WSSL Policy on Spectator Behavior

All WSSL member organizations have adopted this policy regarding inappropriate and disruptive behavior by spectators at WSSL games.

Inappropriate and disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to:

1. Using abusive language or gestures directed at anyone at any time.

2. Taunting players, coaches, officials, or other spectators by means of baiting or ridiculing.

3. Threatening physical violence or engaging in physical violence against any other spectator, coach, player, or official.

4. Throwing or kicking any object in the spectator viewing area, players bench area, or field that in any manner creates a safety hazard or is perceived by game officials as thrown/kicked with intent to strike another person.

5. Urging players to violate the Laws of the Game. *Example: Urging a player to push or trip other players*

6. Questioning the calls, knowledge, skills, or positioning of an official.

Each coach is responsible for the behavior of their spectators. Coaches may be issued cautions or send-offs if in the opinion of the referee their efforts to control spectators including honoring spectator removal requests are ineffective.

- When a spectator displays inappropriate and disruptive behavior the game may be STOPPED by the Official. The Official will identify violators to the coach for the purpose of quieting or removing the violator(s) from the game area. The game area includes the playing field, adjacent sidelines, behind the goals and, if within verbal earshot, the parking lot. Play will resume after the behavior has been addressed.

- In the event that a spectator cannot be associated with either team both coaches must then cooperate in the spectator's removal.

- If further incidents occur, the game may be abandoned. Repeated offenses may lead to expulsion of the offending team, and/or member organization from membership in the WSSL by the WSSL Board of Directors.

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