



The Fourth Official A Short Summary of Duties

THE LAW

- Officiates if any of the three main match officials is unable to continue (in accordance with the priority set by the competition authority)
- Assists with administrative duties before, during, and after the match as required by the referee
- Manages the substitution process
- Supervises the availability of replacement game balls
- Checks the equipment of substitutes before they enter the field and informs the referee if there is any problem
- Indicates to the referee if the wrong player is cautioned, if a player who has been cautioned a second time was not sent off, if violent conduct occurs out of the sight of the referee or assistant referee, or if any occupant of the technical area behaves irresponsibly
- Submits a separate report regarding any misconduct or other incident committed out of the sight of the referee or assistant referee (and so advises the referee and assistant referees)

RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES

- If delegated by the referee, inspects any player ordered off to correct illegal equipment, bleeding, or blood on the uniform and does not signal the referee for the player to return unless the problem is corrected
 - Does not allow the player to return to the field of play until there is a stoppage in play and the referee signals for the player to return
- Serves as the main channel of communication between the referee and the team officials, stadium security staff, representatives of the competition authority, and telecommunications personnel with the objective of resolving as many issues as possible under the general instructions of the referee
- Manages the actions of team officials within the technical area to ensure that only one team official at a time is giving tactical instructions and is not leaving the technical area except with the permission of the referee
- Ensures that each technical area is well maintained. All equipment and non-game balls are put away and will not interfere with the management of the game. Ensures that all personnel, within the technical areas, are dressed in a manner that distinguishes them from the players on the field
- Becomes actively involved in preventing interference from anyone in the technical area at times of high tension (goals, injuries, mass confrontations, serious fouls, penalty kicks, etc.)
- Uses ASK-TELL-REMOVE
 - ASK the team official to stop behaving irresponsibly
 - TELL the team official that continuing to behave irresponsibly can lead to dismissal from the field
 - REMOVE the team official by drawing the attention of the referee to the irresponsible behavior
 - BUT recognizes the need to move immediately to TELL or REMOVE if the behavior warrants
- Is consistently polite, helpful, and professional