

Referees:

As we finish out the last third of our season, I need to encourage you to report any exceptional situations that occur at our local tournaments. These include, but aren't limited to, the following:

1 - Expulsion or disqualification of a match participant. This must be reported to BOTH myself and Bob Price (price@ovr.org) immediately after the tournament.

2 - Unruly spectators who disrupt a match. Reactions from spectators are part of the game, so don't be micro-managers when it comes to spectators. But when those reactions disrupt the match or impact a work team, please report the team that the spectators are affiliated with (specific team name, age level, club, coach's name). Again, report this to both Bob Price and me. On-site, work with the tournament director to resolve issues. Don't handle anything without the tournament director being involved, and do not address spectators on your own.

3 - Improper facility setup. When there is insufficient space between courts, from the end line to the wall (2 meters minimum service zone depth), or from a sideline to a wall, please notify me and Tom Kohl (kohl@ovr.org). Likewise, when a net post or the referee's stand are not properly padded, you MUST report this to us. Participant safety is our primary concern.

We need this information -- a paper trail -- so that we can properly address repeat offenders. The OVR staff is the "clearing house". We keep track of participant/spectator conduct and facility issues, and address them promptly. We need your help.

Remember, as a referee, your FIRST obligation is to ensure a safe, fair playing environment. By notifying us of conduct or facility issues, we can help you do that.

Thank you!

Brian Hemelgarn
OVR Referees' Chair