

FINA REFEREES SCHOOL NOTES

- Ball Under – call only when the offending player gains an advantage.
- Contra Foul – call only when the offending player gains an advantage from committing the foul.
- Jumping to play at the ball constitutes intent; this is with regard to intentionally sending ball over side/end of the field of play.
- The referee should not ‘play ball boy’ as they may inadvertently create an advantage situation.
- Simultaneous exclusion should result in a new 30 seconds possession clock.
- If a Goalkeeper is excluded for brutality his team must play without a goalkeeper for the duration of the 4 minutes (he is deemed to be part of the game during this exclusion period). An outfield player must deputise for the goalkeeper but without his privileges & limitations.
- If in the last minute of the game or the last minute of the second period of extra time a coach chooses to retain possession instead of taking the penalty shot, the game should restart like a timeout; that is with all the attacking team to return to their half, then move forward with one player on (or behind) halfway to receive ball.
- Last minute simultaneous brutality, the attacking coach decides for both teams re. penalty/possession. So if the attacking coach decides to retain possession, defending team loses their penalty throw.
- Each team has only 1 coach, if the head coach is red carded they surrender the privileges they were entitled to. Assistant coach can pass instruction to the team & request timeout, nothing more.
- Internationally the teams must have someone other than substitute players present on the bench. Even if the previous officials with the team are suspended there must be a different person present for the next match.
- Extra time, 5 minute break, referees change, teams stay. After 1st extra time period 2 minute break teams change ends and referees stay.
- Both referees shall officiate every penalty during penalty shoot out. Provided the pool allows an equal situation the teams remain where they finished, goalkeepers go to opposition ends to receive penalty shots (as teams won’t want to put off their own shooters).
- If Goalkeeper misbehaves during a penalty shootout, it’s a game exclusion! 1 of the nominated shooters will substitute for that penalty without the privileges & limitations. After that penalty coach may replace the goalkeeper with any available player.

- A goalkeeper (Red 1) cannot take a penalty during a penalty shootout. If substitute goalkeeper (red13) wishes to take penalty must wear 13 in team colour.
- If player goes to retrieve the ball brings it back to the correct line (distance from goal) but then moves laterally across the pool to improve angle do not allow to shoot/score.
- If the attacker attempts to draw an exclusion at free throw by closing distance to defender before shooting then that is a contra-foul.
- A coach/official who is suspended from a game is not entitled to be involved on poolside i.e. in warm up etc prior to the game(s) from which he has been suspended taking place.
- If you have to rewind clock because of a match officials error, everything that happened since the error was made is expunged except for any misconducts or brutalities. The players excluded for misconduct or brutality will remain excluded but the sanctions imposed on the team shall be removed.
- If a player in the water (who is not involved in the game situation) is bleeding whilst a clear advantage situation progresses the player should be encouraged to leave the water without interfering in the game. Immediately the advantage situation is concluded and the player still hasn't left the water the game should be stopped to allow substitution.
- Exclusion sequence should be; whistle, point to player, exclude, signal number to player and then table, then signal reason if necessary.
- It is not always necessary for the referee to move immediately when play changes direction.
- When the score is close & defending team is pressing hard, the referee should be conscious that the advantage rule should not be applied to the extent that it actually operates to the disadvantage of the attacking team, particularly by ignoring exclusion fouls.
- If an excluded player doesn't look at the referee, and doesn't leave/make an effort to leave, give a penalty.