

## **BCSA LAW Interpretations 2005**

### **SUBSTITUTIONS**

- a. Substitutions are allowed at any stoppage in play.
- b. The team announcing a substitution need not have possession of the ball.
- c. The player leaving the field may (and preferably should, so as not to delay the game) leave at the nearest boundary line.
- d. Incoming players **must** wait until the exiting players have left the field, and then enter from the touch line at half way.

### **MY BALL"**

The calling of "My Ball" is not an offence unless the referee determines it was done with the intent to deceive the other team

### **TAKING THE FREE KICK**

**Reason for this decision:** Many referees have been observed interfering with the right of the offended team to take a quick free kick.

#### **Quick Free Kick**

It is the duty of the Referee to let the team taking the free kick to do so as quickly as possible, without interference by the other team or by the referee.

The team does not have to ask permission to take the quick kick, nor is any form of a signal required from the referee.

The right of the offended team to take a quick free kick includes free kicks close to the other team's penalty area.

**Related policy paper:** "Taking the Free Kick" available for download in PDF formatting on the right hand side of this screen under the calendar.

## **ENCROACHMENT AND DELAY ON FREE KICKS**

The offending team caused the free kick. It is their responsibility to move back the required distance without delay, and without having to be told. They have no right for time to set a wall, and the referee must not allow them that time.

Referees must deal with encroachments and delays by the offending team. For any initial minor encroachment or delay the referee may give a verbal warning, but for repeat or deliberate incidents the referee must caution for Failure to Respect the Required Distance or Delaying the Restart, and/or retake the kick. When the team taking the kick has to ask for a Ceremonial Free Kick, that is often a sign that the referee has not done his or her duty to deal with this.