

All,

Please take the time to read this message. I sincerely appreciate your attention to this matter. Please pass this along to those I may have missed.

As HFC Program Director, I attend our club board meetings. Last evening as officer reports were read, I was disappointed to hear that there have been several instances recently of referee abuse occurring. The HSC board will be in contact with individual coaches that were referenced in the report for further discussion.

Regardless of what program the coaches are associated with, the HSC Board takes these matters very seriously. Without referees, we don't play games.

#### **Reminders and point to ponder:**

- No one should be speaking to the referee other than the coach or the team captains.
- Conversation and questions surrounding calls –yes. Disrespectful remarks -no
- No one should be harassing referees or linesmen under any circumstances.
- If a coach or team captain is asked to be quiet by the referee, comply at once, let it go, and play on.
- Give em' a break! Many referees are young and learning, just like the players. Would you want your child yelled at by 32-40+ screaming parents, coaches and players?
- Consider the example you set for the very players you're charged with teaching the game to. Are you a good role model of sportsmanship?
- Have you ever arrived at a game to find no referees? No linesmen? How did the game go? Did people yell at the person who graciously offered to ref the game simply because they had their license and wanted to help out?
- Have you ever seen a referee change a call after being yelled at?
- Have you ever witnessed "make up calls"? Usually the game digressed with more poor calls didn't it?
- If you feel a Law of the Game has been misused by a referee, your avenue of recourse is to report it to our very own McKee Moser who is our VP of Referees. McKee can be contacted at [harborrefs@yahoo.com](mailto:harborrefs@yahoo.com)
- As a Head Coach, **YOU** are in charge of your sideline. If your sideline becomes unruly, step up, educate the spectators, and ask them to keep quiet.
- **No one** has the right to badger a referee. This includes coaches, asst. coaches, managers and players.
- Ever watch a game where the referee crew did a great job? Did you think of reporting that to McKee Moser? Balanced feedback is critical in order for your comments in general, to be considered valid.
- Many of our very own Harbor Soccer Club players have gone through the referee clinic as a way to further educate themselves about the game we all love. Have you?

We are all passionate about the game, our teams and the club. Excellent!! Please do channel that passion in a positive and respectful way and remember we all represent Harbor Soccer Club and Harbor FC.

Let's all represent the Harbor proudly and do our part to keep the beautiful game beautiful.

Thank you,

Mike McCoy  
HFC Program Director