



INFORMATION BULLETIN

BULLETIN #: 170815-004-I

DATE: June 18, 2017

TO: OMHA HCOP Officials

FROM: Dave Wedlake, Chair Referees Program

SUBJECT: Racial Slurs

Over the last number of weeks there have been several complaints received through the OMHA office regarding racial slurs. These complaints are sent to Mr. Bill Hutton, the OMHA Risk Management Officer for investigation.

The latest two that have come to our attention indicate that in both cases the officials did not hear the racial slur that was directed towards the player. Understand if you don't hear it you cannot call a penalty.

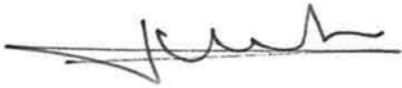
However, it is important how you handle these incidents when they are reported to you. Communicating to both benches that an incident has been brought to your attention is necessary and important. Understanding that there is a possible victim, it is important to be sensitive and make sure you listen to what is being conveyed to you from both sides.

Should you hear the racial slur while working in the two official system, or it is reported to you as the referee in the three official system by your linesman, you have a moral obligation to call a GRM 21. There are no exceptions to this, it cannot be ignored.

It is your responsibility to complete a detailed write-up on the back of the game sheet on what transpired. Even if you did not hear it, but it was reported to you, a write-up is required. In both cases please contact the Regional Director following the game and explain the details of what transpired.

Remember our role as officials is to create a fair, safe and enjoyable environment for all our participants. There is no place in our game for this type of conduct.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dave Wedlake', written over a horizontal line.

Dave Wedlake
Chair, Referees Program