



To all officials working CYS games:

With the change to Colorado Youth Soccer rules which allow substitutions at any stoppage of the game, the Referee and Assistant Referees will have to be vigilant in making eye contact at each stoppage to ensure that a legal substitution is not missed. Referees do not have the power to deny a substitution if the procedure has been correctly followed.

The proper procedure is:

- notification from the substituting team prior to the stoppage,
- the sub is at the halfway line,
- with the proper equipment (shin guards, shirt tucked in, no jewelry) when the stoppage occurs.

If these conditions have been met, then the referee must allow the substitution. There is no discretionary power granted to the referee to deny a substitution as long as the proper procedure has been followed. If the proper procedure is not followed, you may deny the substitution until the conditions for a legal substitution have been met.

Examples would be:

- If the notification comes after the stoppage, or the substitute is not at the halfway line, the substitution can take place at the next stoppage. If there is a problem with their equipment then that problem will have to be remedied prior to the next stoppage before a substitution can be allowed.
- If there is a substitution for an injured player, then prior notification is not necessary to replace the injured player. Additional substitutes should only be allowed if they had been ready to go prior to the stoppage.
- If you feel that the substitution is being used as a time wasting measure, you have the power to add time to the half to allow for the time lost.

Remember, adding time for a substitution is required only if the substitution takes more time than normal. Most games will not have time added for substitutions, even with the new policy. Time should be added for time wasting if the substitution process is being utilized to legally run time off the clock, just as if the leading team was kicking the ball far out of bounds at the end of the match.

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