

Parent/Spectator Violence

Over the past several years, there has been an alarming increase of parent/spectator violence to include fighting among parents/spectators, referee assaults, and player assaults necessitating law enforcement being summoned.

In the FYSA Rules, it is stated that parent/spectator conduct during the game is the responsibility of the **coach** who may be disciplined for such conduct, however, many times the coach does not see the incident or the incident happens after the game and the coach may have left the field.

On November 13, 2013, Marino Torrens, FYSA President, sent a letter to all affiliates and members addressing the parent/spectator violence issue. The violence has not subsided and the number of reported incidents has actually increased.

At the Executive Committee held on October 25, 2014, FYSA voted to enact the following for any violent incident that occurs before, during, or after a FYSA sanctioned soccer match.

- The club to which the team parent/spectator is affiliated with will be fine \$3000 for the first incident and \$5000 for the subsequent incidents. Additionally, it will be the responsibility of the club to identify the individual(s) involved in the incident to FYSA. Failure to identify the individuals involved could result in clubs being placed in Not in Good Standing and jeopardize their re-affiliation.
- Any parent(s)/spectator(s) that is identified with affiliation to a specific team will be immediately suspended. This will include any altercation either on or off the playing field. Under no circumstance are parents/spectators permitted onto the playing field during a match and are only permitted onto the field at the conclusion of matches once the referees have officially vacated the field. Any parent(s)/spectator(s) who is identified as being involved in any altercation must complete a certified Anger Management course at their expense prior to being permitted to attend a future game. Any parent(s)/spectator(s) who wish to attend future games, must provide written documentation of the completion of a certified Anger Management course to his/her current member club and FYSA prior to be permission being granted.