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Seminar for Umpires

**Practice
Intervals
Advice
Misbehaviour
Adequate umpire reaction**

Practice

Regulations 3.4.3, HMO no advice

Before the match: up to 2' practice period

- ❖ **Playing clothes required**
- ❖ **No delaying coaching after practice**
- ❖ **Decisions by referee required for**
 - **Change of racket after practice (such racket must be tested after match)**
 - **Extension of duration of practice > 2'**

During the match:

- ❖ **Brief practice for familiarisation with new ball, racket or table.**
- ❖ **Emergency suspension if accident or bleeding, replacement of table etc. : practice possible, to be authorized by referee**

Intervals (breaks)

Regulation 3.4.4, HMO section 13

- ❖ ***Up to 1'***: between games, time-out (one per player/pair, not before first rally of games)
- ❖ ***Brief intervals***: towelling after 6 points, at 5 in last game
- ❖ ***Up to 10'*** (referee!): injury (umpire records exact time when he/she suspended game!)
- ❖ ***As long as needed*** (referee!): bleeding
- ❖ ***Up to 5'***: between successive matches of a player (inform referee ?)
 - *Towelling: Possible at any moment, if no delay!*
 - *Injury: Break may be given in portions, Not for illness, unfitness, cramp or other incapacity existing or expected before the match*
 - *Bleeding: Clean off all traces of blood, Treat player before play resumes*

Interval: time-out up to 1'

Regulation 3.4.4.2, HMO section 13.1

Time-out: *requested* by players/pairs or coaches using the hand signal T; if opponents ask for time-out at the “same moment” it will count for both.

In case of *disagreement* player – coach:

- ❖ Individual events: Player decides
- ❖ Team match: Coach/captain decides

On request: U calls loudly time-out, holds up white card to the side of player asking for until *A-U* has placed marker on table.

Time-out ends when player who asked for is ready to play or latest after 1'; U (*i.e. time-keeper*) calls loudly “time” to end time-out, *A-U* moves marker from table to umpire-table, U repeats score, points to server and restarts the game.

Legal advice

When?

- ❖ **Before 2' practice period**
- ❖ **During intervals: max 1' between games, max 1' for time-out**
- ❖ **During authorized suspensions: accident, replacement of match table, bleeding...**



Legal advice

From whom?

❖ *Team events:*

from anyone authorized to sit on the bench. Not more persons shall sit on the bench than allowed by the competition management. Once an advisor has been dismissed, no newcomer or substitute shall be allowed.

❖ *Individual events:*

only from persons, designated (in advance) to U. 1 advisor is allowed for singles or doubles, max 2 persons for doubles with players from different associations. An advisor once at the bench cannot be replaced.

Illegal advice and prevention

Advice is illegal, by words or signs,

- ❖ from unauthorised persons
- ❖ at any other time than authorised

The U prevents illegal advice

- ❖ from not authorised persons by sending them away upon arrival and by not accepting more persons than authorized around the match table
- ❖ from the persons of the bench, by monitoring them

Illegal advice and discipline

When noticing illegal advice, *the U*

- ❖ for the first time, may *informally ask* the coach to stop such advice
- ❖ for the first but surely for the next time, must hold up a *yellow card to warn* the coach (visibly, be sure that the coach sees it, do not stand up, no display of the yellow card on score board)
- ❖ for the next illegal advice, must hold up a *red card to dismiss* the advisor (visibly, be sure that the coach goes far away from the playing area, do not stand up)



Illegal advice and discipline

A **yellow card** (warning) for illegal advice applies **to everyone** of the bench (present or not).

A **red card** (dismissal) for illegal advice applies

- ❖ in an **individual event**, to all the advisors present; they may not be replaced.
- ❖ in a **team match**, to the offending advisor; he may not return, and no replacement may be accepted for the duration of the team match. Dismissed players may come back for playing their next match.

The dismissed advisor must move and stay far away from the playing area.

