



ADVICE TO THE REFEREES

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Excessive struggle between pivot and defender.

Both, pivot and defender use illegal methods to assume better position and be ready to catch the ball. Holding and pushing is normal. Sometimes both players are on the floor and in some cases other are involved as well.





It is mainly the goal referee's task to see who <u>starts</u> the illegal action. It is essential to take action <u>early</u>! If the referee waits until the ball arrives, it is too late to decide, and the game has become too rough. If the court referee is able to judge the situation from his position, he should interrupt an take action.





Collisions / fouls when shooting from the wing.

Sometimes attackers and defenders collide and it is difficult to see who initiated the body contact. In some cases an attacker tries to get an advantage or draw a 7-meter but also defenders uses "dirty tricks" to prevent the attacker from scoring.





It is necessary to watch the players' movements before the collision; is the attacker going around or running into the defender? Is the defender using arms or a 'tackle' to stop the attacker? It is also important not to assume that the attacker is always innocent. The court referee should help on his side.





Defend systematically inside goal area.

This is the case when several players continuously defend inside the goal area. If the referees takes no action, they will just continue and create many unfair and difficult situations.





The goal referee must watch this tendency already early in the game. It is not possible to wait for a situation where the illegal positions become important. A verbal caution should be given as soon as these

tactics are discovered. Progressive punishment is appropriate if they continue!





7-m throw awarded incorrectly when the defender is NOT inside the area.

Frequently the attacker "gambles" that the defender will move and/or the referees will make a mistake, so he runs straight into the defender standing in a correct position.





The goal referee must expect this situation and watch where the feet of the defenders have been right before the collision! Furthermore, standing on the line or just inside the line is not reason for a 7-meter. The rule says that a 7-meter throw is the consequence for destroying a clear scoring chance. This means being clearly inside or running inside the goal area to gain time/space





Progressive punishment being given incorrectly when there is a 7-meter for a foul.

It is the case too often that a punishment is given even though the defender is correct and going for the ball.





The 7-meter decision is normally OK. It is very important to give the defender the right message and not to just add a punishment when it is not justified. Watch the action of the defender more carefully and observe his intentions. Normally it is quite clear if the defender just goes for the arm/body or not. The decision should be made by the goal referee who decided 7-meter!





Early in the game a yellow card is sometimes given when a "direct" 2 min. is justified.

It seems that there is an instinct to wait with "2 min" until all the 2x3 cards are given out. But it is important to show that some fouls are more serious than others.





Even if we appreciate the systematic 'build-up' of the punishments, <u>be mentally ready to identify</u>, even early in the game, the fouls that are more serious and deserve 2 min. (or perhaps even Red card); then continue the 'build-up' in the normal way.





There is often not enough action against defenders who try to provoke offensive fouls through "Hollywood" action.

This happens very often even if there is no body contact and the defender moves backward himself. It gives a wrong signal or impression that the referees do not see or tolerate this action.





The key for correct decisions is to anticipate such actions and quickly get to the best position/angle. However, it is <u>not enough</u> just to see what happens and then avoid falling for the 'trick', it is also important to communicate through body language and/or verbal warning that you have recognized it. If this behaviour is repeated, then it must be punished as unsportsmanlike conduct.





Many times fouls during counterattacks are not detected.

The **two** referees do not manage to control the whole court or are away from the ball, and the players take an advantage of this situation. Fouls against running or jumping players can be very dangerous.





Quick reactions and correct running is needed from both referees when there is a counterattack which often starts suddenly and far out in the defense. There must be cooperation between the referees. Fouls against the player with the ball have to be watched from the right angle in order to be seen correctly. Do not forget to punish even if you first gave an advantage!





Fast throw-offs are sometimes allowed to be taken without enough discipline.

The thrower is out of position, not standing still, or teammates are starting too early. Of course, opponents may also try to interfere.





The goal referee must be always focused on the coming throw-off and assume a proper position not far behind the center line and more close to one side line.

It is also important to be ready to whistle as soon as the players are in correct positions. Make sure to look first! For the teammates, worry about 'meters', not about 'centimeters'...





The early and tactically correct timing of the 'forewarning' for passive play is typically good, But the <u>timing of the whistle</u> is often not right!

Sometimes it comes too quickly after the warning and sometimes it comes in a dangerous moment.





Most teams will try to shoot very soon after the forewarning signal, so you do not need to get 'panic', give them a fair chance to do something. When you decide to whistle, make sure they are not in position to shoot or pass the ball to a free position. On the other hand, watch out for 'provoked' free-

throws.