

**U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program  
Report Codes for Cautionable and Sending-Off Offenses  
Based on IFAB's 2020-21 Laws of the Game (LOTG)**

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**Team Officials**

Where an offense is committed and the offender cannot be identified, the senior team coach present in the technical area will receive the sanction.

**Warning**

The following offenses should usually result in a warning; repeated or blatant offenses should result in a caution or sending-off.

W1- Entering the field of play in a respectful/non-confrontational manner.

W2- Failing to cooperate with a match official e.g. ignoring an instruction/request from an assistant referee or the fourth official.

W3- Minor/low level disagreement (by word or action) with a decision.

W4- Occasionally leaving the confines of the technical area without committing another offense.

**Team Officials Caution**

Caution offenses include but are not limited to:

CTO1- Clearly/persistently not respecting the confines of their team's technical area.

CTO2- Delaying the restart of play by their team.

CTO3- Deliberately entering the technical area of the opposing team (nonconfrontational)

CTO4- Dissent by word or action including:

- throwing/kicking drink bottles or other objects
- gestures which show a clear lack of respect for the match officials
  - o e.g. sarcastic clapping

CTO5- Excessively/persistently gesturing for a yellow or red card

CTO6 – Gesturing or acting in a provocative or inflammatory manner

CTO7- Persistent unacceptable behavior (including repeated offenses)

CTO8- Showing a lack of respect for the game (including failure to warn spectators about verbally abusing any member of the referee team publicly, persistently, or personally)

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**Team Officials Sending-off**

Sending-off offenses include but are not limited to:

SOTO1- Delaying the restart of play by the opposing team e.g.

- holding onto the ball
- kicking the ball away
- obstructing the movement of a player

SOTO2- Deliberately leaving the technical area to:

- show dissent towards or remonstrate with a match official.
- Act in a provocative or inflammatory manner

SOTO3- Enter the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner

SOTO4- Deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the field

SOTO5- Entering the field of play to:

- Confront a match official (including at half-time and full-time)
- Interfere with play, an opposing player or a match official

SOTO6- Physical or aggressive behavior (including spitting or biting) toward an opposing player, substitute, team official, match official, spectator or any other person (e.g. boy boy/girl, security or competition official etc.)

SOTO7- Receiving a second caution in the same match

SOTO8- Using unauthorized electronic or communication equipment and/or behaving in an inappropriate manner as the result of using electronic or communication equipment

SOTO9- Violent Conduct

SOTO10- Failure to act to remove spectators verbally abusing any member of the referee team publicly, persistently, and/or personally.

From the SCYSA By-Laws:

22. Decorum: Coaches are responsible for the behavior of all players, coaches, parents, and spectators associated with their team. Coaches and their players shall be located on the opposite side of the field from the parents and fans.