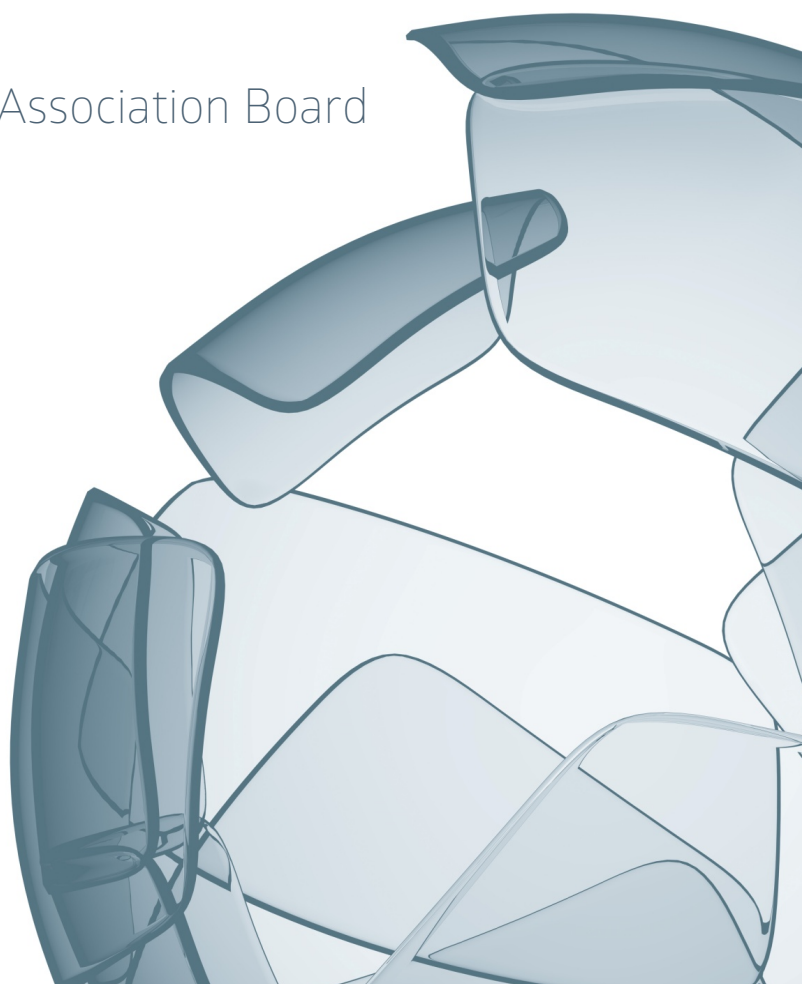


Laws of the Game 2017/18

Guidelines for Temporary dismissals (sin bins)

The International Football Association Board

Updated April 2017



Guidelines for Temporary dismissals (sin bins)

The 131st AGM of The IFAB held in London on 3rd March 2017 approved the use of temporary dismissals (sin bins) for all or some cautions/yellow cards (YCs) in youth, veterans, disability and grassroots football, subject to the approval of the competition's national FA, confederation or FIFA, whichever is appropriate.

Reference to temporary dismissals is found in the **Laws of the Game 2017/18**:

Law 5 – The Referee (Powers and duties):

Disciplinary action

The referee:

- has the power to show yellow or red cards *and, where competition rules permit, temporarily dismiss a player*, from entering the field at the start of the match until after the match has ended, including during the half-time interval, extra time and kicks from the penalty mark

A temporary dismissal is when a player commits a cautionable (YC) offence and is punished by an immediate 'suspension' from participating in the next part of that match. The philosophy is that an 'instant punishment' can have a significant and immediate positive influence on the behaviour of the offending player and, potentially, the player's team.

The national FA, confederation or FIFA, should approve (for publication in the competition rules) a temporary dismissal protocol within the following guidelines:

Players only

- Temporary dismissals apply to all players (including goalkeepers) but not for cautionable offences (YCs) committed by a substitute or substituted player

Referee's signal

- The referee will indicate a temporary dismissal by showing a yellow card (YC) and then clearly pointing with both arms to the temporary dismissal area (usually the player's technical area)

The temporary dismissal period

- The length of the temporary dismissal is the same for all offences
- The length of the temporary dismissal should be between 10-15% of the total playing time (e.g. 10 minutes in a 90-minute match; 8 minutes in an 80-minute match)
- The temporary dismissal period begins when play restarts after the player has left the field of play

- The referee should include in the temporary dismissal period any time 'lost' for a stoppage for which 'additional time' will be allowed at the end of the half (e.g. substitution, injury etc...)
- Competitions must decide who will help the referee time the dismissal period – it could be the responsibility of a delegate, 4th official or neutral assistant referee; conversely it could be a team official
- Once the temporary dismissal period has been completed, the player can return from the touchline with the referee's permission, which can be given while the ball is in play
- The referee has the final decision as to when the player can return
- A temporarily dismissed player can not be substituted until the end of the temporary dismissal period (but not if the team has used all its permitted substitutes)
- If a temporary dismissal period has not been completed at the end of the first half (or the end of the second half when extra time is to be played) the remaining part of the temporary dismissal period is served from the start of the second half (start of extra time)
- A player who is still serving a temporary dismissal at the end of the match is permitted to take part in Kicks from the Penalty Mark (penalties)

