

P.R.O.S
Positive Responses Only Sidelines

AYSO has a NO tolerance policy in regards to verbal abuse of youth referees. To go along with AYSO Policy, Region 677 (Canyon Country) is enacting a procedure to allow coaches and spectators to enjoy a soccer game while still protecting our youth referees. This procedure is called "PROS".

The spectators are allowed to cheer and clap their hands to encourage the players. The coach is allowed to instruct, encourage, and cheer his players. Nobody is allowed to criticize any of the youth referees or their **CALLS**. If a coach or spectator criticizes a youth referee or a youth referee's call, then that person is immediately dismissed from the match. If the offending spectator cannot be identified then the whole sideline (excluding the coaches and the team parent/mom) will be dismissed until the match is completed.

Some examples of comments that will warrant dismissal:

1. "Call it both ways, Ref!"
2. "That's a bad call!"
3. "Hand Ball! Referee that was a handball!"
4. Any other comment that is directed at the youth referee or the youth referee's call or that is perceived by the referee, to effect the Fun, Fairness, or Safety of the game (including the youth referee's).

This procedure is designed to protect our children on the field including the one wearing the referee uniform. The PROS idea just defines for coaches and spectators what the consequences are if they violate the No Tolerance Policy described in the KIDS ZONE and SAFE HAVEN training.

Prior to a soccer game, in which one of the referees (AR or center) is a youth referee, the following procedure will be followed:

1. Both coaches will be notified by a member of the referee crew that a youth referee is part of the referee crew.
2. The coach will then tell his spectators that the "PROS" rule is in effect.
3. Upon availability, a Fourth Official or Regional Staff Member will be assigned to enforce the "PROS" procedure.
4. The Regional Commissioner and Regional Referee Administrator will decide the length of the dismissal, after they review the Referee's Misconduct Report and speak with the referees involved in the incident.