

Point Respect Program - Guidelines

This automatically loses a point of respect

- 1) Expulsion of a member following behaviour, intimidation or inappropriate words towards an official
- 2) Request to remove a spectator following inappropriate behaviour, intimidation or language towards an official
- 3) Following a warning to a member or spectator, a 2^e warning is given to the same person but without necessarily expelling that person

This may cause the officials to lose a point of respect

- 4) Just as an official may eject a member without necessarily giving a warning, an official may decide to take away a team's respect point without first giving a warning to the offending member or spectator depending on the severity of the behavior, intimidation or words directed at the officials. This member or spectator could still be ejected later in the game at the judgment of the officials if the situation warrants it.

E.g.: Batter out on a swing who is angry with himself and throws his bat towards the fence. There may be a warning or ejection decided by an official depending on the severity of the situation. No loss of points for not throwing the bat at an official. However, if after the warning or ejection, the batter insults the official, there would be a loss of respect point.

Example: A batter is called out on 3 strikes by the plate official. As he leaves the batter's box, he draws a line on the ground with his bat indicating to the umpire where he thinks the pitch went. This is clearly an inappropriate gesture to the official, and the official could, in his judgment, warn him, remove the respected run, or simply eject him.

What does not make lose a point respect

- 5) Warning or expulsion of a member that is not the result of bad behavior, intimidation or inappropriate language towards an official.

E.g.: ejection following a collision of a runner with a defensive player, batter throwing his bat after an out, player making inappropriate comments to a member of the other team, coach suspended for using an ineligible player as a pitcher.

Example: Runner out at 2^e following a stolen base. The runner disagrees with the call and comments to the official "Oh come on, he didn't even touch me! No loss of points respected.

However, following this comment, if the runner says to the official, "you should get glasses" or "you are really blind", there could be a loss of a respect point, whether or not the runner is cautioned, for inappropriate language towards an official.

Example: A coach criticizes the home plate official's strike zone from his dugout for a 1^{ère} time. No loss of points respected. If the coach continues to criticize the strike zone, the official should give the coach a warning to stop. If there is an inappropriate response from the coach to the official, he has the option of removing the respect point only, or ejecting the coach (which results in an automatic loss of the respect point).

For example, a coach criticizes the official's strike zone from his dugout for 1^{ère} times. Later in the game, a player from the same team also criticizes the catch area. The official should give a warning to the team that if anyone on that team criticizes the catch area again, they may lose the respect point or be ejected. If during this 2^e criticism, or even during the 1^{ère} criticism of the coach, the words are so inappropriate, the official could immediately lose the respect point without prior warning at his sole judgment.

Ex: 1 coach from each team argues that one or the other is not right, or whatever the reason, an official can warn them to stop arguing with each other, otherwise there could be loss of respect point for each team. If they continue, loss of respect point to one or both teams and possible expulsion at the judgment of the officials.

- 6) A coach approaches an official to ask a question or clarify a rule or a game situation. Although it is not permitted under Baseball Quebec Regulation 103.21 to visit an official, if it is done by the head coach only, politely, calmly and respectfully, no problem. If the head coach becomes insistent, raises his voice or becomes aggressive, the official must warn him that this is not allowed and that he could lose the respect point. If the coach continues, loss of respect point and possible expulsion.
- 7) A disgruntled spectator makes a negative comment about the officials' decision, e.g., "Well, he was safe, we all saw it from here. In the judgment of the official, if the comment was made in an aggressive, intimidating or repeated manner, the official must first give a warning to the head coach of that team to advise him of the situation so that he can deal with the spectators himself before being able to take away a point of respect from the team because of a spectator. If it happens again during the game, the respect point may be lost in the judgment of the official.

E.g.: A spectator asks the official scorekeeper. There is a discrepancy in the calculations. The head coach comes to the scorekeeper to verify the situation. No points are lost. But the situation escalates and a spectator insults/intimidates the scorekeeper by commenting that he can't count and that it doesn't make sense to hire such a young teenager to do this job. In the judgment of the officials, there is a loss of respect point.

Example: During a regional game, the official supervisor of a game warns the spectators of a team in general that their behavior is becoming unacceptable following comments towards the officials or towards the other team. The supervisor shall notify the head coach of that team and

warn them that if this continues, they may lose the respect point. The situation is not resolved despite the warning. Loss of the respect point, and the possibility of asking a spectator (or spectators) to leave the field. Temporary stoppage of the game while the spectator(s) leave the area.

Definitions:

See Baseball Quebec's Rules and Regulations, section B

Official: referee, official scorer, person in authority (game supervisor delegated by the Region during regional championships)

Any loss of a respect point cannot be appealed.

Procedures when losing a respect point

The official scorer must write on the front of the score sheet of the team that lost its respect point, the mention: "Loss of respect point" with a short reason explaining the loss of the point. Ex.: player expulsion, spectators' words, coach's insults, etc.

If no points are lost, nothing to be entered on the score sheets.