**Rolling Substitutions-Clarity**

**It would appear Norfolk cup and merit tables are not going to follow the new Rolling Subs process(they don’t have to). Im waiting for Norfolk to confirm this-**

**So these only apply locally to Easter Counties league matches Levels 9 and 10 and London NE ie levels 8 and above**

**It is the referees job to manage the substitutions**

**(My tip stop the game, record the swap and verbally agree it with the coach-or whoever is managing the team’s substitutions)**

Response c/o Graham Cross

‘Gentlemen

For the avoidance of doubt can you please ensure that you understand the rolling subs regulations.

I have been contacted by a member of the competitions committee who are keen to ensure that referees do not speculate with clubs on likely outcomes when a game finishes with uncontested scrums having utilised their 8 subs . It is 8 replacements per side and no more and as Dave Miles has quite succinctly summed it up, thats it. There is no time cut off point or discretion.

I attach the original competitions regulation .(see below)

Clubs at level 5-8 have been asked /told to provide a 4th official to assist in the process, in the absence of a 4th official , put the onus back on the coaches to manage this .

Can I ask that any issues are identified to Dave Myers or myself for query resolution, there is bound to be some bizzare interpretation forom the coaches.

Yes swapping a flanker for a prop will count as an interchange even if it happens as a result of a yellow card or anything else. It would also count as one if they bought the flanker back on in place of the replacement prop after the 10 minutes......  
The ruling is also clear - if a team runs out of interchanges and would need to replace a prop to keep contested scrums then they will not be able to and the game will continue with uncontested and 14 players.(( I would imagine they might be reconsidering the ruling that uncontested before 60 minutes results in no result! The playing with 14 was introduced to eliminate those coaches who faked injury to go uncontested and I don't see this as any different. ))

Ironically having been at an RFU meeting in London last week , this change of regulation will not be allowed in the future as there will be more joined up thinking ie consultation (!) with referees et al before such changes will be implemented . Hindsight is a wonderful thing.!!

I can tell you that if you went to Yorkshire to referee it has been decided by the powers that be in Yorkshire, that this regulation is nothing to do with referees and will not be managed by the referee! You have been warned.!

Enjoy the season’

Graham Cross

Chairman

ECRURF

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Dave (Miles)

**Rolling Substitutions (Document c/o RFU)**

13.5.13 Divisional Organising Committees may, in their discretion, permit rolling substitutions in League and Cup Matches at Level 5 and below. If the relevant Divisional Organising Committee decides to implement rolling substitutions such implementation must be in accordance with Regulations 13.5.14 to 13.5.21 below.

13.5.14 In a League or Cup Match, where consent has been given by the appropriate Divisional Organising Committee and subject to Regulations (including, without limitation, 13.5.9 and 13.5.10) each team shall be permitted to use rolling substitutions of not more than the maximum number of the player interchanges (“Permitted Player Interchanges”) set out in the table below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Number of  Replacements | Player  Interchanges |
| 3 | 8 |
| 4 | 9 |
| 5 | 10 |
| 7 | 12 |

* + 1. In a Play Off Match, Permitted Player Interchanges will only be permitted where both participating teams have played their previous Matches with Permitted Player Interchanges.
    2. After the Permitted Player Interchanges have been made no other replacements, substitutions or Player Interchanges will be permitted for any reason including injuries and in the event that a player is injured the team will play with one less player and with uncontested scrums in the event that this involves a front row player and the game cannot continue safely with contested scrums.
    3. Player Interchanges replace the “blood bin”. If a Player has an open wound and thus has to leave the field, and the team has used all of its Permitted Player Interchanges, that Player may not be replaced and the team shall continue with a maximum of fourteen players. The Player is permitted to return once the wound has been treated and the bleeding stopped.
    4. Not more than two Player Interchanges per team may occur at any one time and may only occur during a stoppage in play and with the knowledge of the Referee who is entitled in his/her sole opinion to refuse to allow or postpone a Player Interchange if he/she believes either that the Player Interchange would prevent the opposition from restarting the game quickly or where a Player has been injured or that it would not be safe for the replacement Player who has been previously injured to play in the match.
    5. A Player who is a replacement shall not be entitled to take a kick at goal until a passage of play has taken place since that Player took to the field of play.
    6. A Player who suffers two injuries in a match which has necessitated that Player being replaced on each occasion is not permitted to act as a replacement following the second injury.
    7. Under dispensation provided to Unions by the International Rugby Board, where these rolling substitutions Regulations conflict with the Laws of the Game these Regulations shall take precedence.