SITUATION 1: A referee inspecting the field prior to the game detects (a) a center circle spot 9 inches in diameter; (b) an “X” intersecting the halfway line; (c) no mark other than the halfway line. **RULING:** Legal in (a) and (b); illegal in (c). (1.2.4 Situation)

**NOTE:** Referee should notify home institution to correct the situation, but should not delay the start of play.

SITUATION 2: Player A is injured while on the field and play is stopped. Both teams substitute three players from the bench before play resumes. **RULING:** Illegal. Unlimited substitutions are permitted but the substitutes must check in and be beckoned in by the referee as per Rule 3-4-1a. (3.3.2 Situation A)

SITUATION 3: A goal is scored and Team A elects to substitute four players from the bench without being beckoned by the referee. **RULING:** Illegal. Unlimited substitutions are permitted but the substitutes must check in and be beckoned in by the referee as per Rule 3-4-1a and be beckoned by the referee. (3.3.2 Situation B)

SITUATION 4: Player A fouls Opponent B in the penalty area, resulting in a penalty kick for Team B. **RULING:** Correct procedure. A substitute entering the game shall not take the penalty kick. (3.3.3 Situation A)

SITUATION 5: Goalkeeper A fouls Opponent B in the penalty area resulting in a penalty kick for Team B. **RULING:** Goalkeeper A is disqualified for committing serious foul play. Team A is permitted to substitute a goalkeeper from the bench but must have a field player leave the field. **RULING:** Team A must play short due to the disqualification of the goalkeeper (12-8-2) but must have a goalkeeper (3-1-1). (3.3.3 Situation B)

SITUATION 6: An official observes a direct free kick foul by the defense in the penalty area, blows the whistle, stops play and indicates a penalty kick; the official simultaneously indicates an injured player and issues a caution for persistent infringement to the player committing the foul. The coach, having no players at the scorer’s table, send substitutes from the bench to the scorer’s table to be beckoned in. (3.3.3 Situation C)

SITUATION 7: The goalkeeper goes down after making a save and remains motionless for a few seconds with the ball in his possession. The official stops the clock to determine if the goalkeeper is injured. After examining the goalkeeper, it is determined that he/she is able to continue play immediately and no attendants have been beckoned. **RULING:** Legal. (3.3.3 Situation D)

SITUATION 8: Player A2 is issued a yellow card for misconduct and makes a profane remark to the referee: (a) the substitute has not been beckoned onto the field; (b) the substitute has been beckoned onto the field. **RULING:** (a) A2 is issued a red card and the team plays short; (b) A2 is issued a red card and the substitute is allowed to participate. (3.3.3 Situation E)

SITUATION 9: Players A2 and B2 hit heads in attempting to head the ball and both are injured. In the opinion of the referee, player A2 was unconscious for a short period of time. **RULING:** Player A2 shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional. (3.3.3 Situation F)

SITUATION 10: Player A2 goes down and is apparently injured. Following a preliminary examination, the official stops the clock and beckons A2’s coach or athletic trainer onto the field to attend to the injured player, but they refuse to comply. **RULING:** The injured player must be removed and may be replaced. (3.3.3 Situation G)

SITUATION 11: Player A2 (a) is injured and attended to on the field; (b) is issued a yellow card for a cautionary offense. Although in both instances Player A2 must leave the field, Team A coach elects to play one player short until A2 or substitute is ready to return. **RULING:** Legal. (3.3.3 Situation H)
SITUATION 12: Player A2 is injured. After examining Player A2, the referee stops the clock and beckons A2’s coach or athletic trainer onto the field to attend to the injured player. (a) Athletic trainer for Team A attends to the injured player while Coach A gives instruction to players on the field; (b) Coach A attends to the injured player and gives instruction as she/he walks out and back; (c) opposing Coach B calls his team to the sideline and gives instruction to the team; (d) Coach A, while on the sideline, calls for a substitute for A2 and gives instruction to the substitute. RULING: Legal in (a), (b), (c) and (d). (3.3.3 Situation I)

SITUATION 13: Player A2 leaves the field due to an injury and the team elects to play shorthanded. After the game has been restarted, (a) Player A12 replaces Player A2; (b) Player A2 re-enters the field. RULING: (a) Player A12 may enter the game only at the next legal substitution opportunity; (b) Player A2 may re-enter the field at the next stoppage of play. (3.3.3 Situation J)

