

LAW 6 – Assistant Referees

- The Diagonal System of refereeing utilizes one Referee (with a whistle) and two

Assistant Referees (without whistles):

- Only the Referee has the authority to stop the game by use of the whistle.
- Assistant Referees “talk” to the Referee via eye contact and the use of standard flag signals.



DUTIES

- The Referee and two trained, neutral Assistant Referees shall be appointed by the referee administrator to officiate the game.
- The duties of the Assistant Referees (subject to the final decision of the Referee) shall be to indicate:
 - when the ball left the field,
 - which team is entitled to a corner kick, a goal kick, or throw-in,
 - when a substitution is desired,
 - when an attacker should be penalized for committing an offside offense,
 - when a foul, misconduct or other incident has occurred out of the vision of the Referee, and
 - when a penalty kick is taken if the ball crosses the goal line and into the goal.

ASSISTANCE

- The Assistant Referees shall operate under the direction of the Referee.
- The Assistant Referees shall also assist the Referee to control the game in accordance with the **Laws**.
- The Referee shall decide how to use any information provided by an Assistant Referee.
- The Referee is not obligated to accept the calls of an Assistant Referee in accordance with the Referee’s own judgement.



FLAGS

- The Referee should provide the Assistant Referees with flags to be used in the game.

IMPROPER CONDUCT

- In the event of undue interference or improper conduct by an Assistant Referee, the Referee may dispense with their services and arrange for a substitute (or club linesman) to be appointed.
- For any such behavior the matter shall be reported to the competent authority.

CLUB LINESMEN

- If only one Referee is available to officiate a game, the Referee may appoint two "club" linesmen to assist, but they may only indicate when the ball goes out-of-bounds.