

REVISED 2011 Substitution Procedure

The following Substitution Procedure is now **REQUIRED**, for all Region 9 teams. Done properly, it should take 30-60 seconds. The referee's watch, (official game time) continues to run during substitutions. To maximize playing time, we suggest Coaches keep any player position changes to a minimum when substituting (make instructions clear). Once the substitutions have been made (substitutes have entered the field of play) the Referee may restart play per the Laws of the Game (LOTG).

Approximately half way through the first half and @half way through second half the following substitution procedures will be enforced by referees:

- On appropriate stoppage in play, Referee blows whistle and indicates substitutions may be made;
- Coaches must have substitutes ready inside the Technical Area (TA) at the half-way line. Assistant Referee (AR) notes numbers of substitutes (players entering field of play);
- From the Technical Area, Coaches call out the numbers/names of players to be substituted (players coming off) & confirms these numbers with AR;
- Substituted players should quickly exit the field into the Technical Area at the half-way line, handshake with substitutes, who enter the field of play at the half-way line when the player they are substituting has exited the field of play. As each substituted player enters Technical Area, AR confirms & documents player numbers on game card;
- Once Referee confirms that substitutions have been made (substitutes have entered the field of play), play is restarted indicated by a whistle. Teams must be ready to restart play on the Referee's whistle.

NOTE: Coaches wishing to rotate player positions may QUICKLY do so from inside the Technical Area, ideally from an end of the TA away from the half-way line so as not to disrupt or slow down the substituted players exiting and the substitutes entering the field of play.

NOTE: Players may come to the touchline for water anytime during the match including during substitutions being made, but players may not leave the field of play without the referee's permission or congregate at the half-way line. No parents or team officials are permitted to enter the field of play, especially during substitutions. The TA is for Coaches and Assistant Coaches (and substitutes preparing to enter the field of play) only.