

Rugby Indiana

Referee Abuse Policy

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Policy: Referee Abuse Policy

Number: TBD

Effective: 14 September 2022

This policy supersedes all previous versions of the policy.

Referee Abuse

At the State-side Mandatory Meeting on 11 September 2022, it was discussed how referee abuse continues to be a problem. The meeting was attended by representatives from the age/grade clubs of Rugby Indiana, the Rugby Indiana Board, and leadership from the Indiana Rugby Referee Society (IRRS).

In the meeting it was discussed:

- Referee abuse continues to increase, especially from the sidelines (including spectators).
- We all need to work hard at stopping the problem.
- Rugby Indiana provided new pitch side signs to the clubs that include
 - Spectators Seating (home team one side of the 50, visitors on the other side of the 50)
 - Restricted area (no spectators)
 - Sideline behavior expectations
- Rugby Indiana will communicate periodic reminders via email and social media channels
- The IRRS will send up reports of abuse to RI for Disciplinary Process

Disciplinary Actions

All clubs of Rugby Indiana have been provided with notice that Referee Abuse is an area of offending in the game that needs to be corrected, and the appropriate deterrent warnings to the community have been made. As such, the Disciplinarians (Community Judicial Offices) should take this into account via either increasing the entry point or through increasing sanctions through aggravating factors.