them (insist) to stop.
- **Remove**
 - If the non-accepted action continues, you must **REMOVE** that person immediately.

It is key to use and understand the process and terminology so that coaches know that when they hear **TELL** it is understood this is same step as when a player is shown a yellow card and cautioned. Dissent is a caution, so to become a send off another event must occur.

On the other hand, “Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and or gestures” is a send off and does not require **“ASK, TELL, REMOVE”** i.e **when necessary officials can go directly to the removal of an official without having to utilize the “ask and or tell” steps.**

Dismissal for non-playing personnel should be written as “irresponsible behavior” and specific details noted on the game report. The actions that “cross the line” include:

- Coach/bench personnel leaving technical area (including entering the field) to dispute/dissent a call – even if the call isn’t what he thinks it is
- Coach/bench personnel throwing/kicking anything while disputing a call
- Coach/bench personnel kicking/hitting advertising boards or bench in dispute of a call

- Directed abusive, insulting or offensive language and/or gestures
- Inflammatory and/or aggressive behavior (verbal and/or physical) with the opposition
- Interfering with the restart of play and field players
- Making unwanted and/or aggressive contact with opposing players
- Interfering with the AR or fourth official in the performance of their duties