

PLAY PERFORM COMPETE TOGETHER

SOCCER

OFFICIATING SYSTEMS MANUAL



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NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS



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DUAL-OFFICIATING SYSTEM

Objective:

This material is meant to serve as an introduction to the dual system of officiating. Fundamentals of mechanics are presented so those unfamiliar with the mechanics will be motivated to study other material dealing with the subject.

Topics discussed within this material on the mechanics of the dual-officiating system include:

- 1. the necessity of a thorough pregame conference;
- 2. the positions and duties of officials on:
 - a. kickoffs;
 - b. goal kicks;
 - c. corner kicks;
 - d. penalty kicks;
 - e. free kicks;
 - f. throw-ins;
- 3. coordinating the use of the whistle in releasing the ball for play between the lead official (L) and the trail official (T);
- 4. the proper technique in making a call, and the importance of signaling;
- 5. handling substitutions;
- post-game duties.

Pregame Conference:

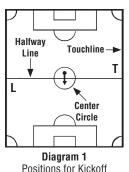
Essential to competent officiating of any game is the pregame conference between the two officials. This is the time when an understanding is developed and difficult rule interpretations are discussed.

The head referee is responsible for conducting the conference and is responsible for the overall management of the game. The head referee conducts the pregame instructions with the timer, scorer, coaches, ball holders and team captains, and also handles the coin toss. The head referee will be assisted in these duties by the referee. The head referee and the referee should inspect the field together, with the referee calling any irregularities to the attention of the head referee. The head referee will request the game management to make any necessary corrections. The referee is specifically responsible in instructing the ball holders and in carrying out other duties directed by the head referee. The head referee will speak with both team captains and coaches prior to the game about good sportsmanship.

A very important responsibility of the head referee is to make decisions on any points not specifically covered in the rules. The head referee is the final authority on any rules interpretations necessary during the course of the game. Another important responsibility is ruling on legality of player equipment. Particular attention should be given to casts, bandages and padding protecting injuries.

The head referee and the referee have equal responsibility and authority in calling fouls. The judgment or decisions by either official cannot be questioned or set aside by the other, but joint counsel is often helpful when conducted by the two referees away from everyone.

NOTE: A fourth official may be assigned to a tournament in order to assure game officiating continuity in the event one of the assigned officials is unable to officiate as assigned. When a fourth official is assigned, the tournament authority will clearly state the officiating position to be assumed by the fourth official in the event a head referee or referee is unable to officiate. The fourth official is under the jurisdiction of the head referee and performs those duties assigned by the head referee. The fourth official's normal station is at the table inside the officials' area during play.



Kickoffs:

To start each period and after goals, the position of the officials should be as shown in Diagram 1. With the ball moving in the direction indicated, the trail official (T) should be near the touchline and standing on the halfway line (with all players on the halfway line in front of the official to rule on encroachment of the halfway line and the center circle). The lead official (L) shall be positioned 10 to 20 yards from the halfway line and inside the touchline in the defensive team's half of the field. Before the lead official indicates being prepared for the kickoff, the lead official shall check with both team captains, scorer and timer (if the scorer and timer are on the lead official's touch line) to obtain a "ready"

sign from all. Having obtained these "ready" signs, the lead official shall signal to the trail official everything is set. The signal is an extended arm parallel to the ground pointing in the direction the kick will be taken. The trail official, after receiving the "ready" signal from the lead official, will sound the whistle to declare the ball is "ready-for-play" and signal "start the clock."

Should the timer and scorer be located on the trail official's touchline, the lead official will check with the trail official before releasing the ball for play.

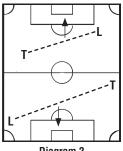


Diagram 2General Movement of Officials During Play

Movement Patterns:

In the dual system, there is always a lead official (L) and a trail official (T). One should be able to draw a diagonal line between the two officials through the ball at anytime.

