



Dare to be Better

Understanding and surmounting these subtle differences will help a good referee become a BETTER referee.

GOOD

BETTER

Gives best effort	Referees every game like it is his/her last
Enjoys officiating	Referees with a passion
Avoids impropriety	Realizes perception is everything
Has communication skills	Has people skills
Knows the game	Keeps current with the game and is willing to adapt to change
Knows the playing rules	Understands the playing rules
Knows what to call	Also, knows what NOT to call
Takes care of business at hand while being fair & impartial	Takes care of business, is fair & impartial but is willing to make the tough calls without regard to political consequence
Ensures the competitors do not violate the rules, can be over officious, minimizes mistakes	Ensures competitors do not gain an unfair advantage, but has total game awareness, learns from mistakes and adjusts immediately when mistakes are identified
Accepts constructive criticism	Is his/her own worst critic as well
Sometimes not willing to listen to partners	Knows when to be humble and accept help from partners
Is grateful for help & advice given during advancement	Gives back by helping lower level officials, serves as a mentor to more than just a select few
Has proper mechanics	Puts on a clinic every game with mechanics and signals. Makes officiating look effortless.
Interacts with partner(s)	Emphasizes teamwork, and makes every partner better. Someone every official wants to work with.
Hustles	Every movement on the court has a purpose and projects strength
Respects the game	Respects the game, partners, players and coaches by knowing when it is time to move down a level because he/she can't keep up
Stays composed	Keeps everyone composed
Controls misconduct	Sets the tempo to prevent misconduct
Focuses on self-promotion	Focuses on self-improvement
Earns Praise	Earns respect and leads by example
Talks about being a leader	Leads without talking
Thinks he/she knows where he/she wants to be	Knows where he/she wants to be, and REMEMBERS where he/she came from.