

WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK THE SCORE IS INCORRECT

A Spectator's Guide

Yes it happens ... the scoreboard or flip chart gets out of synch with what we (the spectators) think should be correct. What are we to do?

First of all, please remember that these are kids and that they will make mistakes. Second, the flip chart and/or scoreboard are not the official score used to determine the final outcome of the match. Instead, the written sheet is the official form. That being said, all of us have been in the stands and have had said/heard/thought the following ...

Did they give us that point? I did not see them flip the score.

Some flippers are so fast they give the point immediately at the end of the play.

We had a point and they removed it!

Sometimes the numbers will stick together or the electronic scoreboard gets punched twice. The score sheet person then checks the visual score and corrects the visual to accurately match the score sheet. With electronic scoreboards this may take several tries to figure out how to correct the score as some boards let you subtract, some make you go through 0-9 and then back to the correct point. Bottom line ... please be patient.

The score is definitely wrong . . . I know it

They are kids after all ... and sometimes the players running the flip charts do give the point to the wrong team or just forget ... What can we do?

Please avoid negative comments about the officiating team. If the coach isn't talking to the referees, then most likely there isn't an issue or there is something you are not aware of. Saying negative comments will do nothing more than embarrass your kid and bring unwanted attention to your team for being unsportsmanlike.

Please DO NOT yell "THE SCORE, THE SCORE"; constant yelling will distract the scorers as they try to correct the situation. Please remember that it's the score sheet that matters the most and yelling does nothing more than turn innocent kids into jelly and have more errors in the match.

Alert your team coach to check the score. Have a code word or cheer- "Cow-a-Bunga Coach"

If you still feel that it's necessary to saying something negative ... **don't** ... instead bring up the issue with your coach!

Coaches

Ultimately it's up to you to keep track of the score to make sure errors aren't occurring. If you feel that something seems incorrect or you need to find out about substitutions or timeouts, please do the following ...

- Avoid approaching the scoring table - more mistakes are made by scorers being distracted answering questions.
- Instead, talk to the R2 during dead balls or timeouts.