



Welcome to this seventieth edition of **“The Referee”**, the newsletter for all NSW State League Football Referees. This newsletter will enable our branch to communicate directly with our members and will cover issues and areas of interest to all referees.

We wish to ensure that all information, educational resources and opportunities that our branch provides for referees finds its way to those who are likely to benefit most – and that’s you!



**LEGEA**

Dealing with dissent comes in several forms, and is not just limited to cautioning. A player who has a short burst of dissent through frustration which is not heard by many other players can be dealt with via a quiet word, e.g. when running past them. A player who wilfully disputes a decision might be worthy of taking aside for a public word, as a means of showing the other players that such behaviour is unacceptable. A player who repeatedly shows dissent, continues for an extended length of time or shouts dissent loudly from distance (a big threat to match control if not dealt with, due to most of the other players hearing it) should be cautioned.

## ***Use of Warnings In the Right Situations***

Warnings done correctly can be very useful, but if they are used in the wrong situation, they can hurt more than they help game control. I had an instructor who would frequently say, "If you warn a player, the guy he just knocked down is going to think that, if all the player gets is a lecture for sore ribs, I will do that too."

The reason that a referee may want to talk to a player is that showing cards too often diminishes the value of the caution, so a warning can save you from cautioning. The comment above is saying that warnings should be used only for offenses that are just a bit over the limit.

In a game I witnessed, goalkeeper A1 comes out and grabs a bouncing ball near the top of the penalty area. Striker B7 runs at the goalkeeper, veering off at the last second and not making any contact. The referee took no action. The purpose of this was to intimidate the goalkeeper. This goalkeeper did not intimidate well. B7 did the same thing a couple of minutes later. As he ran close to the keeper, the keeper grasped the ball in both hands and stuck out his elbow and B7 now has sore ribs. This is allowing the players to control the game, just like asking the devil to protect you from evil.

The referee could have shown a card for unsporting behaviour. I suggested that, after the first incident, the referee tell the goalkeeper to just hold the ball for a moment. Go to the attacker and quietly suggest he not do that again because it is likely to cause problems in the game and he is not going to be allowed to intimidate that goalkeeper with such tactics.

The goalkeeper may not know exactly what is being said, but he should understand that the referee is addressing the issue. Such warnings tell both players that the event was more than you wanted and things need to settle down. It may also tell a player that he is committing too many fouls (thus approaching "persistent infringement").

### **A warning depends a great deal on the temperature of the game**

The line between where you would show a card and just give a warning depends a great deal on the temperature of the game. If the game is well under control with few fouls and no or only a few cards, you would be more likely to warn rather than card.

If fouls are coming quickly at a rate faster than they should and/or are overly hard and you have already shown three or four or more cards, the game is heating up too much and it is too late for a warning. And if the foul was hard or tactical, a warning is not going to be seen as adequate for the victims.

If the game is having serious control problems and the yellow card is not getting respect, you may want to up the ante. A comment loud enough to be heard, saying something like, "You guys are not paying attention to the yellow card but I have a red one too" may get them to become more attentive.

### **There are different ways to give warnings**

There are some different ways to give warnings. The "quiet word" is just a brief, private conversation, perhaps as you go by the player, letting him know that what he did was more than you want and he needs to calm down. If the game has not gotten too hot, this can be very effective.

If the foul was harder and/or things have heated up, you may want to take a few moments and talk to the player more publicly to let both sides know something is being done. If what is being said is quiet, it allows you to say things you would not want to say publicly. I know one fellow who said after hard contact, "I don't think you did anything wrong, but the other team expects me to do something." Perhaps something like, "That wasn't as bad as it looked, but let's tone it down" is better.

If the foul was quite bad, you may want to be louder. Some referees like to use firm gestures along with a conversation when they feel a public warning is the better way to handle the incident. You must make it clear to everyone that better behaviour is needed.

Use these or variations to keep the game on the right track. Much depends on how serious the incident was and some on how you communicate with others.

*This article has been modified from original material produced by Al Baer from [www.referee.com](http://www.referee.com).*



## **Active Member of the Month**

Congratulations go to James Barnes who is the Active Member of the Month for June 2019. James received the highest points for their all-round performance during June for his dedication to training, attending the general meeting and doing well in the monthly LOTG Quiz. James was awarded a \$50.00 Caltex Voucher for his efforts at the July General Meeting. Well done James.



## 2018-2019 Laws of the Game Quiz

A thorough understanding of the Laws of the Game is an essential quality of a good referee. All referees should regularly review their Laws of the Game book to ensure they are correctly interpreting and applying them.

This monthly LOTG Quiz is highly recommended for all active referees and assessors and counts towards meeting part of the criteria for honour games consideration and annual awards. To reinforce your knowledge you are encouraged to utilise your Laws of the Game Book to assist in answering the quiz questions. All quiz questions are based on the current 2018/2019 IFAB LOTG.

[Click Here](#) *Click on the "Click Here" button to complete the highly recommended monthly LOTG Quiz to test yourself on how well you know the laws.*

July LOTG Quiz Answers: 1 - B; 2 - C; 3 - D; 4 - A; 5 - C; 6 - B; 7 - D; 8 - A; 9 - B; 10 - C.

## Important Dates

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 - General Meeting at the Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown NSW 2200, starting at 7.30 pm

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019 - General Meeting at Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown NSW 2200, starts at 7.30 pm.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2019 – Annual Awards Event at Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown NSW 2200, starts at 7.30 pm.



**Richard Baker - NSWFLR TSC Member and Newsletter Editor**