The lead official normally is ahead of the ball on plays to the lead official's right. The lead official is responsible for covering the touchline and nearer goal line. In addition, the lead official must be in position to rule on offside. This means the lead official must assume a position to know the position of the most advanced offensive player relative to the deepest two defenders at the same time the ball is played in the attacking half of the field.

The trail official will normally be behind the ball on plays to the trail official's left. Attention will be directed to play around the ball. The penetration of the trail official will depend on the type of game being played

(kick and run vs. ball control) and the physical ability of the official.

Penetration of 20-30 yards by an official will help "box" the play and preclude any guessing or missed calls from the touchline. At some time, the trail official will become the lead official and will have to rule on goal line plays to the right. Of course, the position of the ball will dictate which official will be responsible for off-the-ball coverage. Alert off-the-ball coverage is the hallmark of the dual system. In games played in halves, officials should exchange field sides at halftime and "lead" to the official's left starting the second half, assuming each was leading to the right in the first half.

Making the Call:

- a. When a foul is observed that is to be penalized, an official will:
 - give a short, sharp blast of the whistle;
 - Visually indicate the direction and type of free kick (direct or indirect) or the direction and spot of the throw-in;
 - 3. when required, the lead official should give a sharp blast of the whistle declaring the ball "ready-for-play." Do not wait for the defense to set up.
- o. Official's procedural guidelines to issue a card:
 - stop play;
 - stop the clock;
 - 3. hold a yellow, red card or sequentially as the situation warrants with arm fully extended above the official's head;
 - indicate player(s);
 - 5. record player's name and jersey number;
 - 6. inform player of the reason for the caution or disqualification;
 - 7. inform the scorekeeper, both coaches, and partner;
 - restart game promptly.



Position on Free Kicks

Free Kicks:

When the ball has been properly placed, the trail official shall signal to the lead official. It is suggested the trail official indicate the ball is "ready-for-play" by giving the appropriate free-kick signal.

Goal Kicks:

The trail official is responsible for declaring the ball "ready-for-play." The position is near the top of the penalty area approximately halfway between the touchline and the penalty area. See Diagram 4.



Diagram 4Position for Goal Kicks

The lead official should be approximately at the halfway line near the touchline. The position will

be determined by the kicker and wind conditions. The main observation will be the players around where the ball will be kicked, watching mainly for illegal pushing.

Corner Kicks:

The lead official is responsible for declaring the ball "ready-for-play" on all corner kicks, if a second whistle is required. The position will be approximately the same whether the kick is taken from the right side or the left side. See Diagrams 5 and 6. Also, the lead official is responsible for the flight of the ball from the right or the left. The lead official will be positioned on the goal line near the goal post between the post and the outer edge of the penalty area. When the ball is kicked from the right, the lead official will take a position behind the ball and corner flag. When the ball is kicked, the official will observe the flight of the ball, and once it is determined that the ball will land in the field of play, the official can move inward along the goal line so as to better observe the actions of the players where the ball will land. The trail official shall assume a position that does not interfere with play, but allows observing fouls in the goal area.



Diagram 5Position for Corner
Kicks from the Right

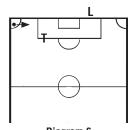
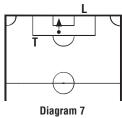


Diagram 6Position for Corner
Kicks from the Left

When the kick is taken from the left side, the responsibilities are slightly different. The placement of the ball on kicks taken from the left is the responsibility of the trail official. When it is properly placed, the trail official will give a signal. After the ball is kicked, the lead official observes action on the goalkeeper as well as follows the flight of the ball to rule on the ball over the touchline. The trail official observes action in the penalty area, giving special attention to play in the goal area. If a second whistle is required to begin play, the lead official should delay slightly before declaring the ball "ready-for-play" to give the trail official an opportunity to assume proper position. This is another clear case of "looking off the ball."

Throw-in:

The official responsible for the touchline from which the throw-in is made will be primarily responsible for judging if the throw-in is performed correctly. If the attack is coming toward the official, that official must be positioned to be the lead official and must anticipate development of play. When the attack is away from the official, that official need only rule on the legality of the throw-in. The official on the opposite touchline will observe players in the general area around the throwin, watching for holding, pushing, etc.



