



# Practical Guide To Talking To Authority

## How to win allies and negotiate with the unconverted

### Cup Killjoy Syndrome Assessment Sheet

Based on trial and error over the years, our findings tell us that asking is the first step. Some bosses are supportive. The rest are affected by Cup Killjoy Syndrome (CKS)\* or exist in a state of denial about their own desire to watch.

\* Cup Killjoy Syndrome affects the general population but commonly found amongst bosses during important life events.

	Has your boss mentioned the World Cup unprompted? (Good sign)
	Do they follow football casually? (Potential ally)
	Do they have children who play in the local football club? (Likely understanding)
	Have they ever displayed emotion about any sport? (Convertible)
	Do they wear noise-cancelling headphones and eat lunch at their desk? (CKS sufferer, proceed with caution)

### How to talk to bosses

Our goal when dealing with bosses is not simply to gain permission—to be honest, we all find creative ways. The best of us book annual leave. The worst of us develop mysterious medical conditions requiring 90-minute consultations during key matches.



Our goal is co-operation. Because here's the truth: your boss probably secretly wants to watch too.

DO NOT SAY...	DO SAY...
1. Can I take time off to watch the World Cup?	1. I'd like to propose flexible hours during the World Cup to boost team morale.
2. Everyone else is secretly watching during work hours anyway.	2. Being able to participate in a cultural moment like this can boost mental wellbeing, which is scientifically proven to boost productivity.
3. I'm taking the day off instead then.	3. How about we turn this into a team-building or social opportunity? We could have a watch party or go to the pub to watch.

Deploy the ultimate weapon... "You should join us, boss!" Invite your boss. Even CKS sufferers have been known to crack when presented with the opportunity to be the "cool boss". Download the print-at-home WRA Membership Card from our website to gift to your boss.

### How to talk to teachers

#### How to scope out whether your school is World Cup-friendly.

DO YOU...	THEN...
1. Have a television in the classroom or an Audio Visual Room?	1. Ask your teacher if the class can watch together as a "cultural learning experience".
2. Have a school project coming up or self-directed study time?	2. Ask your teacher if you can do a World Cup-themed project or write an essay about football. Looking for a place to start? Check out this interview with Claudio Fabiano on SBS Learn. 
3. Don't argue with your parents or guardians if they say you can't skip class.	3. Convince them that football provides holistic learning, with an opportunity to observe grit and passion first-hand. SBS Learn even has classroom resources dedicated to the World Cup! 

### How to talk to family members who are not (yet) World Cup fans

DO NOT...	DO...
1. Do not feel guilty for caring about something "unproductive".	1. Frame it as family time. Kids love the energy even if they don't understand the game. If a player engages in reckless behaviour (reference: Zidane headbutt 2006) this is a fantastic opportunity to point out things they should not do in the playground.
2. Do not neglect your actual responsibilities (we're advocating for balance, not chaos).	2. Set up your World Cup Team Favourites page on SBS On Demand so you can easily find matches that you miss.
3. Do not feel despair if you can't watch everything in between school drop-off, work, meal prep, and bedtime.	3. Watch highlights or recaps. You won't catch all the games and that's okay. Our goal is to watch more openly, not perfectly.