SITUATION 14: Player A2 is injured during the course of play but manages to hobble across the touchline to avoid disrupting play and to allow the game to continue. At the next stoppage in play (not necessarily a stoppage for which Team A would normally be permitted to substitute), the coach for Team A substitutes for Player A2 directly from the bench. RULING: Legal, unless Player A2 has been disqualified under the provisions of 12-8 that do not permit a substitution and provided that the other prerequisites for proper substitution have been met. COMMENT: An injured player leaving the field under his/her own power would not be considered a violation of 12-8.1a. (3.3.3 Situation K)

SITUATION 15: Team A substitutes an unlimited number of players who have already checked in at the scorer’s table after (a) a caution, (b) an injured player is required to leave the field or (c) a goal is scored. RULING: Illegal in (a); legal in (b) and (c) providing the substitutes check in and are beckoned in by the referee. (3.3.3 Situation L)

SITUATION 16: Team A substitutes an unlimited number of players from the bench after (a) a caution, (b) an injured player is required to leave the field or (c) a goal is scored. RULING: Illegal in (a); legal in (b) and (c) providing the substitutes check in and are beckoned in by the referee. (3.3.3 Situation M)

SITUATION 17: Team A is awarded a corner kick. (a) Team A chooses to substitute a player(s) who has reported to the scorer; (b) Team B chooses to substitute a player(s) who has reported to the scorer. RULING: In (a), player(s) may enter; in (b), player(s) may enter provided that Team A is also substituting. (3.3.4 Situation)

SITUATION 18: Team A is awarded a throw-in. (a) Team A chooses to substitute a player(s) who has not yet reported to the scorer; (b) Team B, having had players report to the scorer, chooses to substitute. RULING: In (a) illegal, player(s) shall not enter; in (b), illegal unless Team A chooses to substitute. A player must have reported to the scorer before the substitution opportunity occurs on a throw-in for either team. (3.3.5 Situation)

SITUATION 19: Team A has elected to play shorthanded for reasons other than misconduct and (a) the player who left the field is permitted to return at the next stoppage of play and (b) the substitute for the player who left the field is permitted to enter the field at the next stoppage of play. RULING: Legal in (a); illegal in (b). (3.3.7 Situation A)

SITUATION 20: Team A is playing with 10 players due to illegal equipment. (a) Player A2 runs onto the field during play; (b) Player A2 enters the field of play during a stoppage with the permission of the referee; (c) Player A2 enters the field at the next legal substitution opportunity. RULING: Illegal in (a) and (b); legal in (c). (3.3.7 Situation B)

SITUATION 21: Substitute A12 reports to the scorer as the kickoff takes place. Eight minutes elapse before the first opportunity for a substitution occurs. The referee beckons A12 on the field; however, A12 is withdrawn by the coach of Team A. RULING: Substitute A12 is now a player because he/she was beckoned onto the field by the referee; therefore, player A12 must enter the game once beckoned. (3.4.1 Situation A)

SITUATION 22: After a goal is scored, coach for Team A sends substitute A2 directly into the game from the bench without reporting to the scorer for player A3. RULING: Illegal. (3.4.1 Situation B)

SITUATION 23: Prior to the game, the referee recognizes that members of Home Team A are wearing white jerseys and socks of a gold color and Away Team B is wearing jerseys and socks of a blue color. RULING: Illegal, because the home team shall wear solid white jerseys and solid white socks. The home team needs to put on white socks. If unable to correct, the game shall be played and the referee must notify the proper authority following the game. (4.1.1 Situation H)

SITUATION 24: Player A enters the game wearing (a) white socks with white tape, (b) blue socks with blue tape, (c) red socks with black tape, (d) white socks with green tape. RULING: Legal in (a) and (b); illegal in (c) and (d). (4.1.1 Situation N)

