

THE REFEREE'S DUTY AND RESPONSIBILITY DURING SPORTIVE COMPETITIONS

Victor Pancu¹

¹Highschool with Sportive Programme Suceava, Romania

Key words: arbitration, volleyball and regulation

Summary: During this study there are certain basic ideas, some qualities that a referee must have in order to appreciate all the actions that happen in sport, especially in volleyball (using his own eyes and the regulations)

Introduction:

The referee's duty and responsibility during sportive competitions

A referee's decisions (*a referee who doesn't take the decisions with the help of a measuring band or a chronometer, but with the help of his own eyes, with his own findings and above all with his own consciousness*) might be often criticized, because his decisions might not suit all the circumstances, so his decisions may be challenged. Enthusiasm, idealism, abnegation and exuberance are replaced with sketchiness, with unilateral specialization, with blind fanaticism and selfish ingenuity. Sport does not only mean measuring your forces without interest, but it also means courage. To be or not to be, to be or to say are also determinant.

Corruption and merit are the leitmotifs that dominate today sports. Sportsmen, including the professionals, are becoming the slaves of their clubs, mercenaries of Maecenas and thereby their very slaves. They degrade themselves, being hired by contract, and their performance should guarantee an income greater than the costs of maintenance, or exchange rate falls. Background means always "business" and only the contribution to advertising brings income. *The field thus becomes the market and the gym becomes the dealing floor.*

Material – method:

It's high time we realized the real content of game and of sport. We should advocate real sport goals and in the same time we should combat dishonesty and untruth. We all know that no one has as much enthusiasm as the youngsters do. So it's grown ups' duty to give the youth a real pleasure through sport. Our youngsters should be led on dignified paths, even if these paths are steep. We should teach them to desire a goal which will make them play fairly so they will learn how to lose and how to win – as in real life. Everybody knows that referees are

responsible for what is on the field; in the same time they must respect the game rules and also the players and the audience. If there is something wrong, a measure should be taken to restore sports on the good way.

Results:

Being a referee means: leadership, education and guidance. A referee must have certain qualities: *he should be an educator, a psychologist and a judge.* A referee may be threatened by both the players and the audience. Against the claims, the wishes and the requirements of sometimes wild gallery, the referee must not be influenced or led by the audience – even if he is scared by them. On the contrary, he may become the playing ball of the men who have been irritated by his disability. His uncertainty may light unwished instincts; this uncertainty may violate decency, tolerance, fair play and chivalry.

Each referee must know how to lead a game till its end. Each referee has the duty to show an absolute and objective capacity of judging. He couldn't be influenced, independent and outside prejudices. These treats of character show him as an uncorrupted personality. At these human values we must add specific spiritual skills, consciousness (which may have helped a referee learn the exact regulations) and a continuing documentation. *Referees must mind the international competitions in order to align the spirit of the regulation with the game appreciation.* The necessary prerequisites are: a good knowledge of the point between regulation and rules' interpretation – for a real appreciation of the game - and experience. All these things happen in profession too. *Vocational and career training courses are compulsory for the referee.* He should have the courage to self criticize his own activity. The idea is to learn not only from the others' mistakes, but from his own failures, because referees are human beings too and they may make mistakes. Only those who had learnt their own limits would become better and better. A referee position (with players and audience) would be better if he succeeds in his professional life. This is the meaning and essence of any referee activity.

A referee performance means: years of hard work, learning, determination and responsibility. Anyone who gains all these should never give up. The one who has the power and exercise the power should keep in mind that this power could become very dangerous. We all know that those who have the power, will still have the power if they combine severity with justice.

So the field should become the arena of truth and justice for every referee. If a referee wants to be fair he should have the courage to take

uncompromised decisions, even if they are troublesome for the players and the audience.

The ones who can't deal with this unpopularity, or don't have the inner silence, or don't protect the sportive truth don't correspond to this mission from the very start.

When they are afraid that their decisions will find resistance they should not touch the whistle because they won't be successful. It is known that justice and truth can be contagious, but the referees who can't decide to eliminate a player, who can't avoid all the difficulties or whistle unfairly will quickly lose their reputation.

These clarifications are needed because the danger of commercialization has been felt among referees too, not few of them had whistled for money. These are from "the home referee" category.

