

PCSC 24 HOUR RULE

Synopsis

This rule is to help parents and coaches navigate any potential disagreement amicably, and for the overall benefit of the player:

- **Parents should wait 24 hours before raising a dispute with the coach;**
- **After 24 hours, parents should email the coach seeking clarification, and/or requesting a phone call.**

Policy for Parents

The 24 hour rule is a standard our club has put into place to prevent discussions regarding playing time, positions, tactics, or general decision making immediately following a game.

It's essentially a cooling off period that removes emotion from the conversation which allows both parties to collect their thoughts prior to speaking about the events. The worst thing a parent can do is storm across a field after a game or seek out the coach in the parking lot to discuss sensitive topics, typically right in front of their child. It is just as bad for coaches to deflect these types of conversations entirely, because they can be very constructive and help parents understand your point of view. After all, the parents truly care about the development of their child within the team, and if they are not getting playing time and depending on your expertise, coaches need to explain why.

Parents: If you are concerned about the playing time in games of your child, please consider the following before contacting your coach.

1. Game time is not nearly as important as practice time. That may sound completely crazy, because in games you see the results of training and play is typically at a higher rate, but it is true. Well planned out training sessions develop players faster and challenge players consistently. Preparation and learning is so important and that is developed in training.
2. Playing time fluctuates game to game for a variety of reasons. Injury, nutrition, conditioning, roster size, tactics, opponent skill level, missed training sessions, and game day form are just a few examples that affect playing time. Coaches balance so many of these factors and it is always difficult to manage playing time from game to game.

After thinking about your concerns for a 24 hour period, email your coach and just let them know you would like to speak about your child and specifically what it is regarding. This is a much preferred method over the random phone call (that a good coach sees coming) so that the coach can collect his/her thoughts and provide an in depth conversation.

If the 24 Hour rule is broken, the following escalation protocol will be followed:

- 1st offence - parent warned, consequences made clear
- 2nd offence - player suspended for one game
- 3rd offence - player suspended until a meeting with the DOC and a panel