TCSL Policy on Misconduct Against Referees

Twin Cities Soccer Leagues embraces a Zero Tolerance approach to referee mistreatment, abuse and assault. Incidents will be addressed immediately in collaboration with involved parties and reported to the MN State Referee Committee and USSF if indicated.

Misconduct against referees may occur before, during and after the match, including travel to or from the match and on social media. Misconduct may occur also at later times when directly related to duties of a game official.

"Referee assault" is an intentional act of physical violence at or upon a referee.

"Referee abuse" is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee's property or equipment.

Any physical or verbal abuse or assault of referees is unacceptable, and the offending party will be subject to sanctions as outlined by USSF Policy 531-9 Misconduct Toward Game Officials found in the US Soccer Policy Manual. TCSL may respond to lesser violations by addressing issues directly with involved member clubs to determine appropriate disciplinary or restorative steps to be taken.

TCSL will keep record of reported instances of misconduct toward referees. Continued instances of misconduct towards referees will result in the imposition of escalating sanctions for involved individuals and clubs.