

RULE 5—Players and Substitutes

SECTION 1. Each team shall consist of five players, one of whom shall be captain.

Ques.—May a team play with less than five players? **Ans.**—A team must begin with five players, but if it has no substitutes to replace disqualified players, it must continue with less than five players.

SECTION 2. The Captain shall be the representative of his team **Captain's Duties and Power.** and may address an Official on matters of interpretation or to obtain essential information, if it is done in a courteous manner. No other player may address an Official except as provided in Sections 3 and 5 of this Rule.

At least two minutes before the game is scheduled to begin, the Scorers shall be supplied with names, numbers and position of players who are to start the game. Failure to comply with this provision is a technical foul, unless the Referee considers the failure unavoidable. If a player changes his number during the game he shall report the change to the Scorers and Referee.

***SECTION 3.** A substitute before going upon the court shall report to the Scorers, giving his name, number and position. The Scorers shall sound a horn as soon as the ball is dead, except that a substitution may not be made in the interval following a goal and putting the ball into play from out of bounds unless a charged time-out or time-out for injury has been declared. The substitute shall remain outside the boundary lines until an Official signals for him to enter the court whereupon he shall report immediately to one of the Officials, telling the Official his name or number and the name or number of the player he is to replace. This player shall not be withdrawn until after play has been resumed, and a player who has left the game shall not return until after play has been resumed. Substitutes who enter the game at the beginning of the second half are not required to report to an Official but must report to the Scorers.

NOTE—*In the absence of a coach or other person authorized to make substitutions, the Officials shall obtain the approval of the captain for each substitution.*

Ques.—When does a substitute become a player? **Ans.**—When he has reported to the Scorers and been accepted by an Official.

Ques.—What is the penalty if a player who has been withdrawn from the game returns before play is resumed? **Ans.**—The Officials should not permit him to return, but if he succeeds in returning, a foul should be called as soon as the illegal return is noticed.