






BEST PRACTICE #7

I proactively address issues of poor attitude and professionalism.



An official's attitude is critical and should be taken into account when assigning. A professional attitude and proper decorum on and off the field should be exhibited at all times.

You can better determine attitude with these criteria:

	Professional appearance, with proper uniform.
	On-time arrival.
	An enthusiastic, positive, non-confrontational, calm, and approachable demeanor.
	Responsiveness to coaches, while maintaining that appropriate boundaries.
	Willingness to work with the other officials on the field as a unified team.

You need not tolerate officials who are egotistical, derogatory, showy, demeaning or overly argumentative with coaches, players, fans or fellow officials. Re-training and instituting professional growth and development plans are necessary for officials who demonstrate these negative behaviors in order for them to receive future assignments.

Social Media

In our increasingly connected world, social media is another factor in how officials and entire organizations are perceived by the public. Your organization should draft a social media policy with procedures describing how violations of the policy will be addressed.

Encourage your officials to simply not post anything about their games, someone else's games, or a crew they see on television. Those comments are better reserved for closed forums and private discussions.