

Professional Behavior

The Western Conference and the West Coast Officials Association concur that professional behavior is of utmost importance. Officials and coaches are expected to consider the presentation of the contest to players and spectators fairly without prejudice and discrimination, and these criteria are to be considered the highest priority. To enforce these goals and objectives, the following guidelines shall be adhered to:

1. The assistant principal for administration or assistant principal for student affairs shall be responsible for securing a room, which provides security, privacy, shower facilities and easy access to the contest.
2. The assistant principal or business manager shall be alert to the arrival of game officials in order to direct them to the proper facilities.
3. The assistant principal or business manager shall ensure that all officials are paid game fees prior to the beginning of the contest.
4. The assistant principal or business manager shall be aware that proper security is available assuming that circumstances surrounding the contest activities have created such a need.
5. The game officials shall arrive on time at the contest site and shall immediately seek to make contact with the assistant principal or business manager.
6. No official dressed in work uniform shall access himself to the fans, players or coaches prior to his official time to work the contest.
7. Officials shall not converse with coaches, players or fans in a casual manner prior to or at the completion of each contest.
8. The official at the completion of each contest shall exit the contest site in the most direct way and in the quickest mode possible.
9. The official shall honor all coaches' requests which are made within the framework of the rules of the game as set forth in the National Federation Rulebook, the Florida High School Activities Association bylaws and regulations pamphlet and the Hillsborough County policies, guidelines and expected behavior.
10. The coach shall conduct himself/herself in accordance with the highest standards of professional behavior, those rules and regulations set forth by the National Federation rulebook, the Florida High School Activities Association's bylaws and regulations pamphlet, and policies and guidelines set forth by the school board of Hillsborough County.
11. Coaches shall refrain from conversing with game officials in the pre-game timeframe except for clarification of game procedures and anticipated special team play, which may be characterized as unusual.
12. Coaches shall utilize the rules, guidelines, and accepted methods for confronting officials during the contest and shall anticipate that failure to utilize these methods will result in action on the part of the officials to correct the situation.
13. Coaches shall not enter the room being utilized by officials at any time prior to and following the completion of the contest.
14. Coaches shall not confront officials following the completion of a contest, nor use derogatory statements, or descriptive verbiage to express feelings and shall not follow the official to his/her dressing room at the completion of the contest.