

SUBSTITUTION PROCEDURES FOR REFEREES

REGION 678: DIVISIONS U10, U12, U14

(More detailed information on reverse)

During active play, any Player can come to the touchline for a drink at any time, *as long as they stay on the field*. Anywhere along their own touchline is fine, they do not need to come to their technical area. The referee will not stop play for them.

- Goalkeepers (and other players) can keep a water bottle outside of their goal and behind the goal line, because they cannot get to the touchline easily.

Players may not leave or enter the field without permission from the Referee. This is a direct violation of Law 12, and it is a cautionable offense ("yellow card")

Players *do not* have permission to leave the field during the "quarter" breaks. Players are to remain on the field. Parents bring water to the touchline. Only substitutes and substituted players may enter and exit the field, under direction of the AR.

There are 4 and only 4 "Substitution Opportunities" in the game:

1. First "Quarter" (on the referee's signal)
2. Halftime
3. Third "Quarter" (on the referee's signal)
4. Injury

"Injury" is defined broadly, and includes physical injury, bleeding, emotional distress, exhaustion, and heat stress, etc.

A coach has 3 options in the event of injury:

1. Tend to the player at the touchline, without the player leaving the field. The referee will not stop play. The player can resume playing whenever (s)he is ready. (If there is blood, they must leave the field. Referee must confirm blood has been neutralized before they return).
2. With the Referee's permission, tend to the player off the field and play short-handed. When the player is ready to come back, inform the AR, who will notify the Referee at the next stoppage (CK, GK, TI, DFK, etc.) and the Referee will allow him/her to return at an appropriate time.
3. With the Referee's permission, substitute the injured player with a named substitute from the roster. The injured player may not return to the game until the next "Substitution Opportunity" (not stoppage).

Note: The minimum number of players on the field at U10 is 5, at U12 the minimum is 6, and at U14 it is 7. If a team cannot field the minimum number of players due to injury, the match must be terminated.

Referee specifically refers to the 'Center Referee'. 'Assistant Referee' or "AR" -denotes the two referees whose role it is to assist the Referee.

SUBSTITUTION PROCEDURES FOR REFEREES

REGION 678: U10, U12 and U14

REGION 678 PLAYING TIME POLICY

1. Region 678 policy requires that every player plays 75% of every match (3 “quarters”), roster size and player attendance permitting. Further, the policy dictates that at U10 and U12, a player may only play 1 quarter in goal if they play 3 quarters, and 2 quarters in goal if they play the entire game. (“Keepers can play any amount in U14”).
 - A. It is the responsibility of the Referee crew to record this playing-time information on the game cards.
 - B. The Referee Crew has neither the responsibility nor the authority to enforce this Region 678 policy *but we work together with the coaches to help them avoid sanctions by advising them when we see a potential problem.*
 - C. No referee will knowingly let a coach unintentionally put their team in jeopardy. *Referees do not engage in “gotcha” officiating in any case.*
 - D. If a coach, upon notification of a possible problem, chooses to go forward, the referee crew will take no further action other than to make a notation on the game card.

SUBSTITUTIONS

1. Substitutions may be made at these and only these times:
 - A. Approximately halfway through the first half (“first quarter”), upon the referee’s signal
 - B. At the Half
 - C. Approximately halfway through the second half (“third quarter”), upon the referee’s signal
 - D. Injury
2. Players do NOT have permission to leave the field of play at the “Quarter” breaks! The game is still in progress! All players are to remain on the field, at midfield, inside the touchline, unless they are being replaced by a named substitute.
3. Water is to be brought to the players by parents or coaches
4. ARs are instructed to monitor the “quarter” substitutions
 - A. Remind players to stay on the field
 - B. Encourage parents to bring water to the touchline- be reasonable.
 - i. **Some player’s do not have family in attendance- do NOT let a player get overlooked and miss getting a drink!**
 - C. Prohibit bottles being thrown on or off the field
 - D. Record the substitutes, in and out, as well as changes in goalkeeper.
 - E. Indicate to the Referee that substitution is completed

SUBSTITUTION FOR INJURY

1. “Injury” is broadly defined: physical injury, bleeding, extreme emotional distress, exhaustion, a need for water, etc.
 - A. A player who is having difficulty controlling their temper might be considered to be suffering an “emotional injury” and replaced, with the coach’s participation, before they injure someone or incur sanctions (yellow or red cards, in layman’s terms). See Sanctioning Unsporting Behavior below.
2. If a player is injured, the coach has three options:
 - A. Bring the player to the touchline in front of their technical area, *while remaining on the field*, and administer to the player’s injury. As the player has not left the field, (s)he can resume active play at any time without notice. *This includes coming to the touchline to drink water.* (If there is blood, player must leave the field).
 - B. The player may leave the field for treatment without being replaced by another player and treated for their injury. The team may play ‘short’, as long as they field the minimum number of players.
 - i. When that player is ready to resume play, the coach would notify the AR, and at the next stoppage in play (e.g.: Throw-in, Goal Kick, Corner Kick, Free Kick) the AR will notify the Referee. At the Referee’s signal, the player may enter the field.
 - ii. Note that the Referee will not interfere with the opposing team’s quick restart in order to allow this re-entry.
 - C. The player may be replaced by a named substitute (another player on the roster).
 - i. In this case, the injured player cannot re-enter the game until the next Substitution Opportunity (“quarter”, half). Do not confuse this with “stoppage in play” as indicated in paragraph 2Bi, above.
3. At all times, players may come to the touchline, in front of their Technical Area, to get a drink or to talk with their coach, receive aid, etc.
 - A. Goalkeepers & others may keep a water bottle beside their goal, away from the goal line

Note that teams must maintain the minimum number of players on the field: 5 at U10, 6 at U12, 7 at U14. If a team cannot field these minimums, the match must be suspended and/or terminated. Give a player a couple minutes to get back in play!

SANCTIONING UNSPORTING BEHAVIOR

1. Under Law 12, it is a cautionable offense (“yellow card”) for any player to leave or to enter the field without permission from the Referee.
2. In order to maintain order and to ensure Playing Time requirements can be tracked, Referees are *strongly discouraged* from making special arrangements with coaches prior to the match to allow players to leave the field without permission
3. *Common sense* dictates that an injured or emotionally distraught player running to their bench for treatment is not willfully flaunting the Laws and should not be sanctioned
 - A. To clarify, **ONLY the Referee** can approve a player leaving or entering the field during play. The AR may communicate the coach’s intentions to have a player leave or enter the field.
 - B. At normal substitution opportunities (“first quarter”, half, “third quarter”), specific approval by the Referee for each substitution is not required, that authority transferring to the ARs.
4. Feigning Injury, or exaggerating an injury, and delaying a restart are considered unsporting behavior (“cautionable offenses”).
 - A. If, in the Referee’s opinion, a player or a coach is “gaming the system” to delay the game or deny the opposing team opportunity to fairly compete, the Referee must sanction such behavior, typically but not necessarily after issuing a warning.
 - B. Such behavior must be reported on the game card and sportsmanship points deducted, at the discretion of the Referee
5. Remember that in AYSO, at U10 and U12, we rarely *display* yellow or red cards, except in egregious cases.
6. In cases of extreme heat or other extreme conditions, broad latitude must be given to both teams to ensure that player safety is ensured