

# The Way Forward: Refereeing in a Perfect World

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“We are all in the gutter; but some of us are looking at the stars.”

*Oscar Wilde*

# My Perfect World

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- Every decision correct
- Every referee makes the same decision

# Can we achieve perfection?

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- Will we get it right before we die?

# Facts:

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- Little money and few resources for the development of referees.
- What players think: All referees are bad. Why?

# Mistakes Referees Make

## 1. Faults of Character

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- Too much ego
  - Arrogant
  - Overly strict
  - Narrow
  - Petty
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- Cure? Therapy?

# Mistakes Referees Make

## 2. Lack of Knowledge

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- Ignorance of Rules
- Ignorance of Interpretations

### **Cure?**

- Study Rule Book and Interpretations
- Watch Videos
- Observe other referees
- Ask for advice

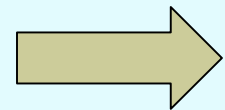
# Mistakes Referees Make

## 3. Lack of Experience

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- Unprepared
- Weak Voice
- Indecisive, hesitant
- Inconsistent
- Nervous, anxious, tense
- Intimidated
- No control
- Too emotional
- No self-confidence
- Permitting too much discussion
- Thinking of errors
- External pressures
- “I thought....”
- Fatigue
- Loss of concentration
- Wrong match (level too high)

**Cure?**



# The Road to Perfection

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## The Three Rules of Refereeing:

- Experience
- Experience
- Experience

# Errors: The Major Causes (i)

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- Lack of Experience
- Stress

# The Major Causes (ii)

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- Nerves
- Loss of Concentration
- Ego
- Denial
- Closed to Feedback

# Feedback

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- Are you always open to feedback?
- Do you ask other people for feedback?

# Before the Match

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- Preparation:

- Do you have a plan? (Cf. players do)
- What do you need to concentrate on?
- What do you need to avoid?
- Do you have a positive attitude?

# Concentration

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- Preparation before the match: How can I keep my concentration?
- During the match: What can I do in order not to lose concentration?

# Nerves

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- Are you nervous before the match?
- What do you do to control your nerves?
- Do you have any special techniques or tricks?
- What do you do during a match if you are nervous?

# Stress

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- How do you deal with stress?
- Do you have any special techniques?
- How can we reduce stress?

# The Need to Analyze

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- We all make mistakes:
  - What situations cause you to make mistakes?
  - What are your weaknesses?
  - What are you doing to eliminate them?

# Identifying the Problem

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- The Familiar
- Mental Triggers
- “Seeing”
- The Unfamiliar
- The Brain Stops Working

# Visual Images

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- Making the Unfamiliar Familiar
- Learning to “see”
- Learning to Act
  - Conduct
- Developing Mental Triggers

# How to Make Progress

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- “I made a mistake”
- “What can I learn from it?”
- “How do I avoid this mistake in the future?”

# How to Get Better

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- Do you have a programme for improvement?
- Do you regularly undertake self-evaluation?
- Do you know your own weaknesses?
- What are you doing to eliminate them?

# Self-evaluation (1)

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After every match:

- What did I do right?
- What did I do wrong?
- What can I learn from my errors?
- What areas do I need to work on?
- What is my plan for the future?

# Self-evaluation (2)

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- Use your plan in the next match
- After that match, undertake renewed self-evaluation
- Write things down (cf. players)

# Refereeing Website

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- <http://www.ausport.gov.au/participating/officials/tools/factsheets>
- General Principles of Refereeing

# Mentoring

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- Australia
- India
- Canada

# A Referee's Utopia

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- Self-evaluation
- Seek advice
- Open discussion
- Mutual Help
- No negative criticism
- Common goals
- Positive support
- Comradeship

# The Three Rules of Refereeing

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- Experience!
- Experience!
- Experience!