



I'm Only Human After All

You will make errors as you endeavor to become a good official. The important thing is to learn from the errors, using them to make you stronger. Then, you can move forward, becoming better in the future.

Do not try to hide errors! It drives people crazy when we deny or try to cover up our errors. Errors are correctable; however, it is difficult to repair a spoiled reputation or questionable integrity.

The first step is to acknowledge your error and take responsibility. When you make an error, it is natural to feel frustrated, embarrassed, or even distressed for, say 10-15 seconds. However, after a few seconds, let that feeling pass. There is power in shouldering responsibility and understanding your role in the error. Not only does it show that you are willing to step up, but it also shows integrity. Others admire these qualities. On top of that, taking responsibility for your errors makes you relatable.

Many officials dwell on errors because they have unrealistically high expectations for their performance. When you make errors, it does not match what you expected of yourself (or what you think others expect of you). You set a standard for yourself (an error free match) and expect that you should always perform up to that standard.

Do not assume that you will be perfect. It would be rare to be so. Be real and up front about your errors. Not only will this make you a better official, but it will also allow you evaluate better what happened, and put you in better touch with the realities of your situation. Once you acknowledge the error and understand its anatomy, it is time to fix the problem and move forward.

The best way to earn people's trust and admiration is to deliver great work consistently. Period. Do that and occasional slip-ups here and there are likely to be quickly forgotten .

Reminder

"...When the timekeeper makes an error or the clock fails to start when the referee indicates time is to begin, the referee is to make a judgment concerning the amount of time that has been consumed. The referee will adjust the clock accordingly. Errors must be corrected prior to the start of any subsequent period". Rule 6.6.3.

Tip for the Week

Errors by the official that stem from a lack of knowledge of the rules are not easily forgiven or soon forgotten.

Rules Review: Wrestler A takes a second injury time-out between the second and third period. Wrestler B was to have the choice of position to start the third period.

Ruling: Wrestler B will have the will have the choice of position at the beginning of the third period, in addition to the next restart.