



Law V – The Referee

The Authority of the Referee

Each game is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the game to which he has been appointed, from the moment he enters the locality where the playing court is situated until he leaves.

Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- Enforces the Laws of the Game
- Allows play to continue when the team against which an offence has been committed will benefit from such an advantage and penalizes the original offense if the anticipated advantage does not ensue at the time
- Keeps a record of the game and provides the appropriate authorities with a game report which includes information on any disciplinary action taken against players, and/or team officials and any other incidents which occur before, during or after the game
- Acts as timekeeper in the event that this official is not present
- Stops, suspends or terminates the game for an infringement of the Laws or due to any kind of outside interference
- Takes disciplinary action against players guilty of cautionable or unsporting behavior and sending-off offences
- Ensures that no unauthorized persons enter the playing court
- Stops the game if, in his opinion, a player is seriously injured and ensures that he is removed from the playing court
- Allows play to continue until the ball is out of play if a player is, in his opinion, only slightly injured
- Ensures that any ball used meets the requirements of Law II

The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play are final.

Decisions

Decision 1:

- If the referee and the second referee both signal a foul simultaneously and there is a disagreement as to which team is to be penalized, the referee's decision prevails

Decision 2:

- Both referee and the second referee have the right to caution or send off a player, but in the case of a disagreement between them, the referee's decision prevails.