



RADIOS
Recommended Best
Practice

Recommended Best Practice Guide for Radio Use

- Focus on Domestic Competitions
- Preparation
- Pre-Match Preparation
- Additional Communication Tool
- Sharing Key Information
- Timing and Wording
- Useful Considerations
- Backup Planning

Preparation

- Check radio use with colleague
 - Do they have a radio?
 - What type is it?
 - Does one of you need to bring two units or borrow a radio?
- Charge your unit
 - Charge fully, even if not dead at the end of previous game
- Fit and pack Case / Belt / Pouch
 - Leather case?
 - Does it fit your belt?
 - Do you need a separate radio pouch?
- Earpiece (plus tape)
- Microphone (if separate)

Pre-Match Setup

- Agree wording and use as part of pre-match chat
- Pair radio with your colleague
- Testing
 - Outside (changing room may distort signal)
 - Microphone
 - Can your colleague hear you?
 - Do you need to move it closer / further away?
 - Earpiece
 - Which ear?
 - Is it secure?
 - Can you hear your colleague?
 - Increase / decrease volume?

Radios are an Additional Communication Tool

- NOT a complete replacement for signaling / stopping time to come together
 - Remember 'arena umpiring' for players, coaches, and spectators
- Same discussion that you would normally have pre-match
 - Add use of radios: managing set pieces, joint decision making, key information
- Same areas of control
 - How can radios further improve how we make decisions correctly and effectively?
- Same signals - in addition to radio use
 - Affirming decisions
 - Giving decisions
 - Changing decisions
- Same game plan
 - Consider how radios are now part of that
 - Opportunity for communication throughout the game

Focus use on Key Information

- Decision Making
 - Making a decision
 - Affirming a decision
 - Changing a decision
- Player Management
 - Balance of Flow versus Control
 - Demonstrating teamwork
 - Identifying offending players (especially after an advantage)
 - Controlling off the ball incidents (supporting / informing your colleague)
 - Awarding personal penalties (card / no card, GC / YC, 5m / 10m)
 - Clarifying information (e.g. number for personal penalties)

Timing is everything

- What to say?
 - Offence, offending player / team, expected decision
- When to say it?
 - Before making a decision, before being asked, after being asked
- How to phrase it?
 - Keep it simple
- In which order?
 - Suggestion: decision, offence, reasoning / player information

Considerations

- Like our umpiring style, radio use is personal
- How often / how much to talk?
- Asking questions?
- Giving answers?
- The offence / the offender / the decision / for which team / anything else?
- Different approaches in different areas of the pitch?
- Decision making on the ball / awareness off the ball
- Simple decisions, complex decisions
- Personal penalties
- With open microphones, your colleague can always hear you! (and others)

When (not if) problems arise

- Dead battery
- Pairing issue
- Loose / faulty headset
 - Can you fix it?
 - Do you have a spare?
- Mis-understandings??
 - Didn't hear the question
 - Heard a different question
 - Didn't hear the answer
 - Heard a different answer
 - You can always come together (sometimes the better option)



Questions?

Thank you