SITUATION 25: Prior to the start of the contest, the referee meets with the teams’ head coaches and captains and after reciting a sportsmanship message asks both head coaches if their teams will be properly and legally equipped at the kickoff. Each coach answers in the affirmative. (a) After the contest has started, Player A is noticed to have a shinguard that has the NOCSAE seal indicating that the shinguard is undersized for the player’s height; (b) after the second half starts, Player A is noticed to be wearing illegal jewelry; (c) during the course of play, a knee brace is dislodged by a collision between two players. RULING: In (a) and (b), if it is the first offense, the player is sent off the field and cannot re-enter until the next legal substitution opportunity, and the coach of Team A is cautioned for the team not being legally equipped. If it is the second offense, the player is cautioned. In (c), player is not cautioned, leaves the field and may re-enter after reporting to an official, who shall be satisfied that the knee brace is now in order. (4.3 Situation A)
SITUATION 26: The home team has video equipment to tape and replay the game action. The coach (a) plays a tape to players after the game; (b) plays tape at halftime interval for coaching purposes; (c) asks referee to review tape for evidence in the case of a disallowed goal. RULING: Legal in (a) and (b); illegal in (c). (12-8-1e) (5.1.2 Situation)

SITUATION 27: During a shot on goal, B2, in the penalty area, reaches out and deflects the ball. Just as B2 deflects the ball with the hands, A2 kicks the free ball and (a) it goes into the goal; (b) does not go into the goal. RULING: In (a), award a goal and caution B2 for unsporting conduct; in (b), call handling, award a penalty kick and disqualify B2 for serious foul play. (12-8-1-f13, 14), (12-8-2-d1), (14-1-1) (5.3.1 Situation A)

SITUATION 28: A2 dribbles in on the goalkeeper within the penalty area near the goal line. A2’s maneuver causes the goalkeeper to fall down as the ball is pushed past him. Because the goalkeeper is in A2’s path (a) A2 leaps over the goalkeeper within the field of play; or (b) A2 leaves the field of play just beyond the goal line. In each case, A2 is held by the goalkeeper who is still inside the field of play and inside the penalty area, and in each case the ball goes past the goal and out of bounds over the goal line. RULING: The fouls in both (a) and (b) result in a penalty kick and the goalkeeper is disqualified (12-8-2-d2), (14-1-1). (12.3 Situation)

SITUATION 29: An attacking player takes a shot on goal which (a) goes directly at the goalkeeper, who is able to deflect it to the ground so he can dribble it with the feet to the edge of the penalty area and then pick the ball up with his hands to distribute; or (b) the goalkeeper must dive in order to reach the ball, deflect it away from the goal, then scramble to pick it up with his hands to distribute. RULING: In (a), illegal. Goalkeeper is penalized for infringing when he/she picks up the ball with the hands after parrying; in (b), legal. The deflection is not considered a parry. (12.7.2 Situation)

SITUATION 30: On a throw-in, Player A throws the ball (a) directly to his/her own goalkeeper within the penalty area who touches the ball with the hands; (b) to a teammate who heads the ball to his/her own goalkeeper within the penalty area who picks the ball up with the hands; (c) to his/her own goalkeeper outside the penalty area by a teammate. The goalkeeper traps the ball with the feet and dribbles it into the penalty area where it is picked up. RULING: In (a), an indirect free kick is awarded to the opponent; in (b), there has been no violation; in (c), illegal. Award an indirect kick to opponent at spot of touching. (12.7.4 Situation)

SITUATION 31: During the game, while the ball is in play, (a) Coach A talks on a cell phone, (b) Coach B records video using a tablet, (c) Player A1 wears an electronic heart monitor, (d) A2 wears a hearing aid, (e) Coach A communicates with Player A3 using a wireless mic/headphone system. RULING: Legal in (a), (b), (c) and (d); illegal in (e) and coach is shown the yellow card for misconduct per 12-8-1(e). (12.8.1 Situation C)

SITUATION 32: Player A2 dribbles along the goal line into the penalty area. The goalkeeper comes out of the goal mouth to challenge A2. A2 pushes the ball by the goalkeeper and steps off the field to go around the goalkeeper. The goalkeeper then steps off the field and violently contacts A2 to prevent A2 from completing the play. RULING: The referee must stop play, disqualify the goalkeeper for exhibiting violent conduct and restart play with an indirect free kick from the location of the ball at the stoppage or the goal area line as appropriate. (12.8.2 Situation B)