Positions for Penalty Kick

Penalty Kicks:

The lead official shall be positioned near the goal post on the lead official's side of the field and is responsible for declaring the ball "ready-for-play" after it has been placed by the kicker. The main responsibilities of the lead official are to act as goal judge and to see that the goalkeeper has at least one foot on or in line with the goal line and does not come off the line with both feet until the ball is in play. The trail official shall be positioned near the top corner of the penalty area opposite the lead official. See Diagram 7. The trail official's re-

sponsibility is primarily to watch for infringements of the penalty area and quarter arc by members of either team and infractions by the kicker. As soon as a penalty kick is indicated, the official closer to the ball shall pick up the ball and take it to the penalty mark. Both officials will assist the players in assuming positions for the kick.

The lead official will hand the ball to the kicker and instruct the player to place the ball and then walk to the goalkeeper making sure the goalkeeper is ready and understands that the ball will be released by the whistle.

Handling Substitutions:

The official responsible on the side of the field where substitutes will be entering will beckon the players onto the field. The official responsible for the re-start will sound the whistle.

Responsibility for Declaring the Ball "Ready-for-Play" when a RESTART Whistle is Required:

Situation Official Start of each half Trail Kickoff after goal Trail Drop Ball Trail Goal Kick Trail Corner Kick I ead Penalty Kick I ead Free Kick I ead

Throw-in Official responsible for ruling on the legality of the throw.

Postgame Duties:

- 1. After verifying the score, leave the field together immediately.
- Do not seek out coaches, players or anyone else nor allow anyone in the dressing room.
- 3. Do not make statements to the media or anyone else.
- 4. File necessary game reports immediately.

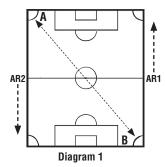
DIAGONAL-OFFICIATING SYSTEM

The diagonal system utilizes one referee and two qualified assistant referees. Referee's duties prior to and during the game are as written for the head referee in the dual-officiating system within this rules book.

It is important that the three officials meet before each game. The head referee must indicate clearly how each assistant referee may best help. The referee is required to meet with timer, scorer, coaches, ball holders and team captains to remind everyone of their responsibilities and answer questions. The referee will speak with both team captains and coaches prior to the game about good sportsmanship.

The assistant referees are assistants to the referee. Each assistant's duties (subject to the decision of the referee) shall be to indicate when players are to be penalized for being offside, the ball is out-of-play and which team is entitled to the throw-in, corner kick or goal kick. The assistant referees shall also assist the referee in controlling the game in accordance with the rules. The assistant referees shall be equipped with flags and should normally remain outside the field of play.

NOTE: A fourth official may be assigned to a game in order to assist the referee and two assistant referees and to ensure continuity in case one of the officials is not able to continue. Recommended duties of the fourth official can be found on page 108. When a fourth official is assigned, the tournament authority will clearly state the officiating position to be assumed by the fourth official in the event a referee or assistant referee is unable to officiate. The fourth official is under the jurisdiction of the referee and performs those duties assigned by the referee. The fourth official's normal station is at the table inside the officials' area during play.



The referee is to use the imaginary diagonal line as drawn on the field in Diagram 1 as a base for positioning.

The assistant referees should keep in line with the second to last defender on that half of the field or the ball, whichever is most forward. Assistant referees have the responsibility for the touchline on the side the assistant is positioned and the goal line the assistant is moving toward. The positions in Diagram 1 may be just the opposite if preferred by the referee.

Start of Game:

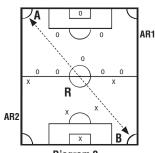
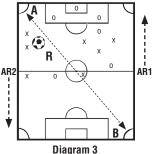


Diagram 2Position of referee at kickoff – R

Position of referee at Rickon – R
Position of assistant referees (AR1) and (AR2)
Players – • (defense) X (offense)
Diagonal followed by referee A – B
The referee moves to diagonal along line
according to play.

