

Referee Harassment: Situation Room #1: Escalating Penalties
Part 1: What happened



This is the game report filed by the referee, edited for privacy by removing names of teams, locations and individuals involved.

"At 7:48 of the third period a white player rushed up the ice with the puck and was being legally "checked" by black player as they crossed the top of the circle. The white player tried to cut to the net but lost her edge then the black player fell down after her. I was on the same side of the ice below the circle. Saw it perfectly. No call. White bench was at the far end of the ice and felt it was slew footing. Not slew footing.

*This occurred on the same side of the ice as the benches. The play goes back up the ice and I follow it. As I skate past the white bench the coach working the defensive gate says something about "...slew foot...trip...how do you miss that...you are f***ing brutal...". I put up my hand for a delayed bench minor. I stop play skate the long way to report the penalty and now the entire white bench is yelling at me. I assess a second bench minor to the bench making white short 2 players for 2 minutes.*

*I again skate the long way around the white bench to prep for the next face off and the coach at the defensive bench is still yelling. **I assess him a Game Misconduct. He leaves but not before he swears at me a few more times.***

*Back to the coach. The game ends. I avoid getting too close to anyone...because I do not need get too close to anyone...I need to watch the entire ice. We get the players off the ice. I leave the ice. As I am walking past the white dressing room the coach I had ejected is saying to his team something like "NOT YOU FAULT GIRLS...THAT WAS A F**ING BRUTAL REFEREE." I ignored this and probably would not have assessed another penalty as I do not believe he knew I was there.*

*I kept walking and did not say anything to the coach; eyes forward the whole time. Did not even look at the back of his head. As I reach the referees room, I hear him yelling at me now "you are f***ing brutal...I can tell why you haven't reffed in this league in two years"*

So, the same coach received a second Game Misconduct for the fact that he wanted to yell at me down the hallway as I entered the referee room. I never engaged him, I kept my eyes forward and entered the referees' room by myself. My linesperson came a second after me..."

Part 2: Analysis

The Good

- The referee started with a minor penalty then escalated to the Game Misconduct (referees may go straight to the Game Misconduct if they choose)
- Assessed another penalty for the hallway shinanigans.
- Referee did not engage in the hallway. Just go to the room.
- Referee skated the long way to avoid the bench penalized.

The Bad

- Generally, try to stay with your team. In this report, it sounds like the referee was separated from the linespeople
- The referee could have called a Gross Misconduct in the hall way for making a travesty of the game (however, there is nothing wrong with the referee using a second Game Misconduct here)

The Ugly

- This coach's actions. This is highly inappropriate and should not happen.