



P.R.O.S. - POSITIVE RESPONSES ONLY SIDELINE



AYSO has a **NO Tolerance Policy** in regards to verbal abuse of Youth Referees. To go along with AYSO Policy, Region 677 is enacting a procedure to allow coaches and spectators enjoy the soccer game while still protecting our Youth Referees. This procedure is called "PROS".

Spectators are allowed to cheer and clap their hands to encourage players. The coach is allowed to instruct, encourage and cheer his players on. Nobody is allowed to criticize any of the Youth Referees or their calls. If a coach or spectator criticizes a Youth Referee or a Youth Referee's call, then that person will be immediately dismissed from the match. If the offending spectator cannot be identified then the whole sideline (excluding the coaches and players) will be dismissed until the match is completed.

Some examples of comments that will warrant dismissal:

1. "Call it both ways, Ref!"
2. "That's a bad call!"
3. "Hand Ball! Referee that was a handball!"

Any other comment that is directed at the Youth Referee or the Youth Referee's call or that is perceived by the referee, to affect the Fun, Fairness or Safety of the game (including the Youth Referee's)

This procedure is designed to protect our children on the field including the ones wearing the referee uniform. The PROS idea just defines for coaches and spectators what the consequences are if they violate the **No Tolerance Policy** described in the **KIDS ZONE** and **SAFE HAVEN** training. Prior to the game, in which one of the referees (AR or Center) is a Youth Referee, the following procedure will be followed:

1. Both coaches will be notified by a member of the referee crew that a Youth Referee is part of the referee crew.
2. The coach will then tell his spectators that the "PROS" rule is in effect.
3. Upon availability, a Fourth Official or Regional Staff Member will be assigned to enforce the "PROS" policy.
4. The Regional Commissioner, Assistant Regional Commissioner, Coach Administrator and Regional Referee Administrator will decide the length of the dismissal; after they review the referee's Misconduct Report and speak with the referees involved in the incident.