Development of Play:



Ball - •

Ball moves out to left touchline;

Referee (R) moves slightly off diagonal to be near play;

Assistant referee (AR1) moves even with the second to last defender;

Assistant referee (AR2) moves in position for clearance of the ball and possible counter-attack (even with second to last defender).

Corner Kick:



The referee (R) moves along the line shown; assistant referee (AR1) position will vary depending on whether the kick is taken from the assistant referee or referee corner. On a kick taken from the referee corner, the assistant referee will take a position in line with the goal line and behind the flag to observe if the kick goes over the goal line. On kicks taken from the assistant referee side, the assistant referee will take a position in line with the goal line and several yards behind the flag to make sure the ball is properly played and that opposing players are 10 yards from the ball. Once the kick is tak-

en, move to stay in line with the next to last defender. AR2 will stay in line with the next to last defender and be ready for ball clearance and possible counter attack.

The Counterattack: (Following a corner kick)



The referee (R) moves to regain correct position along the diagonal path

If the corner kick was taken on the Assistant referee (AR1) end, the referee (R) moves to regain the correct position along the diagonal path. Assistant referee (AR1) regains position with the next to last defender. Assistant Referee (AR2) maintains position with the next to last defender and watches for infringements and to indicate decisions until the referee regains the proper position.

Goal Kick:



The referee (R) is in midfield adjacent to the central point of field.

Assistant referee (AR2) exercises watch over the goal kick, positioned in line with the penalty area after checking the placement of the ball. The assistant referee (AR2) shall see that the ball leaves the penalty area before it is played a second time. Assistant referee (AR1) moves in a position in line with the second to last defender pending a possible attack by the team taking the goal kick.



Free Kick at the Halfway Line:

Players line up for the kick, O (defense) and X (offense).

The referee (R) and assistant referee (AR1) move in respective diagonal positions, even with players and able to judge accurately any offside or foul play.

Assistant referee (AR2) sees that the kick is taken from the correct position and is also in position for a possible counterattack.



Free Kick Near Goal:

Players line up, X (offense) and O (defense) for the free kick. The referee (R) takes position just off the diagonal being placed accurately to judge offside.

Assistant referee (AR1) is more advanced but can still watch for offside and fouls and is also in a position to see if the whole ball crosses the goal line in the event of a direct shot. At the discretion of the referee, the positions of the referee (R) and the assistant referee (AR) may be reversed.



Players line up. X (offense) and 0 (defense) except for the goalkeeper and the kicker as shown outside the penalty area, behind the penalty mark, and at least 10 yards from the ball - the goalkeeper is on the goal line. The referee (R) is in a position to see that the kick is properly taken, encroachment doesn't take place and the goalkeeper doesn't come off the line by stepping or lunging forward before the kick. Assistant referee (AR1) moves in position so as to be able to note if the goalkeeper comes off the line by stepping or lunging forward before the kick, and the whole ball crosses the goal line. Assistant referee (AR2) is in a position should the goalkeeper save a goal and start a counterattack.



The referee (R) crosses from the diagonal to the center of the field, or further, in order to be closer to play. Assistant referee (AR1) takes a position in line with the second to last defender. Assistant referee (AR2) takes a position in line with the second to last defender for possible counterattack.

DOUBLE-DUAL SYSTEM (DDS)

(A Three-Referee, Three-Whistle System)*

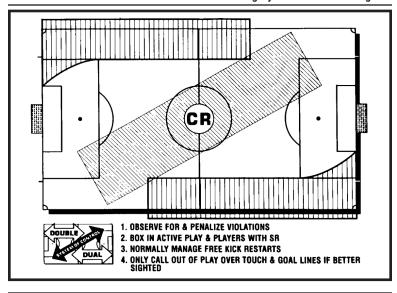
- 1. Three qualified referees work together as a team to manage the game.
- 2. All three function on the field:
 - a. Can move on and off the field, as needed
 - b. Stay close to play and players
- 3. Equally share in control:
 - a. A decision by any one is valid
 - b. All record misconduct to assure completeness
- 4. Concentrate attention in specific areas:
 - a. Where patterns make observation most effective
 - b. All responsible for any violations