Illegal advice

- ❖ The **A-U** assists U in monitoring the benches, may invite advisor to stop illegal coaching, may report observations to U, may not give a warning or show a yellow card to the advisor.
- ❖ The **U** is the only one, who can warn an advisor or dismiss a coach, may hold up cards. He/she may be alert for catching information of his/her A-U.



Legal Advice

Scenarios		Legal
A	Advice between practice and start	X
2	Advice during suspension and between games	X
3	Advice between rallies, continuity ok	X
6	A goes to coach when X retrieves ball, ready to play as X is back at table	X
9	Advice when player ready to serve (ball on palm)	X
10	Advice before service (bouncing ball on floor, on table etc.	X
11	Advice during towelling	X
12	Player looks to coach before serving	X
13	Player moves slightly to coach for advice between rallies	X

Illegal Advice

Scenarios		Illegal	Misbehaviour
A	Advice between practice and start delaying start of the match	Call players to the table. If they refuse U calls referee.	
1	Advice during a rally	Coach	
14	Advice that may unfairly affect opponent (e.g. loudness and/or content)	Coach	

9	Advice when player ready to serve (ball on palm)	X
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The question may be raised why 9 (see slide 11) is declared legal, while it “always” may affect opponent when he/she is concentrating on service. U may however use 1 or 14 to stop the behaviour of the advisor.

Illegal Advice

Scenarios	Misbehaviour	
4	Player obviously makes detour to coach for advice when picking up ball	Player
5	Player moves very slowly when picking up ball or going back to table while coach advises	Player
7	A goes to coach for advice when X retrieves ball from outside playing area and is not ready to play when X back at table	Player
8	After retrieving ball from outside court, player goes to coach for advice instead of going straight back to table to start play	Player
13	Player goes to coach for advice between rallies	Player

Misbehaviour (3.5.2.1)

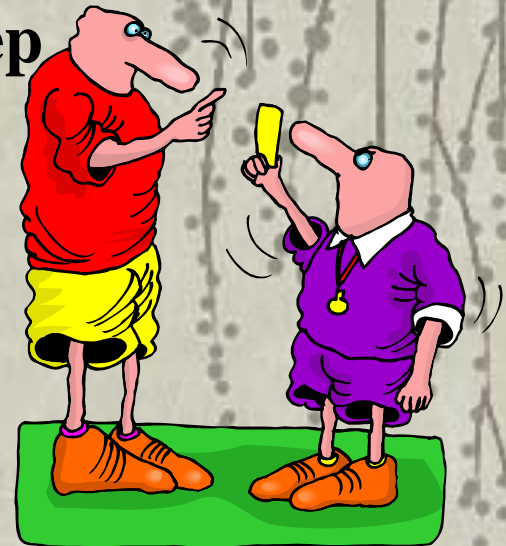
Players, coaches or other advisers shall refrain from behaviour that may

- ❖ **unfairly affect an opponent**
- ❖ **offend spectators**
- ❖ **bring the sport into disrepute such as abusive language, deliberately breaking the ball or hitting it out of the playing area, kicking the table or the surrounds, disrespect of match officials, delaying the start of the rally, deliberately breaking the racket...**



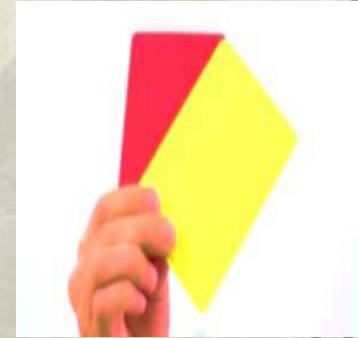
Misbehaviour

- ❖ For any *serious offence* the U shall suspend play and report immediately to the referee (unauthorized change of racket, hurting the opponent...)
- ❖ For a *less serious offence*, the U may use a disapproving look, signal or word (only for a *minor, first offence*) or warn the concerned person by visibly holding up a **yellow** card. A yellow card for misbehaviour is the 1st step in the PPS (penalty point system). If a player has been warned, a yellow marker is displayed on or near the score-board.
- ❖ A warning by the referee may be considered as a penalty according to PPS. *Ask referee!*



Misbehaviour

- ❖ For a second offence of a player, U applies the 2nd step of the PPS: he/she holds up together the **yellow** and **red** card and awards 1 point to the offender's opponent.
- ❖ For a third offence of a player the U applies the 3rd step of the PPS: he/she holds up together the **yellow** and **red** card and awards 2 points to the offender's opponent.
- ❖ After the 2nd step the U may, but latest after the 3rd step, he/she must inform the referee without suspending play; if the same player continues to misbehave, the U shall suspend play and report immediately to the referee.



