

FIFA Questions ???? & Answers

Law 5 - The Referee

1. If a referee is struck in the face by the ball which then enters the goal while he is temporarily incapacitated, should a goal be allowed although he has not seen it scored?

Yes. If in the opinion of a neutral assistant referee nearer to the incident the goal was properly scored.

2. An assistant referee signals that the ball has passed over the touch line, but before the referee has declared the ball out of play, a defending player inside the penalty-area strikes an attacking player. What action should the referee take?

The defending player is sent off for violent conduct and shown the red card. The referee shall restart the game with a throw-in because the ball was out of play when the offence occurred.

3. What action should a referee take against a player who lights a cigarette or uses a mobile phone during the game?

Caution him for unsporting behaviour.

4. Can a captain send off one of his own teammates for serious misconduct?

No. Only the referee can send off a player from the field of play.

5. What should a referee do if two captains agree to forego the half-time interval and one of the players insists on his right to 5 minutes rest?

Players have a right to 5 minutes interval and the referee must grant it.

6. Is the referee empowered to order team officials away from the boundary lines of the field of play?

Yes. The referee has the right to take such measures even if the match is being played on public ground.

7. How should a referee react if, during the course of a match, he realises that one of the teams is deliberately trying to lose? Should he draw the attention of the team in question to the fact that if they continue to play in that way, he will terminate the game in accordance with the provisions of Law 5?

The referee has no right to stop the game in this case.

8. During a free-kick the referee gives a signal to continue even though an opponent is only 4.5m away from the ball and the opponent intercepts it. What should the referee's decision be?

Play is allowed to continue.

9. Is the referee authorised to stop play, if in his opinion, the floodlights are inadequate?

Yes.

10. Does a team captain have the right to question a decision of the referee?

No. Neither the captain nor any other player has the right to show disagreement with a decision taken by the referee.

11. Some matches are played under floodlights. If the floodlights fail, does the match have to be replayed in its entirety or only for the remaining time of play, if the lighting cannot be repaired?

If, for any reasons mentioned under Law 5, the referee terminates a match before normal time, it must be replayed in its entirety unless the rules of the competition provide for the score to be valid at the time the match was abandoned.

12. During a match the referee or one of the assistant referees or a player is hit by an object thrown by a spectator. Play is stopped for this person to receive medical attention. May the referee continue the match?

If it is an isolated incident, the referee may continue the match but should submit a report to the responsible authorities.

13. During a match a player is hit by an object(s) thrown by spectators. The player(s) receives medical treatment. What action does the referee take?

Depending on the severity of the incident, the referee may allow the match to continue, suspend play or abandon the match. He must report the incident(s) to the appropriate authorities.

14. The referee applies advantage but the anticipated advantage does not develop. May he penalise the original offence?

Yes, but only if the anticipated advantage does not occur immediately (as a guideline within 3 seconds).

15. A coach is guilty of irresponsible behaviour. What action does the referee take?

He sends the coach from the technical area and its vicinity behind the

boundary fences (where such a fence exists). The referee reports his conduct to the appropriate authorities.

