

## **Federation Clarification on Substitution**

### **10/5/04**

I sought the guidance and comments of the Federation office regarding case play 3.4.1 situation A.

“Player substitute A12 reports to the scorer as the kickoff takes place. Eight minutes elapse before the first opportunity for a substitution occurs. The referee beckons A12 on the field, however, A12 is withdrawn by the coach of team A. Ruling: Player A12 must enter the game once beckoned.”

The reason I sought their advice was that this seems to be happening during the corner kick situation.

#### **Here is what should be followed according to the Federation office:**

Once a substitute is beckoned in, he/she must enter the match. If withdrawn after being beckoned, the coach should be reminded that the substitute must enter.

If the coach continues to refuse his/her entry, the coach should be cautioned for delay. After the caution, the substitute must enter the match.

If the coach further refuses to enter the substitute (let's hope it never gets this far), the match could be terminated.

On the other hand, if the substitute is withdrawn prior to the official beckoning into the match, there is no obligation for that substitute to enter.

Now, what if a substitute from the other team (non-kicking, or non-throwing) is also ready for substitution?

If the throwing or kicking team withdraws their substitute prior to the official's beckoning them in, the other team may not substitute.

If the throwing or kicking team's substitute was beckoned (even if they try to withdraw), the other team should be allowed their substitution.

Obviously, there will be gray areas where the withdrawal came just prior to the beckoning.

Good judgement and not creating a problem where one does not exist is always a smart choice in my opinion.

However, once a substitute has clearly been beckoned in the match, he/she should not be allowed to be withdrawn.

\*\* To avoid any confusion on wording in the above, the official should beckon the substitute in (if waiting at the table or midfield) at the next substitution opportunity.