



## Gomezioms 13 Soccer Referee Axioms

The following 13 axioms are derived from 52 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 60's all the way to this 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.

Austin Gomez National Referee Instructor, National Referee Assessor







- Austin Gomez 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.







- "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







• 'The Game' of soccer is the best TEACHER.







• While players have... RIGHTS.



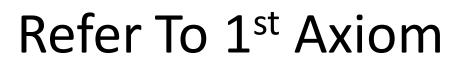




## "No Call" Is a Call, Too

• The OUTCOME of every game depends upon the performance of the Referee and the crew.







• Players will do EXACTLY what the Referee will Allow.



• 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.







Nota Bene: SOCCER is a SIMPLE game for CLEVER people! Hence; "COGITO ERGO SUM ARBITER" "Refereeing is thinking."

What is one thing that you can apply immediately?