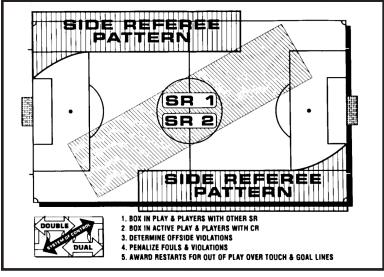
A fourth official may be assigned to a game in order to assist the referee and two side referees and to ensure continuity in case one of the officials is not able to continue. Recommended duties of the fourth official can be found on page 108. When a fourth official is assigned, the tournament authority will clearly state the officiating position to be assumed by the fourth official in the event that one of the three referees is unable to officiate. The fourth official is under the jurisdiction of the center referee and performs those duties assigned by the center referee. The fourth official's normal station is at the table inside the official's area during play.

REFEREE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING RESTART AND SECOND WHISTLE WHEN REQUIRED

	Restart The Start of Play Free Kicks	1. 2.	Referee Center Referee Center Referee, except if deep within defensive end, then Side Referee
3.	Offside	3.	Center Referee
	Substitution	4.	As Per Stoppage
5.	Corner Kick	5.	Side Referee (<i>Near Corner</i>) Center Referee (<i>Far Corner</i>)
6.	Goal Kick	6.	Center Referee
7.	Penalty Kick	7.	Center Referee
8.	Throw In	8.	Side Referee
9.	Drop Ball	9.	Center Referee

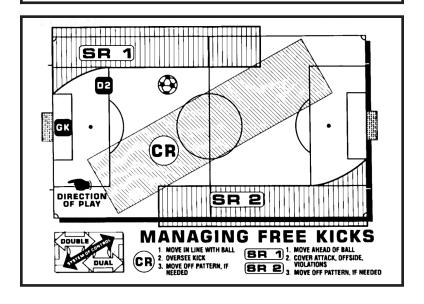
^{*} In 1973, Harris and Harris, in the book "Fair or Foul" indicates that Joe Bonchonsky of Torrance, California devised the "three whistle" system of officiating to minimize misconducts in a tournament. Walter F. Ersing, Ph.D. coined the term in the Fall 1996 issue of the NFHS Officials' Quarterly. Diagrams and information about Double-Dual System is being reprinted with the permission of National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association (NISOA).





SET POSITIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1. MANAGING FREE KICKS
- 2. OFFSIDE
- 3. THE SCORING OF A GOAL
- 4. SUBSTITUTION
- 5. THE CORNER KICK
- 6. THE GOAL KICK
- 7. THE PENALTY KICK
- 8. THE THROW-IN



FREE KICKS NEAR GOAL

1. DISCUSS & AGREE AREAS AT PREGAME BRIEFING

SR 2

- MOVE QUICKLY TO GOAL LINE POSITION
 OBSERVE FOR GOAL, BALL OVER LINE, VIOLATIONS
 - CR
- 4. OBSERVE FOR OFFSIDE, VIOLATIONS
 - **BR** 1
- 5. OBSERVE FOR VIOLATIONS & WATCH FOR QUICK COUNTER ATTACK
 - ALL
- 6. RECOVER POSITION QUICKLY IF PLAY MOVES BACK UP FIELD





OFFSIDE

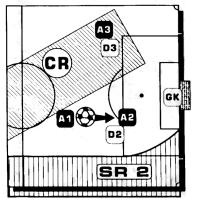
SR

- 1. STOP MOVING EMPHASISE PROPER POSITION
- 2. WHISTLE FOR VIOLATION, SIGNAL
- 3. INDICATE POSITION FOR RESTART
- 4. MOVE QUICKLY TO POSITION FOR RESTART



