

The Duties of the Fourth Official

The fourth official shall assist the referee with any administrative duties before, during, and after the match, as required by the referee.

Duties prior to the game

- Arrive with the officiating team
- Participate in field inspection
- Be prepared to officiate
- Wear appropriate track suit or uniform
- Obtain and inspect game balls

Duties prior to the game

- Contact competition field marshal assigned to your field
- Assist in checking lineups and player passes
- Assist in checking of player equipment
- Accompany other officials to center circle for National Anthem and coin toss

Duties during the game

- Observe and record appropriate information on the log sheet
- Assist in control of the benches
- Assist with substitution procedures
- Informs the referee of irresponsible behavior by any occupant of technical area

Substitution Procedure

- Inspect substitute's equipment
- Inspect substitute's pass and substitution ticket and verify information
- Inform near AR of substitution request
- Stand behind halfway line flag with substitute until referee signals for substitution
- Assistant Referee signals for substitution
- Referee acknowledges
- Prevents substitute from entering the field until player being substituted has left field
- Collects player pass
- Allows substitute to enter after referee signals
- Records information in game log

When a goal is scored

- Controls the bench area
- Allows no one to enter the field
- Records time, team, and player

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If an injury occurs or if the player off for attention...

- Control the bench areas
- Go to the person(s) most likely to enter the field
- Prevent entry until the referee signals; allow only authorized persons on to field if the player is replaced . . .

Player required to leave field to adjust equipment

- Have adjustment made
- Check to see it is correct
- Bring player to the halfway line
- Keep player off until referee grants permission

When a serious foul, caution, or sending-off occurs

- Go to the appropriate bench area
- Maintain calm and control
- Meet sent-off player and escort to the bench area
- Record time, team, player number, reason for action, location

Duties after the game

- Look for security
- Continue to observe
- Record any misconduct or incident

Near the end of the game

- When the referee leaves the field, gather all equipment and follow him
- Submits a report on any misconduct out of the view of the referee and ARs
- Must advise referee and ARs of any report being made

Kicks from the Penalty Mark

- Assist in keeping players of record on the field
- Keep substitutes off the field
- Control the bench during the taking of the kicks
- Record the results

Summary of Major Responsibilities

- Bench control
- Control of substitutions
- Record keeping
- Source of neutral information