



Law VIII – The Duration of the Game

Periods of Play

The game lasts two equal periods of 20 minutes. The time-keeping is undertaken by a timekeeper whose duties are defined in Law VII. The duration of either half may be prolonged to enable a penalty kick to be taken.

Time Out

The teams are entitled to request a time out of one minute in each half whereby the following principles apply:

- The team coaches are authorized to request the timekeeper for timeout of one minute
- A time out of one minute may be requested at any time but only permitted when the team is in possession of the ball
- The timekeeper indicates permission for a time out when the ball is out of play using a whistle or other acoustic signal distinct from the ones used by the referees
- When time out is granted the players must remain on the playing court. If they wish to receive instructions from a team official, this may only be done at the touch line at the level of the team bench. The official issuing the instructions may not enter the playing court.
- At team which does not request a time out in the first half of the game, is still only entitled to one time out in the second half

Half Time Interval

The half time interval must not exceed 15 minutes

Decisions

Decision 1:

- If a timekeeper is not available, the coach makes his request for a time out to the referee

Decision 2:

- If the rules of the competition stipulate that extra time is to be played at the end of normal time, there is not time out during extra time