

Here you go, Dum Dum!

One of the best things to do at the start of the season, during your team meeting with parents and players, is to bring a bag of Dum Dum lollipops. They need to be Dum Dums and not Blow Pops or other off-brand options.

In addition to your usual team expectations, remind parents about sideline expectations—cheering, offering encouragement, and refraining from talking to the officials.

Ask for a parent volunteer who, at the start of each game, will hand out Dum Dums to all the parents as a fun reminder to keep sideline behavior positive—and avoid being a “Dum Dum.”

If anyone gets a little rowdy on the sideline, they can be handed another one. Your parents may need one after every quarter, timeout, or even after each goal. You may also need to be given one from time to time as a reminder. A Sam’s Club bag will usually last an entire season, although some parents may bring their own, as Dum Dums do not last as long as Blow Pops.

Watching someone with a lollipop in their mouth attempt to yell can be pretty funny. Sometimes there’s drool involved, and other times, we have no clue what they’re saying. This fun approach helps maintain a positive atmosphere, reduces unnecessary yelling, and makes the experience more enjoyable for everyone—including the officials.