Misbehaviour

Accumulation of cards

- ❖ Warnings to an *advisor* for illegal advice and bad behaviour are cumulated and apply to the bench for the duration of the individual or team match. The second offence is equal to a dismissal of the offending advisor.
- ❖ All cards shown to a *player* in a team match are cumulated for the duration of the team match and are considered for the singles and for the double. Warnings to a player for illegal advice and for misbehaviour as a player do not cumulate.



PPS 3.5.2.6

A warning or *penalty incurred (in a double)* by either player of a doubles pair shall apply to the pair, but not to the non-offending player in a subsequent individual match of the same team match.

At the *start of a doubles match* the pair shall be regarded as having incurred the higher of any warnings or penalties incurred by either player in the same team match.

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Record warnings on match sheet!

Adequate reaction of the U to incidents or behaviour that may not be acceptable (1)

The U should ask himself/herself *questions* i.e. evaluate the situation before announcing a sanction:

- a. Was it intentional? If not, no disciplinary action!
- b. What did it manifest? Hatefulness, anger, distress, frustration, self-stimulation/support/critic?
- c. Was it addressed against somebody or something? Opponent, coach, match official, spectators, neighboring table, equipment?
- d. How did it look? For the opponent, coach, match official, neighboring table, spectator?
- e. Who has heard or seen it? Opponent, coach, match official, neighboring table, spectator?
- f. Is it a bagatelle, is it a repetition?

Adequate reaction of the U to incidents or behaviour that may not be acceptable (2)

According to the result of the evaluation of the situation and considering that disciplinary sanctions are necessary for the good conduct of a match, the U may implement the adequate measure (calmly, promptly, seated):

- ❖ Disapproval by look, word or/and signal
- ❖ Visible informal verbal warning with or without signal
- ❖ Visible official warning by **yellow** card (point hand signal!) preferably with explaining words/ signal.
Yellow marker next to or on score-board.
- ❖ Visible penalty using yellow + red card preferably with explaining words/signal & 1 point to opponent.
Red marker next to **yellow**.

Do not amplify minor offences by over-reacting!

Intervals

What action shall the U take? Why?

- a) **When the score reaches 3-1, Alan goes to get his towel.**
 - b) **At the end of the first game, Alan leaves to sit at the team bench next to the barriers.**
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- a) **Stop him - players are allowed to towel only after every 6 points under normal circumstances. But ???**
 - b) **No action - players are allowed to remain in or near the playing area during a regular interval (at max 3 m distance)**

Intervals

What action shall the U take? Why?

- a) **At the end of the first game, Alan asks if he can go to the toilet.**
 - b) **After 10 minutes, the match is going to expedite. Because of the language barrier, a coach asks if he could explain to his/her player what the expedite system is.**
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- a) **Refer to the Referee for permission.**
 - b) **Not permitted - precisely because of the language barrier the U will not understand what instructions, if any, are being given to the player.**

Intervals

What action shall the U take? Why?

- a) After a heated rally, Beth collapses, apparently she is out of breath
- b) **Beth's coach then asks for time-out**
- c) When the game was over, Beth's coach asked for a 5 minute interval between games



- a) Ask Beth to continue to play immediately since her incapacity to play is due to her current state of fitness and the manner in which play has proceeded. If she cannot do so, refer the matter to the referee
- b) **A time out is permitted at any time during a game, hence this is allowed**
- c) An interval of one minute is permitted - no more – advise Beth to continue after one minute and if she cannot do so, refer the matter to the referee immediately