



ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

Carpenter Center JR Football strongly adheres to a Zero Tolerance rule that prohibits talking to referees. The purpose of this policy is to make it clear that verbal abuse or negative criticism of referees is as unacceptable as verbal abuse or negative criticism of players alike. This policy is not intended to imply that referees are always “right” and that spectators or coaches are always “wrong”, but rather players make mistakes during plays, referees will make mistakes in officiating.

Due to a shortage of referees, we feel it necessary to protect those willing to step up and be a referee. They must receive positive support from players, coaches, and spectators to grow as an official.

1. NO spectators are to speak to the referees before, during, or after the game.
2. Absolutely NO disputing calls, during or after the game, no direct or indirect remarks to the referee to watch certain players or attend to rough play. NO YELLING at the referee, EVER, and no criticism, sarcasm, harassment, intimidation, or feedback of any kind before, during, or after the game.
3. If Parents/Coaches would like to provide feedback about the refereeing, please allow a couple of days to cool down and really think about the game before contacting the Carpenter Center League Administrator(s).

Disciplinary Actions for Referee Abuse

1. If a parent(s)/spectator(s) engages with a referee, the referee can stop the game requesting the coach of the team to deal with the parent(s)/spectator(s). This First violation will result in points taken away from the spectator(s)/parent(s)/coach(s) team (can be a touchdown or more) if the referee feels the abuse to be excessive.
2. Failure to comply with the referee’s request will be a second violation and result in referees leaving the field of play and not returning to that game. Thus, the game will end and result in a possible forfeit and be considered a loss for the team responsible for interrupting play.
3. If necessary, the local authorities will be contacted and consulted accordingly.

Positive encouragement and cheering for players on either team during the game is welcomed. Parents, spectators, and coaches are expected to be role models of good sportsmanship at all times before, during, and after the game.