



NVYLL Field Commissioner Job Description

First, thank you for taking on this role. We realize this important job may impact your ability to see your son or daughter play and you may have to deal with a difficult person. Please remember that this is about preserving the Culture of Lacrosse; the reason we are here is for the kids to play and have fun. While we hope you have already had a Positive Coaching Alliance training and/or read the materials about the Sportsmanship Card Initiative, we also know that this may not yet have been possible. This job description gives a few basic ideas on your role today and how to handle it.

Field Commissioner: Your role is to maintain a positive and sportsmanlike environment around the playing field, including both sidelines. The officials will handle on-field sportsmanship issues.

- Your coach should introduce you to your team which consists of yourself, the opposing team's sideline manager, the officials, the coaches and everyone "Honoring the Game".
 - You should partner with the other FC and feel free to discuss issues with him/her. Please also feel free to discuss concerns with the coaches and officials. You may stop the game to speak with officials by asking the timer/scorer to sound the horn at a dead ball situation or on a whistle.
- Behavior that does not "Honor the Game" includes:
 - Non players and/or non team personnel entering the field of play, bench or table area.
 - Throwing objects onto the field.
 - Continued berating of officials or others involved with the game.
 - Verbal threats of bodily harm, injury or death.
 - The use of obscene or highly abusive language.
 - Fighting.
 - If you are unsure ask your team members so that you agree upon the intent of the behavior.
- Intervention
 1. In as private and calm a manner as possible ask the misbehaving person "Do you think you are Honoring the Game right now?" or say to them "You seem pretty upset." Remind them that part of the way we do things here is that we respect the official even if we disagree with a call. "You may be right about that call being incorrect, but here, we Honor the Game and show respect to officials even if they are wrong."
 2. Assertive Statement: Sometimes a person will not respond to your more subtle interventions. Here are some further things you can say:
 - "That's not the way we do things in here!"
 - "Yelling at the official is not Honoring the Game."
 - "It's not okay to act like that here."
 - "That kind of behavior has no place here."
 3. Hand the person the sportsmanship card and walk away. Head immediately to timer/scorer area and have them signal for the officials. Inform the officials of the situation in as much detail as possible. The officials will give you any further instructions.

If you feel the behavior warrants it, you may administer the sportsmanship card immediately. Don't place yourself at risk. Remember to respect personal space, as you do not want to create another incident.

- ✓ The community will back up your judgment(s)...rest assured.
- ✓ If you need help...get back-up.

Again, thank you for helping us maintain the valued Culture of Lacrosse and "Honoring the Game".

*Created in conjunction with the US Lacrosse Youth Council and Men's and Women's Division Officials Councils.
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