5. MANAGE THE RESTART, AS NEEDED





SCORING OF A GOAL

(BR 1)

- 1. EYE CONTACT WITH CR TO QUICKLY CONFIRM GOAL
- 2. SIGNAL FOR CLOCK TO STOP
- 3. INDICATE FOR GOAL BY MOVING TO KICKOFF POSITION

(CR)

- 4. CONFIRM GOAL BY MOVING TO KICKOFF POSITION
- 5. RECORD GOAL SCORER AND ASSIST

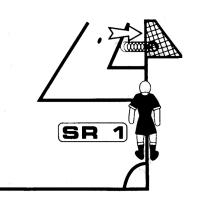


6. RECORD GOAL

NEAREST REFEREE

7. NOTIFY SCORKEEPER





SUBSTITUTION

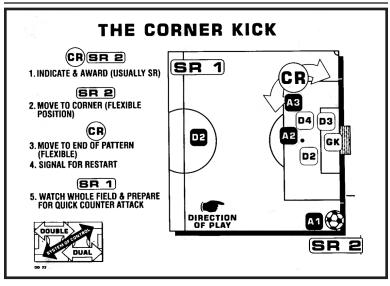
OFFICIAL TIMER SIGNALS FOR SUBSTITUTION OR

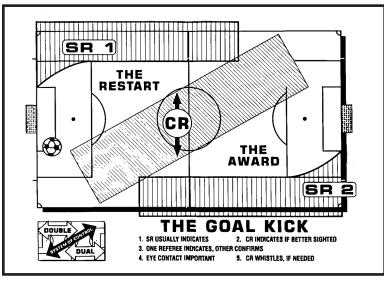
CR, SR1, SR2

- 1. DISCUSS AT PREGAME BRIEFING
- 2. NOTIFY COACHES HOW TO REQUEST SUBSTITUTION

SR NEAREST BENCH

- 3. SIGNAL FOR STOPPAGE
- 4. SIGNAL FOR RESTART WHEN COMPLETED





THE PENALTY KICK

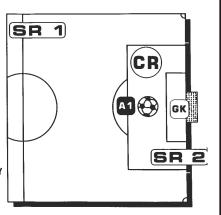
THE AWARD

- 1. REFEREE WHO OBSERVES WHISTLES
- 2. SIGNALS TO STOP THE CLOCK
- 3. QUICKLY TO POSITION

THE RESTART

- 4. CR WHISTLES
- 5. CR OBSERVES KICKER, ENCROACHMENT, GOALKEEPER MOVEMENT
- 6. SR 2 OBSERVES FOR GOAL, GOALKEEPER MOVEMENT, ENCROACHMENT
- 7. SR 1 OBSERVES WHOLE FIELD & PREPARES FOR QUICK COUNTER ATTACK IN THE EVENT OF A SAVE BY THE GOALKEEPER





THROW - IN

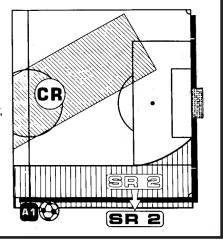
THE AWARD

1. SR NORMALLY INDICATES

THE RESTART

- 2. CR & SR IN NORMAL PATTERNS
- 3. IF PROBLEM, NEAREST REFEREE ATTENDS
- 4. CR OBSERVES FOR CORRECT SPOT, HAND FAULTS
- 5. SR OBSERVES FOR FOOT FAULTS, BALL ENTERING PLAY
- 6. SR WHISTLES, IF NEEDED





SAMPLE FOURTH OFFICIAL DUTIES

Individual state high school associations may adopt this or other fourth official duties. Unless otherwise stated, the rules of the game apply.

Duties and Responsibilities:

General

- Is under the jurisdiction of the referee and performs any duties which the referee requests which do not detract from the responsibility of the referee.
- 2. Serves as a point of contact between the referee, team and game or tournament personnel other than players, substitutes, and team officials.
- Resolves matters in the team and official areas and only requests the referee's assistance for final resolution of any situation.
- 4. Employs less intrusive actions when a problem situation may be resolved without creating greater tension, conflict and confusion.
- Involves coach and/or team officials in identifying and preventing unacceptable behavior within the team areas and solicits assistance when necessary to correct problem situations.