Temporary dismissal area

- A temporarily dismissed player should remain within the technical area (where one exists) or with the team's coach/technical staff, unless 'warming up' (under the same conditions as a substitute)

Offences before/during/after a temporary dismissal

- A temporarily dismissed player who commits a cautionable (YC) or sending-off (RC) offence during their temporary dismissal period will take no further part in the match and may not be replaced or substituted

Further disciplinary action

- Competitions/national FAs will decide if temporary dismissals must be reported to the appropriate authorities and whether any further disciplinary action may be taken e.g. suspension for accumulating a number of temporary dismissals, as with cautions (YCs)

Temporary dismissal systems

A competition may use one of the following temporary dismissal systems:

- System A - for all cautions (YCs)
- System B - for some but not all cautions (YC)

System A – temporary dismissal for all cautions (YCs)

- All cautions (YCs) are punished with a temporary dismissal
- A player who commits a 2nd caution (YC) in the same match:
 - will receive a second temporary dismissal and then takes no further part in the match
 - may be replaced by a substitute at the end of the second temporary dismissal period if the player's team has not used its maximum number of substitutes (*this is because the team has already been 'punished' by playing without that player for 2 x temporary dismissal periods*)

System B – temporary dismissal for some but not all cautions (YCs)*

- A pre-defined list of cautionable (YC) offences will be punished by a temporary dismissal
- All other cautionable offences are punished with a caution (YC)
- A player who has been temporarily dismissed and then receives a caution (YC) continues playing
- A player who has received a caution (YC) and then receives a temporary dismissal can continue playing after the end of the temporary dismissal period
- A player who receives a second temporary dismissal in the same match will serve the temporary dismissal and then takes no further part in the match. The player may be replaced by a substitute at the end of the second temporary dismissal period if the player's team has not used its maximum number of substitutes
- A player who receives a second caution (YC) in the same match will be sent off and takes no further part in the match and may not be replaced/substituted

**Some competitions may find it valuable to use temporary dismissals only for cautions (YCs) for offence relating to 'inappropriate' behaviour, e.g.*

- *Simulation*
- *Deliberately delayed the opposing team's restart of the match*
- *Dissent or verbal comments or gestures*
- *Stopping a promising attack by holding, pulling, pushing or handball*
- *Kicker illegally feinting at a penalty kick*

Frequently asked questions about temporary dismissals

What offences do temporary dismissals apply to?

- Temporary dismissals are only for cautions (YCs)
- Competitions may use temporary dismissals for all YCs or just some (usually those relating to unfair behaviour) – *see System B (above)*

Who do temporary dismissals apply to?

- Temporary dismissals only apply to players (including goalkeepers) – they are not used for substitutes, substituted players or team officials

Are temporarily dismissals reported to the appropriate authority?

- The national FA will decide if temporary dismissals must be reported after the match and if any further action results e.g. suspension for a number of temporary dismissals (as with YCs)

How does the referee signal a temporary dismissal?

- The referee signals a temporary dismissal by showing the yellow card (YC) and then clearly pointing with both arms to the temporary dismissal area (usually the player's technical area)

How long does the temporary dismissal last?

- The temporary dismissal period:
 - is the same for all offences
 - should be between 10-15% of the total playing time (e.g. 10 minutes in a 90-minute match; 8 minutes in an 80-minute match)
 - begins when play restarts after the player has left the field of play
 - will include any time 'lost' for a stoppage for which 'additional time' will be allowed at the end of the half
- Competitions must decide who will help the referee time the dismissal period e.g. delegate, 4th official or neutral assistant referee; conversely it could be a team official.

What happens if the half ends and the temporary dismissal period has not been completed?

- If a player's temporary dismissal period is not over at the end of the first half, the remaining time is served from the start of the second half (this is the same at the end of the match if extra time is to be played)

- If a player's temporary dismissal period is not over at the end of the match, the player is permitted to take part in Kicks from the Penalty Mark (penalties)

Where does the temporarily dismissed player go?

- A temporarily dismissed player should stay in the team's technical area; if there is no technical area the player should stay with the team's coach/technical staff (unless warming up)

Can a temporarily dismissed player warm up?

- For reasons of injury prevention, a temporarily dismissed player is allowed to warm up as if he/she were a substitute

When can the temporarily dismissed player return?

- Once the temporary dismissal period has been completed, the player can return from the touchline with the referee's permission, which can be while the ball is in play

Can a temporarily dismissed player be substituted?

- A temporarily dismissed player can only be substituted at the end of their temporary dismissal period. However, he/she can not be substituted if the team has already used all its permitted substitutes

What happens if a temporarily dismissed player commits another offence during a temporary dismissal?

- A temporarily dismissed player who commits a caution (YC) or sending-off/red card (RC) offence during their temporary dismissal period is not allowed to play again in the match and may not be replaced or substituted