

ETHICS QUESTION #1

Touch Line Ethics

At a regional tournament, a number of "off duty" referees and assessors were watching a game late in the afternoon. They stood on an embankment near the touchline and were among the regular spectators. One assessor in particular was very verbal in his criticism of the referee. He would verify his impressions with both referee and assessor colleagues. Some would respond and others would not. One referee, when pressed, refused to respond and told the assessor that as far as he was concerned, he would not comment while he was dressed as a referee and could be identified as a referee by other spectators. The assessor chided him and told him he was overreacting. The referee reminded the assessor of the high professional standards expressed by the referee instructor and director of assessment. The assessor replied that the standards did not apply to him because he was not a referee.

Which rule applies?

What is your reaction?

ETHICS QUESTION #2

Shades of 1966

During an international club tournament (professional), a hard shot struck the underside of the crossbar. The ball crossed the goal-line (goal) and then spun back out. It struck the artificial turf in front of the goal and bounced six feet in the air. The sweeper then headed the ball over the crossbar. The linesman signaled goal and began his run up the touchline. At about 35 yards up the line, he is forcibly taken off the line and pinned to the stadium wall by the center forward of the defending team, who then attempts to strike him with a flag staff which had been in place nearby. The referee finally got the linesman off to one side and could be seen talking earnestly to him. After a short time, the referee disallowed the goal and restarted with a goal-kick.

Which rule applies?

What is your reaction?

ETHICS QUESTION #3

The Gift of Time

You have been selected to referee a friendly international club match between Porto F.C. and Real Madrid. Prior to the game, a director of Real Madrid presents you with a beautiful gold watch with the club's emblem on it. You are aware of the custom of Real to do this prior to every match of this type.

Which rule applies?

What is your reaction?

ETHICS QUESTION #4

A Matter of Perception

In a regional tournament match, the goalkeeper is charged unfairly by an attacker and the referee stops play. The 'keeper, who is enraged, throws the ball away and violently shoves the attacker. The referee awards a penalty kick. The kick is good and is the margin of victory. The losing team coach contemplates a protest, but feels he cannot win it unless the referee admits the error. The referee is adamant that he had not stopped play and was correct in awarding the penalty. It seems that he is sincere and simply cannot reconstruct events as they happened. Both linesmen saw the correct sequence and agree a serious mistake was made.

Which rule applies?

What is your reaction?