Pregame

- 1. Participates in the pregame conference with the other officials.
- 2. Obtains game balls and assists the referee in checking the balls.
- 3. Assists referee in the pregame conference with scorer, timer and ball holders.
- 4. Prepared to serve as assistant or side referee as needed and in accordance with the Rules of the Game.
- 5. Performs final check of team and official areas, equipment and supplies and the presence of authorized individuals on the team roster.
- 6. Responds to eye contact with the referee to indicate that the official area, team area, substitutes and team officials are in order.
- 7. Stands in front of the scorer's table if used or several yards behind the mid-line.

During the game

- 1. Remains at the designated location unless performing a specific duty.
- 2. Remains standing throughout the match unless directed otherwise by the referee during the pregame conference.
- Maintains record of substitutions, goals scored, cards displayed for misconduct, injuries and incidents outside the vision of the referee and assistant referees.
- 4. Substitutions
 - a. Confirms substitute is listed on the official roster.
 - Checks to make certain that each substitute is legally and properly equipped.
 - c. Stands at halfway line with substitute slightly behind and on team area side. If both teams are substituting, keeps the substitutes on each respective team area sides.

- d. Keeps substitute from entering field until beckoned by the referee or after a goal, between periods, or when a player is injured and removed from the field.
- e. Records time and number of player entering and leaving the field of play.
- 5. Notifies the referee or assistant referee if a player or substitute:
 - a. Has been cautioned or disqualified based on an incorrect identification.
 - b. Was not disqualified after receiving a second caution.
 - Committed violent conduct out of view for the referee and assistant referees.
- Keeps both team areas under observation.
- Observes when a coach or other team official leaves the team area to give tactical instructions. Politely informs the coach to return to the team area.
- 8. Brings to attention of the coach of any instances of improper behavior by team officials in the team area or substitutes.
- Monitors and prevents the throwing of water containers onto the field or to players.
- Observes the behavior of ball handlers and ensures that each follows pregame instructions.
- Monitors substitutes warming up to make sure that the substitutes do not interfere with official activities.

12. Timing

- Assists the referee in keeping time of half time break.
- Informs the referee of any irregularities in the starting and stopping of the timing device.

13. Injuries

- a. Prevents team officials and others in team area from entering the field until beckoned by the referee.
- Monitors general behavior of persons in team areas to assist with match control.
- c. Is aware of referee instructing a player to leave the field due to bleeding or blood on the uniform. Does not permit player to return to the field until the referee's instructions have been completed and the blood on uniform corrected. Follows pregame conference to notify the referee that the problem has been corrected and the player is ready to return, with the consent of the referee, at the next stoppage of play.

14. Goal scored

- a. Records the time and any circumstances of all goals
- b. Checks both bench areas to ensure that non-players are not entering the field to participate in celebration.

15. Fouls

- a. Monitors team officials and substitutes on the bench in critical situations where the bench personnel may attempt to enter the field.
- b. Observes for misconduct and makes eye contact with the referee and, when misconduct is observed and the referee seeks advice, assists in indicating either a yellow card by placing a hand over the badge or a red card by placing a hand on a back pocket of the shorts.

16. Penalty kick

- a. Records pertinent details of the event related to the penalty kick.
- b. Monitors team officials and substitutes on the bench in critical situations.

17. Misconduct

- a. Records pertinent information for any card displayed or for a team official.
- If a player is disqualified, ensures that the player conforms to the requirements of the Misconduct Penalty Chart. Utilizes home management to control a disqualified player if needed.
- c. Records information for cards issued for misconduct or for actions by the referee regarding irresponsible behavior by team officials.
- d. Records information on violent conduct not seen by the referee or assistant referees and brings this to the attention of the referee.