



Gomezzioms

13 Soccer Referee Axioms

The following 13 axioms are derived from 42 years of experience as a referee, instructor, and assessor. I have come across certain TRUTHS that are most meaningful for soccer referees throughout the ages: be it in the 60s all the way to the new century. Simple, beautiful truths do NOT change with time, but the use/misuse will have profound meaning & learning accumulation for any referee at any level, throughout his refereeing career.

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Purpose

- AG is possibly the best referee I have ever been privileged to work with. Great communicator with players, coaches, and the referee team.
- Try to think how the following axioms apply to your games and discuss.
- Is there one specifically that you can apply immediately?



First and Most Important



- Teams DECIDE how the game will be played;
- Referee DECIDES how the game will be called.



Moving Along



- "QUICK" free kicks belong to the players.
- "Ceremonial" free kicks belong to the referee.



Players Know What's Important



- Players often DOUBT what the Referee says.
- They never DOUBT what the referee does.



Take Care of Business



- If the referee does not exact JUSTICE, the players will!



Efficiency vs. Activity



- FITNESS of the referee is great;
- More important, the referee must run for a PURPOSE.



We All Make Mistakes



- Referees may have IMPERFECTIONS
- But they should never be INCOMPETENT



Experience



- The game of soccer is the best TEACHER.



They're Not the Enemy, But ...



- Coaches have PRIVILEGES
- While players have RIGHTS.



“No Call” Is a Call, Too



- The OUTCOME of every game depends upon the performance of the referee and his crew.



Refer To 1st Axiom



- Players will do EXACTLY what the referee will allow.



It's Easier to Destroy Than to Create

- The “BENEFIT-of-the-DOUBT” should always go to the attacking team.



The Laws Are Flexible



- Once the game begins, the referee becomes a **MANAGER**.



Someone Has to Be in Charge



- Players WATCH the ball;
- The referee WATCHES players.



Final Thought

Nota Bene:

SOCCKER is a SIMPLE game for CLEVER people!

Hence;

"COGITO ERGO SUM ARBITER!"

“Refereeing is thinking.”

What is one thing that you can apply immediately?