

WEEK 2

August 29, 2022 to September 4, 2022

Boys Varsity

Working as referee. Ball went out of play for a ***** (Black) throw. ***** (White) #9 kicked the ball off the sideline and into the first couple rows of the stand. I stopped the clock, issued White 9 a caution for delaying the restart and walked him over to his coach. While walking with white 9 I advised him that his behavior was a point of emphasis this year and that referees will surely book him for future, similar misconduct. About halfway across the field, White coach gave me a thumbs up indicating he knew why the card had been issued. The play resumed without further incident.

Girls Varsity

***** (Black) was attacking down the right wing and had numbers moving forward across the field.

Black attacker beats ***** (white) defender 1v1 and begins to accelerate with possession. After having been beat, white defender gave chase and hooked the white attacker in the elbow, instantly stopping his attack. This was a tactical foul. I marked the place of the kick and kept my eyes on the player as he walked away. I stopped the clock, issued him a yellow card for the tactical foul and walked him to the bench. I explained the reason for the card to the coach who said, "Ok." Play was restarted with a direct free kick from the spot of the foul.

Boys JV

I was a single official on JV game and then the center for the Varsity game. With a few minutes left in the JV game the Varsity coach had moved to the JV bench. He questioned two calls he had just observed - but response didn't rise to level of dissent. When the JV game ended (a very smooth game in my opinion - no issues with players or either coach) the Varsity coach went about normal pregame with his players.

Then during the pregame captains-coaches meeting he commented to me 'are you the head referee on this game too?' I responded with a simple 'yes I am'. He then asked 'are you

supposed to center two games in a row?’ I smiled and indicated ‘a lower level center followed by a varsity center is allowed and not uncommon’. His tone during meeting was less than positive.

Early in the first half he questioned two offside decisions made by AR 2. When he questioned a 3rd call I stopped play - approached the coach - and advised him assertively ‘coach, that’s enough’.

On the next offside decision - which he agreed with - he clapped his hands in the direction of the AR. He was quiet for the rest of the match - no problems - and nothing negative during post game. The game was very clean.

Reflecting on Doug’s excellent video I asked myself what I could-should have done differently. After the pregame meeting I might have had a private word with coach aka ‘coach - I sense you have some issues going into this game but I need you to keep it respectful going forth’. Then because I had issued a verbal warning - when he ‘clapped at’ my AR I should have shown him yellow.

The ‘good news’ was that all this happened less than 10 minutes into the match and we were incident free - coaches and players - the rest of the way.

Boys Varsity

[Caution 1]

Head Coach chased [the assistant referee] and Me down the sideline on a penalty decision (in/out of area). He was given a yellow card after we changed the decision and put it in the area.

[Caution 2]

Assistant Coach wouldn’t stop arguing about a foul decision that took place in front of ***** bench.

[Caution 3]

Chased down the sideline by ***** coach after a penalty decision. Yellow card given.

Boys Varsity

I had a few cautions and an ejection for foul and abusive language in this match. I ejected #20 for ***** for yelling at me "Are you blind?!" after I cautioned his teammate for a clearly reckless, retaliatory foul. I cautioned another ***** player for dissent. I also cautioned two ***** players for reckless fouls. I could have justified cautions to another one or two ***** players for dissent. I think it started with the coach, *****, who I warned but didn't caution for an outburst early in the second half; he had a habit of protesting for a foul frequently when there was contact involving his players. I was warned by my ARs before the match about him and his assistants.

Boys Varsity

Player #21 for ***** was shown a straight red card with 20 seconds left in the game for swearing - specifically saying "Throw the fucking ball" to a member of the ***** team as he was waiting for a throw in.

Boys Varsity

After a highly contested game between ***** HS and ***** HS boys varsity soccer game at 7pm last night, ***** a lady with a 14-15 years old child approached me between the two benches, at the midfield, next to the stat person was sitting.

She was holding a notebook and a pen which makes me think she could be AD or someone with the school. She approached me and asked my name which makes me think that its for the payment since we, the referee crew had not filled any paper documents for the payment. Later, she asked my official badge number then I realized she may be asking to complain about me. I told her "I am sorry I don't remember my badge number but if you give my name to whomever you are complaining to about me I am sure they will know me".

She told me I was the worst official ever she has seen. At this moment, gentlemen who was doing substitution and stat at the midfield between the two benches heard what she was saying and asked her to stop it and leave the field.

Later, I learned that this gentlemen is a ex-police officer at ***** . He radioed the AD and informed him/her about the incident just happened.

The lady was still standing at the middle of the field. Later I noticed someone whom might be a AD or someone with the school was talking to her. But, she was still standing on the field and we, the referee crew had to pass by her to exit the field.

We past by her and she did not say anything to us.

Later, at the parking lot while I was changing my shoes the same lady was walking by my car to her car with her two children one of who seems to a one of the soccer players. She noticed me and started talking to her son loudly "well other team's players were swearing all the time during the game too" . I think she wanted me to hear that.

During this incidences I was never felt uncomfortable and everything else was perfectly fine. However, I was surprised that school official possible AD let her stay on the field even after how she talked to me and the side manager/stat person inform AD about the incidence. If she did same thing to one of the younger officials or someone else, things could have been different.

I just would like MSHSL to know about it.