

Dealing Effectively with Dissent

Work through the four scenarios below and then compare your response to the dissent to other members of your group. Discuss your choices.

For each scenario:

1. Work out the level of dissent
2. Decide upon an appropriate action or sanction
3. Have reasons for 1 and 2 above and be able to justify your positions

SCENARIO 1:

During a match, number 3 from the red team keeps questioning almost every decision when he is near you. He is very polite and very few people hear it. You let it go the first few times and then he does it again after a throw-in: "That was our throw ref. You got that one wrong you know? What do you do regarding number 3?"

SCENARIO 2:

It is a hard fought semi-final and the score is 1-1. In the final minute of the match you award a controversial penalty to one team for a trip. A defender from the defending team runs towards you throwing his hands in the air and yelling: "Get real you clown!". This is heard by most people at the ground. What do you do?

SCENARIO 3:

The match is non-competitive and the score is 9-0. The team leading scores another goal to make it 10-0. A fullback from the losing team, who fell over challenging for the ball in the lead-up to the goal, walks over to you (the referee) and starts complaining to you that he was fouled: "C'mon ref, he tripped me. What are you looking at?". Before you can respond, he exclaims "What a joke this whole match is, including you" before starting to move back to get in position for the kick-off. His comments were heard by the players nearby in the middle of the field. What do you do?

SCENARIO 4:

At the end of a match, a player from the losing team approaches you and starts complaining you didn't add enough time on for injuries etc. You try to brush it off casually but he blocks your path off the ground (without touching you) and says: "Where the fuck do you think you are going, you fucking answer me properly". The comment is only heard by a few players still on the field. What do you do?