



CHIEF BENCH OFFICIAL (CBO) DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

If assigned to a game, the Chief Bench Official (CBO) shall supervise and hold complete jurisdiction over timekeepers, scorers, coaches, substitutes, and any other personnel within the bench, coaches, substitution, or table areas. The CBO shall be equipped with a signal flag and whistle and shall wear the same uniform as the on-field officials (unless specified to wear only the black dry-fit undershirt and no black & white striped shirt) and shall fully participate in the pre-game and post-game meetings involving the officiating crew.

The CBO does **NOT** throw flags (unless absolutely necessary, and it shouldn't be). The intent of the CBO is to inform the on-field officials of infractions and then let the on-field officials throw the flags. This mechanic **MUST** be covered thoroughly during the crew's pre-game meeting.

The CBO Shall:

- a) Check the proper substitution of players going onto and off of the field of play.
- b) Check that each team has the correct number of players and no more than four long crosses per team on the field of play.
- c) Check that no illegal stick exchanges occur.
- d) Check that no illegal actions are carried out by a coach or official member of either squad in the bench, substitution, or coaches areas.
- e) Check that no foul is committed by a player or substitute who is in the act of leaving the field of play or in the act of entering the field of play, or who is in the bench area, the substitution area, or the penalty box.

When the CBO becomes aware of any of the above infringements, the CBO shall, depending on the circumstances, either **get the attention of the on-field officials** (PREFERRED), throw a signal flag, or blow the whistle; and then work with the crew to apply the appropriate penalty. Should the CBO become aware of other infractions, i.e., offsides or a player committing an act of flagrant misconduct not observed by the field officials, **the CBO shall notify the nearest field official, who will make the appropriate call.**

The CBO shall acknowledge receipt and understanding of the field officials' signals relating to penalties, penalty periods, or any other matters relating to the play of the game, by repeating the signal. The CBO shall then relay the decisions of the field officials to the timekeeper/penalty timekeeper/scorers, as appropriate.

The CBO shall advise the coaches, if so requested, as to the decisions of the field officials, if known.

The CBO shall notify the head coach of each team 20 seconds before the start of a period and 20 seconds before the restart of play during any team timeout.

The CBO shall notify the nearest referee if any player has incurred five minutes of personal foul time or is getting close to five minutes of personal foul time.

When the head coach (or an on-field player) of a team makes a legal request for a **timeout**, the CBO shall sound a whistle and grant the timeout request.

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