

## How to Be a Good Referee

### A/ Read the Quick Tips for Referees and fill in the blanks:

*eyes, appearance, confident, experience, success, rule, knowledge, energy, eat, physical*

1. Your \_\_\_\_\_ is everything
2. Looking \_\_\_\_\_ is critical.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is the best teacher.
4. Read your \_\_\_\_\_ book whenever you can.
5. Know your rules – knowledge is the key to \_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ + experience = confidence.
7. Make sure you are in top \_\_\_\_\_ condition.
8. Don't run out of \_\_\_\_\_.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ properly to keep up your energy.
10. Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ on the puck.

<http://www.afterthewhistle.com/en/tips.htm>

### Discussion point:

Which tips do you agree or disagree with?  
What other tips would you add?

### B/ Qualities in a good referee

Before reading, match the following word to their definitions:

1/ reliability	A/ the psychological feature that arouses an organism to action toward a desired goal; the reason for the action; that which gives purpose and direction to behavior
2/ communication	B/ a feeling of assurance, especially of self-assurance
3/ elegance	C/ sound judgment not based on specialized knowledge; native good judgment.
4/ integrity	D/ refinement, grace, and beauty in movement, appearance, or manners
5/ common sense	E/ the exchange of thoughts, messages, or information, as by speech, signals, writing, or behaviour
6/ confidence	F/ adherence to moral principles; honesty
7/ motivation	G/ the quality of being dependable or reliable

Although refereeing calls for a certain amount of technical knowledge, there is undoubtedly an art in becoming an outstanding referee. And the art demonstrated by a referee during the game depends largely on his personal qualities.

One might think that the characteristics of a good referee have been defined and used extensively as criteria for evaluating referees. But if 100 refereeing experts from different sports drew up their lists of qualities that make a good referee and placed them in order of preference, we might end up with 100 different lists and preferences. So we are not going to give an order of preference for the qualities of a good judge, nor supply an exhaustive list of these essential qualities.

What we are going to do, taking into consideration the results of the latest investigations, is to sum up those qualities that the top referees have in common.

RELIABILITY

COMMUNICATION

ELEGANCE

INTEGRITY

COMMON SENSE

CONFIDENCE

MOTIVATION

**Discussion point:** Give examples to illustrate the importance of each of these qualities for a good referee.

#### THE FUNCTION OF THE REFEREE

The referee's decisions are always subject to public opinion, which means that they are often criticized and questioned in terms of errors committed. Now if the game is running smoothly, very few people are even aware of the referee's presence.

So how should referees judge themselves or be judged? Their main job is to ensure that the game is being played according to the rules and regulations, and to intervene as little as possible.

**Referees must feel committed to the four following responsibilities:**

1. To see to it that the sporting event takes place in accordance with the rules of the game.
2. To intervene as little as possible and not make themselves the center of attention.
3. To establish and maintain a good atmosphere so as to make the event as enjoyable as possible.
4. To show an interest in the players.

**Discussion point:** What other responsibilities would you add?