

## **REFEREES' STATEMENT**

***During this event, the Match Referees will apply the following guidelines:***

- 1. Under the Rules of Squash, the Referee (or Central Referee in the 3-Referee System - both abbreviated as CR in the rest of this document) is instructed to penalize behaviour that is "disruptive, intimidating, or offensive". Thus any form of obscenity whether audible, mouthed or gestured, will not be tolerated and will be immediately penalized. This will also apply to any expression that the CR considers to be blasphemy. There is no excuse for such behaviour, even in the heat of the moment.***

***It is important for you to realize that the CR does not have to issue a warning first but may apply any level of penalty (Warning, Stroke, Game, Match) on the first occurrence, depending on how the CR views the severity of the situation.***

- 2. Referees will not award a let for minimal interference nor will they award a stroke unless it is truly merited. We hope that this will promote matches that flow, with a minimum of stoppages.***
- 3. Referees do their best to make correct decisions, and with the Three Referee System the likelihood of a totally incorrect decision is greatly reduced. However, there may be times when a player disagrees with a marginal decision by either the single or the Three Referees. In the Referee/Marker System the Referee may provide an explanation of a decision, but in the Three Referee System explanations of why each of them decided the way they did are not practical. With either system, expressions of dissent and prolonged discussions will be penalized.***

***This does not mean that an amusing quip or comment, even if mildly directed towards any of the Officials, will be regarded as an offence.***

- 4. The position from where the Referees and Marker have to officiate is not always ideal. This often reduces their ability to determine whether pick-ups are good or not, particularly at the front of the court, or whether the ball may have clipped the top of the tin, or may have hit above the out-line on the back wall. The Referees would greatly appreciate players' honesty in declaring promptly if their shots are "not up", "down", or "out", etc.***

***Referees look forward to continuing the dialogue between themselves, players and players' representatives at this event. Please feel free to contact any member of the Squash Quebec Officiating Committee to make your views known.***