



## **BRITISH AMERICAN FOOTBALL REFEREES ASSOCIATION LIMITED**

### **Video Camera Policy**

#### **USE OF VIDEO CAMERAS AT GAMES**

BAFRA encourages officials to get their games filmed as a useful development tool, etc. However, it is important to use the cameras appropriately and in a way that reflects well on BAFRA and captures footage of the entire game whenever possible.

#### **CONTACT**

When contacting the home team, inform them that you intend to film the game. You should also try to inform the away team. If a team films their own games, ask if it will be possible to obtain a copy of the game film after the game, ideally, this will be via BAFRA's video platform (Hudl), but you may have to take a laptop or flash drive with you to make a copy.

#### **AT THE GROUND**

Cameras should never be carried openly in and around any dressing room environment. If it is completely unavoidable, the camera must be switched off and the lens cover must be in place. Cameras must not be used to record any footage in and around any dressing room environment. Breaches of this section of the policy will not be tolerated. Wearable cameras are also subject to these restrictions.

#### **SETTING UP**

If a raised area is available, the camera should be located there. If a raised area is not available, a camera may be operated from the sideline but operator must be at least 18 feet from the sideline or end line at all times and must not get in the way of officials, their assistants, coaches, players or medical personnel.

#### **RECORDING THE GAME**

Recording should begin before the coin toss and finish when the officials leave the field, pausing only for half time or significant delays such as injuries. Where battery life or recording space is an issue, the camera operator should start filming when the offense break the huddle and leave the camera running for 5 to 10 seconds after the play is over. The camera should be kept at as wide an angle as possible and use of the zoom function

should be avoided. The operator should attempt to show as much of the field and as many of the players and officials as possible at all times. All film must remain strictly relevant to the game and operators should avoid filming cheerleaders, spectators, etc. If you have arranged to get a copy from one of the teams who film their games, you should ask their camera operator to film the game in a similar way to that detailed above.

## **AFTER THE GAME**

If either team requests a copy of the video, you should provide it to them as soon as is practical. If the BAFA Disciplinary Panel request footage relating to a disqualification, it should be provided as soon as is practicable.

Note: Where teams send in-game film requesting a review, the Director of Training will thank them for their submission but will not otherwise respond to them. If, on review of the film, there are learning issues the film will be passed to the crew and possibly the rest of the BAFRA community only.

## **WEARABLE CAMERAS**

If you intend to use a head cam or other wearable camera, it must comply with current BAFA & IFAF rules and all relevant regulations in the BAFRA members' handbook. It must also be unobtrusive (in terms of size, colour, location worn, etc.) and should not interfere with an official's actions or movement.

- Footage may be used for self-analysis, development or training purposes.
- Footage shall not be used for formal assessment.
- Footage shall not be made available in any manner which breaches BAFRA's social media and other policies.

## **SECURITY**

Cameras at games will always be the responsibility of the person taking the camera to the game, BAFRA accept no responsibility for loss or damage, even if you are filming on behalf of BAFRA. It is recommended that cameras are transported in an unobtrusive bag as camera bags may mark you out as a target for thieves. Cameras should never be left unattended at any time.