



## **SCASA Referee Abuse Policy Misconduct Toward Game Officials**

Misconduct Toward Game Officials: Persistent statements or physical acts toward an Official (Referee, Assistant Referee, Fourth Official, or Club Linesman) during or after a game, that do not constitute referee assault or referee abuse as provided under US Soccer Federation Policy 531-9, but mistreat the Official or are inappropriate or unacceptable statements or acts, and may include the following:

- a) excessive incidences of foul or abusive language at the Official;
- b) statements that diminish the authority of the Official;
- c) statements or acts that serve to intimidate without threatening physical harm to the Official.

Examples of misconduct that arise under the description above include the following:

- a) confronting the Official without physically threatening the Official;
- b) spitting on the ground or in the air but not at the Official;
- c) throwing or kicking an item as a sign of dissent but without the chance of hitting the Official;
- d) re-entering the field to confront the Official.

These are only some of the examples of possible misconduct and are not all-inclusive, but also apply in the following situations:

- a) if a proceeding is brought against an individual for referee assault or abuse, or both, under Federation Policy 531-9; or
- b) if the individual is ejected from a game and, after the ejection, engages in conduct that is misconduct under this policy.

Should the SCASA Rules and Discipline Committee determine the individual committed misconduct under this rule, it shall impose NOT less than a three (3) game suspension. This suspension is in addition to any other suspension and/or fine that may be imposed on the individual by an association or league. A formal hearing will not be held unless it is requested.

Adopted June 24, 2006

