

Zero Tolerance Policy

PDSA adheres to a Zero Tolerance Policy, which governs the behavior of coaches and spectators toward referees. The policy is designed to foster good sportsmanship, provide a friendly and safe environment, and support the development of referees, many of whom are relatively young and inexperienced. The policy is reprinted below.

The policy:

All individuals responsible for a team and all spectators shall support the referee. Failure to do so will undermine the referee's authority and has the potential of creating a hostile environment for the players, the referee, and all the other participants and spectators.

- No one, except the players, are to speak to the referee during or after the game. Exceptions: Coaches may ask questions, call for substitutions and point out emergencies during the game, or respond to the referee if addressed.
- Absolutely no disputing calls, during or after the game, no 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 during or after the game.
- Violators may be ejected and are subject to disciplinary action by the PDSA's Disciplinary Policy.
- If coaches or spectators have questions regarding particular calls, rules, of a referee, or wish to give feedback regarding a referee, please contact the Referee in Chief.