



ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

Overview

The Petawawa Minor Soccer Club (PMSC) is a strong supporter of making sports safe for all soccer players. Verbal and physical abuse directed by or towards any game official, player, coach or spectator will not be tolerated. Accordingly, PMSC has set up a **Zero Tolerance Policy** to help ensure the safety and enjoyment of all.

Policy

Any member, player, coach, parent, relative or guardian determined by the PMSC Discipline by Review Committee ('DBRC') to be guilty of abusive conduct towards a game official, player, coach or spectator during a PMSC indoor or outdoor house league, select, representative or exhibition game, may result in ALL playing members of the immediate family in question, at the PMSC's discretion, being de-registered from the PMSC. If de-registered, all fees will be forfeited to the PMSC.

Procedures for Game Official Abuse

When a game official feels that they are being abused by either a coach or a spectator, as per the scope of this policy, the official may suspend playing of the game until the issue has been resolved:

1. The official will verbally advise both coaches that the game has been suspended due to the abuse, and inform both coaches as to the source of the abuse.
2. If the source is:
 - a. *One of the coaches*: the official will advise the coach of the abandonment of the game and that a report to the PMSC 'DBRC' will be sent in for review.

- b. *A spectator*: the appropriate coach will provide the game official with the name of the spectator. That coach must advise the spectator that they are to remove themselves from the field area, but that they may stay in their car for the remainder of the game in order to retrieve their child. Further, an Incident Report will be forwarded to the PMSC 'DBRC'.
 - c. *A spectator not associated with either team*: both coaches are asked to speak to the spectator and ask the individual to leave. Once the prescribed action has been completed, the game will restart with a dropped ball between the two teams at the location where the play was stopped.
3. If the game continues without any further incident, the game official is advised to inform The Club's Head Referee that the game was temporarily suspended due to abuse towards a game official. Further, a note must be made on the game sheet that will be forwarded to the PMSC office.
4. If the abuse continues, the official may stop any further playing of the game and advise the coaches that the game has been abandoned and that an Incident Report will be forwarded to the PMSC 'DBRC'. The official must clearly indicate on the game sheet the reason the game was abandoned. If the abuse is physical in nature, the game official is advised to inform the coaches that the game has been abandoned and then proceed with steps below:

→ **Step 1**

The game official must contact the PMSC Club Head Referee and a member of the Board of Directors to verbally report the incident within 24 hours of the incident. If necessary the Club will then report the matter to the District Association and/or the Ontario Soccer Association.

→ **Step 2**

A Referee Assault Report must be forwarded to the Club's Head Referee and District Association, through the PMSC office, within 72 hours of the alleged incident.

→ **Step 3**

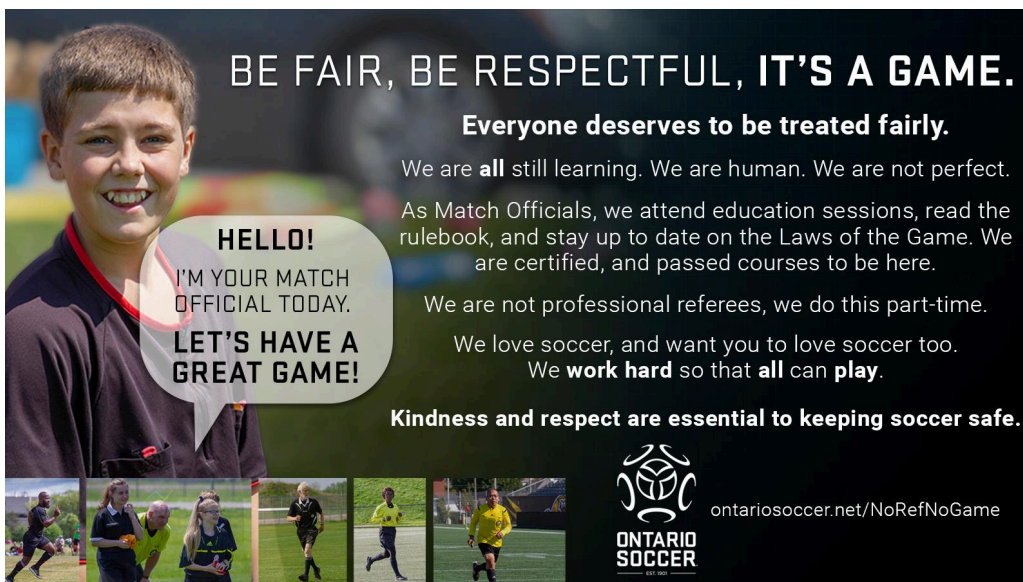
The District Soccer Association or OSA will review the matter and send a report to the PMSC office regarding what, if any, measures are to be taken.

→ **Step 4**

If the game was abandoned due to the conduct of a spectator not associated with either team, the PMSC Board of Directors will determine the status of the game.

Additional Resources

- Ontario Soccer's Match Official Anti-Bullying and Harassment Program. [No Ref, No Game](#)
- Ontario Soccer's [Match Official Bullying and Harassment Prevention Program Proposal and Action Plan](#).
- Ontario Soccer's [Take 5 Project](#) to help referees specifically address unacceptable spectator behaviours.



BE FAIR, BE RESPECTFUL, IT'S A GAME.

Everyone deserves to be treated fairly.

We are **all** still learning. We are human. We are not perfect.

As Match Officials, we attend education sessions, read the rulebook, and stay up to date on the Laws of the Game. We are certified, and passed courses to be here.

We are not professional referees, we do this part-time.

We love soccer, and want you to love soccer too.

We **work hard** so that **all** can **play**.

Kindness and respect are essential to keeping soccer safe.

HELLO!
I'M YOUR MATCH OFFICIAL TODAY.
LET'S HAVE A GREAT GAME!

ONTARIO SOCCER
1958-2018

ontariosoccer.net/NoRefNoGame