

## **Reading Comprehension: Richmond soccer ref beaten by coach wants to press charges**

Tuesday, November 23, 2004

A youth soccer referee who was beaten bloody by a coach says he will press charges against his attacker who has been suspended. Bruce Greenlee, 59, said he suffered cuts on his face on Saturday when the coach punched and kicked him after he questioned whether one of his players qualified for the tournament for 8- and 9-year-old players.

5 “This guy should never be allowed near youth soccer ever again,” Greenlee said. “If he’s a dangerous guy who’s got a record of violence, he should be sent to prison.” No arrests have been made, and Albany police have completed their investigation and sent their findings to the Attorney’s Office<sup>1</sup>, Albany police Lt. Daniel Adams said on Tuesday. The coach, whose name has not been released, could face a charge of attacking a referee,  
10 which carries a fine of up to \$2,000 and a year in jail, authorities said.

On Monday, the coach was suspended by the California Youth Soccer Association-North, which plans to conduct<sup>2</sup> an investigation and a hearing. If the coach is found guilty of assault<sup>3</sup>, he will likely be banned for life from being a coach or having any other involvement with amateur soccer, including any adult soccer leagues, officials said.

15 “It is very typical that refs get a lot of verbal complaints and abuse<sup>4</sup>, but when it comes to the next step that is definitely going over the line,” they said. The coach’s team, the Richmond Cabritos, has been disbanded<sup>5</sup> by Alex Rodriguez, the president of the Richmond United Soccer Club, officials said. Greenlee said he ended the game at halftime, declaring it had beaten the trailing Hurricane team after the Richmond coach was unable to  
20 produce a player card, which includes a picture and a date of birth, for the boy in question.

The coach followed Greenlee to the scoreboard<sup>6</sup>, where the two exchanged words before the coach punched and kicked the referee in the head, authorities said.

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<sup>1</sup> Attorney’s Office - Staatsanwaltschaft

<sup>2</sup> to conduct - durchführen

<sup>3</sup> assault – tätlicher Angriff

<sup>4</sup> abuse - Beschimpfung

<sup>5</sup> to disban - auflösen

<sup>6</sup> scoreboard - Anzeigetafel

## **Text-based tasks:**

1.) Correct the following wrong statements:

1. The referee was beaten up by one of the football players.
2. It happened because he made a decision which the players thought wrong.
3. The incident occurred in the 85<sup>th</sup> minute.
4. The referee banned the coach of the Richmond Cabritos because he had no proper coaching licence.

2.) Explain these words from the text in full sentences:

1. ref(eree)
2. find s.o. guilty
3. assault

3.) Write a statement (ca. 200 words) for the trial either a) as the attorney, or b) the defence counsel (Verteidiger). Try to find good arguments why the coach should be either severely punished or be treated mildly.