



FIFA

For the Good of the Game



Law 5 The Referee



Topics

- Powers and Duties
- Advantage
- Injured Players
- More than one offence at the same time
- Trifling (minor) offences



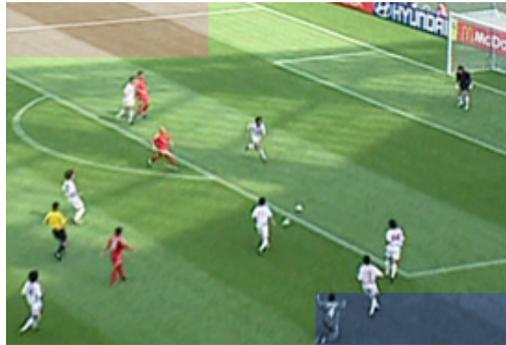


Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- Enforces the Laws of the Game.
- Controls the match in co-operation with the assistant referees and, where applicable, with the fourth official.
- Ensures that any ball used meets the requirements of Law 2.

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Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- Ensures that the players' equipment meets the requirements of Law 4.
- Acts as timekeeper and keeps a record of the match.
- Stops, suspends or terminates the match, at his discretion, for any infringements of the Laws.
- Stops, suspends or terminates the match because of outside interference of any kind.

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Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- *Stops the match if, in his opinion, a player is seriously injured and ensures that he is removed from the field of play. An injured player may only return to the field of play after the match has restarted.*

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Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- *Allows play to continue until the ball is out of play if a player is, in his opinion, only slightly injured.*
- *Ensures that any player bleeding from a wound leaves the field of play. The player may only return on receiving a signal from the referee, who must be satisfied that the bleeding has stopped.*
- *A player cannot wear clothing with blood on it.*

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Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- *Allows play to continue when the team against which an offence has been committed will benefit from such an advantage and penalises the original offence if the anticipated advantage does not ensue at that time.*
- *Punishes the more serious offence when a player commits more than one offence at the same time.*
- *Takes disciplinary action against players guilty of cautionable and sending-off offences. He is not obliged to take this action immediately but must do so when the ball next goes out of play.*

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Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- *Takes action against team officials who fail to conduct themselves in a responsible manner and may, at his discretion, expel them from the field of play and its immediate surrounds.*

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Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- *Acts on the advice of assistant referees regarding incidents which he has not seen.*
- *Ensures that no unauthorised persons enter the field of play.*

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Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- *Restarts the match after it has been stopped.*
- *Provides the appropriate authorities with a match report which includes information on any disciplinary action taken against players, and/or team officials and any other incidents which occurred before, during or after the match.*



Advantage

The referee may allow play to continue when the team against which an offence has been committed will benefit from such an advantage.

The referee may penalise the original offence if the anticipated **advantage** does not ensue at that time.



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Advantage

The decision to penalise the original offence must be taken within the next few seconds.

The referee must take into consideration where the offence has been committed when applying the advantage: the closer to the opponent's goal, the more effective it can be.

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Advantage

If the offence deserves a caution it can be given at the next stoppage. However, unless there is a clear advantage, it is recommended to stop the play and caution the player.

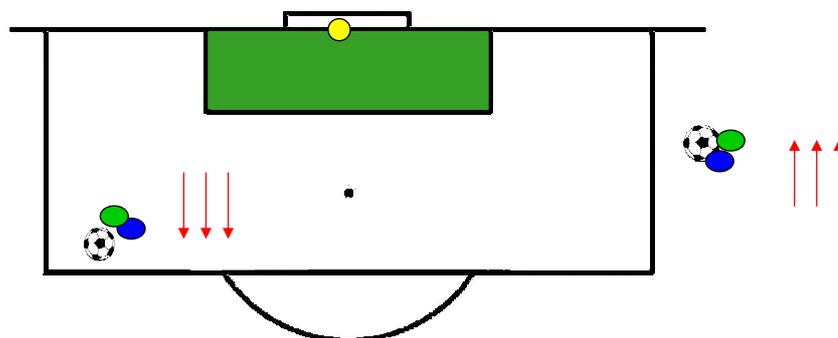
If the offence deserves an expulsion - stop play and send the player off unless there is a subsequent opportunity to score a goal.



Advantage

If the defending team commits a foul, wait for the possibility of an advantage.

If the attacking team commits a foul, whistle for the foul unless there is a clear promising attack.





Injured Players

Referees must follow the instructions below when dealing with injured players:

- **Play is allowed to continue until the ball is out of play if a player is, in his opinion, only slightly injured.**
- **Play is stopped if, in his opinion, a player is seriously injured.**



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Injured Players

Referees must follow the instructions below when dealing with injured players:

- **After questioning the injured player, the referee authorises one, or at most two doctors, to enter the field to ascertain the type of injury and to arrange the player's safe and swift removal from the field of play.**

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Injured Players

Referees must follow the instructions below when dealing with injured players:

- **The stretcher-bearers should enter the pitch with a stretcher at the same time as the doctors to allow the player to be removed as soon as possible.**

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Injured Players

Referees must follow the instructions below when dealing with injured players:

- **The referee ensures an injured player is safely removed from the field of play.**
- **A player is not allowed to be treated on the pitch.**

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Injured Players

Referees must follow the instructions below when dealing with injured players:

- Any player bleeding from a wound must leave the field of play. He may not return until the referee is satisfied that the bleeding has stopped.
- A player cannot wear clothing with blood on it.

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Injured Players

Referees must follow the instructions below when dealing with injured players:

- As soon as the referee has authorised the doctors to enter the pitch, the player must leave the pitch, either on the stretcher or on foot. If a player does not comply, he is to be cautioned for unsporting behaviour.
- An injured player may only return to the field of play after the match has restarted.
- An injured player may only re-enter the pitch from the touchline when the ball is in play. When the ball is out of play, the injured player may re-enter from any of the boundary lines.

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Injured Players

Referees must follow the instructions below when dealing with injured players:

- **The referee alone is authorised to allow an injured player to re-enter the pitch whether the ball is in play or not.**
- **If play has not otherwise been stopped for another reason, or if an injury suffered by a player is not the result of a breach of the Laws of the Game, the referee restarts play with a dropped ball.**
- **The referee allows for the full amount of time lost through injury to be played at the end of each period of play.**

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Injured Players

Exceptions to this ruling are made only for:

- **Injury to a goalkeeper.**
- **When a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need immediate attention.**
- **When a severe injury has occurred e.g. swallowed tongue, concussion, broken leg etc.**





More than one offence occurring at the same time

Committed by the same player:

- **The referee must punish the more serious offence when a player commits more than one offence at the same time.**
- **The play should be restarted with a free kick or penalty kick.**



More than one offence occurring at the same time

Committed by two players from the same team:

- **The referee must punish the most serious offence when players commit more than one offence at the same time.**
- **The play should be restarted according to the most serious offence committed.**

Committed by players from different team:

- **The referee must stop the play and restart it with a dropped ball where the ball was located***



Trifling (minor) Offences

The Laws of the Game are intended to ensure that games are played with as little interference as possible.

Constant whistling for minor and dubious infringements can cause bad feeling and loss of temper from players and spectators.