



sportwales
chwaraeoncymsu

REFEREES' STATEMENT

"It is the goal and responsibility of every player and referee to make each game we participate in, flow to the best of our ability, helping to improve the image and watchability of our uniquely exciting, dynamic and demanding sport" – **PSA Refereeing mission statement**

With the modern day line of thinking, Referees are being encouraged to:

- Watch clearing players ensuring that they are providing a path to the ball. Failure to provide a path or to show an attempt to provide a path will lead to a Stroke against the clearing player.
- Watch incoming players to ensure that they are taking the appropriate line to the ball. Taking the wrong line will lead to a No Let being given.
- Watch the ball to make sure the best path for the players to take is recognised.
- Provide players with an explanation that will help them to understand the decision while helping them to find a solution to the problem area moving forward. For example "You have hit a shot that you cannot clear", will help the player to understand that the ball needs to be played into a different space if the same situation occurs again.
- Look for clues throughout the match. What movements have players been making throughout the game.

The above is particularly relevant in the front corners of the court.

- Referees will also give no lets if there is minimal interference going to the ball or a limited effort to play the ball.
- Referees are also being encouraged to not give cheap strokes for front wall interference. Having space to hit a straight or crosscourt line is considered enough space for players of higher standard to play the ball.

Any form of obscenity whether audible, mouthed or gestured, will be dealt with immediately under code of conduct.

Whilst referees will be doing their utmost to get all decisions correct there will inevitably be times when the players disagree. In such circumstances, please refrain from any antagonistic comments. It would be appreciated if you could simply ask for an explanation, which will be given.

Referees will apply normal code of conduct penalties as soon as they consider that a discussion is being unnecessarily prolonged. This does not mean that an amusing quip or comment even if mildly directed towards the referee will be regarded as a code of conduct offence.

The Referee position from which to officiate may not be ideal on all courts. This reduces their ability to determine whether pick-ups are good or not, particularly at the front of the court, or whether the ball may have clipped the top of the tin. The referees would greatly appreciate players honesty in declaring promptly if their shots are "not up", "down", etc.

Referees look forward to continuing the dialogue between themselves, players and player's representatives at events. Please feel free to contact : roy.gingell@wsrb.co.uk to make your views known.