There is another category, that of the referees who wear their equipment only in order to see their names written in newspapers. These referees have a short and unsuccessful activity. This "newspaper" appearance is usually followed by some critical descriptions; descriptions which make them feel really embarrassed.

As the leading players are sometimes in the middle of heated, contradictory discussions so will only "the powerful" referees impose themselves. A referee must always face both the players and the audience, so it is more and more difficult for them. In order to get out well of this situation some elements are compulsory: determination and courage. The referee's behaviour can't be decided by the teams, the managers, the audience or the media. *The referee himself must decide his sportive behaviour.*

A referee who doesn't have the courage to take difficult decisions, someone who can't face the excesses which always appear is not able to have the referee responsibilities.

To be cautious at first is another principle that is valid. The one that does not include the core problem with security and essential instinct lacks the appreciation of the situation. From the very beginning referees have the duty to notice everything that does not correspond to ideals in sport and to act with determination. Audience's idols, famous sportsmen, masters, none of them should be excluded from punishment. For certain offenses none must be forgiven.

Media has a lot of work facing the foreign financial influences, influences which may diminish newspaper objectivity. *So a referee must be very determinant to support the justice interests in sport.*

A referee must be always neutral and must show sportive consciousness. If he wants to be a winner, his arbitration must

irreproachable. Each referee should understand that a perfect collaboration between him and the players will exert a positive influence on the game. This means a future development and better games. The mutual understanding and the respect between the referee and the players influence the game itself. *Respect must be shown even if we have another opinion, different from the one the referee or the player have.* From this mutual respect both sides have certain advantages.

Each game is a competition; hate must not be present; so, from the very beginning, the referee must not forgive any mistake; *he must be fair, honest and correct.* With a similar behaviour the referee give the players and the audience a certain calm.

Our motto must be: *decision, courageous interventions whenever necessary.*

Another important matter is the necessity of admitting that there should be a contract between the referee and the coach. This matter should be carefully analysed because the influence that a coach has on his team shouldn't be neglected. The technical committee is highly interested in the fact that the referees must understand how important the relationship between a coach and his players is. This matter should be included in the psychological training of a referee before a match.

The team's leader is also very important. He has a great influence on his team so on the game itself. An unsportsmanlike challenge must be immediately punished. None, even if he's the team's leader, has the right to behave improperly near the playing field. Such behaviour will never have a positive effect. Any interference of the coach in the referee's decisions must be immediately stopped, ending the game and warning the guilty person.

More energy is required when the leader, the coach or other persons who have certain responsibilities in the team engage on the ground when the game is not stopped or those persons aren't from the medical crew.

Discussions:

So the referee must watch, besides the players, all the persons who are next to the field or when the situation requires the referee interference. Referees must be very determinant.

Team and club leaders must be punished if they cross the line. Repeated excess and abuses lead to sport's damaging.

Sport is the preoccupation of more and more people nowadays. Media, radio, television connect the sport with the people. Family, school, every social field are engaged in this phenomenon. Sport means spare

time, sport defines lifestyles. A superior lifestyle implies the necessity of sport. Therefore we need people who have certain goals; we can fight for the sport rights and targets.

We must be morally clean, sort of messengers of truth. Incidents, tensions, mismatching will always exist; they couldn't be avoided. Important is the way we face, master and eliminate them.

We must act in the spirit of justice and truth.

Bibliography

1. Sports Science Magazine
2. Certain publications at the **Research Institute in Sport**, 2004 – 2006
3. Sports Directory – 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998
4. Sport Magazine – 1960 – 1980
5. Newspapers collection – 1960 – 1985 – 2000 - 2005

Titlu: Responsabilitatea și datoria arbitrilor în cadrul competițiilor sportive

Cuvinte cheie: arbitraj, volei, regulament

Rezumat: În acest referat sunt prezentate câteva idei de bază, calități pe care trebuie să le aibă un arbitru pentru a lua cele mai bune decizii în sport, în special în volei (folosindu-și proprii ochi și regulamentul).

Titre : La responsabilité et le devoir de l'arbitre pendant les compétitions sportives

Mot-clé: l'arbitrage, le volley-ball, le règlement

Résumé: Dans cet exposé on vous présente quelques idées de base, qualités que l'arbitre doit posséder pour qu'il puisse prendre les meilleures décisions dans le sport, et particulièrement dans le volley-ball (en employant ses propres yeux et le règlement).