



Respect for the Game Guidelines

For all the leagues and tournaments it services, *Ref Union* will enforce standards of sportsmanship consistent with the *Respect for the Game* principles of the NBA. Officials will recognize and address through the use of an appropriate warning and/or immediate Technical Foul, the following **five behaviors** that players and coaches display in their interactions with officials:

1. Comments that undermine the integrity of an official.
2. Profanity usage.
3. Demonstrative acts in resentment to a call or no call.
 - * This includes, but is not limited to, waiving the arms, inappropriate gesturing, or clapping at an official.
4. Continuous or continual complaining/criticism directed to or about an official.
5. Excessive inquires.

Restatement: Players and coaches can react to calls with which they disagree, provided the reaction is not overly demonstrative, disrespectful, or prolonged. Heat of the moment reactions by players that are not demonstrative and dissolve quickly are **not** to be penalized with a technical foul.

Assistant Coaches Standard of Conduct

No assistant coach may direct comments to an official during live and/or dead ball play. The only exception is that during a time-out, an assistant coach may ask an official for a rule interpretation. Technical fouls are to be assessed if an assistant coach's behavior does not comply with this directive. If assistant coaches are given defensive or offensive responsibilities which necessitate their standing up at times, this is now and always has been permissible, so long as they return to their seats within a reasonable amount of time.

Parent/Fan Standard of Conduct

Similar to assistant coaches, parents may ask an official for a rule interpretation before or after the game, if the officials make themselves available for such interaction at the scorer's table. If after a game, the officials refuse to talk to parents or fans, or if they remain at center court, they have the right to be left alone. During the game, parents and fans can react to calls with which they disagree, provided that their reaction does not include the use of profanity or personal attacks against a referee's judgment or integrity, nor it be deemed against the principles of appropriate sportsmanship that we require of the players and coaches. Under no circumstances are parents/fans allowed to approach a referee or the scorekeeper *during the game*.

In the case of an overtly disrespectful fan, a warning may be issued to the corresponding coaching staff in attempts to give them every opportunity to address the situation. The officials are then directed to instruct a site director/tournament staff member to help eject the fan if they continue to be a distraction.