

# Law 5 - The Referee

## **REFEREE OBSERVATION REPORT**

2019 FIFA U20 World Cup Round of 16

Match 41 (Tychy)

3 June 2019, 17:30 CET

**Ukraine - Panama 4-1 (3-0)**

Referee: Leodán Frankin González Cabrera (URU)

Assistant Referee 1: Richard Trinidad Díaz Méndez (URU)

Assistant Referee 2: Martín Sebastián Soppi San Martín (URU)

Fourth Official: Daniel Siebert (GER)

Video Assistant Referee: Julio Alberto González Bascuñán (CHI)

Assistant Video Assistant Referee: Jesús Noel Valenzuela Sáez (VEN)

Law 5 Blog Observer: Edward

Presentation of the match:

The match for Round of 16 between Ukraine and Panama was played at Tychy Stadium. Attendance was 7.219 spectators (half the stadium full) who created a good atmosphere but at the same time didn't try to put pressure on the refereeing team. Weather and stadium conditions were very good. Ukraine (after finishing 1<sup>st</sup> on Group D) was better than Panama (3<sup>rd</sup> on Group E) and managed a goal at 22'. 2 more goals at the last 5' of the 1<sup>st</sup> half made the match one-sided. Panama only managed to make it 3-1 before a goal at 83' sent Ukraine to QF. The match was very easy due to the fair atmosphere and the fact that both teams weren't playing harsh. As a result, we can assign a "Normal" difficulty. 36 y.o. Leodán González from Uruguay was the appointed referee. It was his first appearance on a FIFA Tournament (2nd match).

Referee performance (Personality, LotG application, disciplinary control, physical condition, cooperation, VAR management):

The referee tried and succeeded from the beginning to adapt to the requirements of the match. His tactical approach was to mostly stay on the background and intervene when it was necessary. Moreover he let a good amount of physical play in order to give both teams the opportunity to play a fair and open match. Overall he whistled 27 fouls (12-15) with 12 of them being whistled at the 1<sup>st</sup> half (6-6). He had control of the match at every moment even though the match was played in a fair manner without harsh tackles or loud protests. He managed well injured players but he should be more proactive in holding/pushing inside both penalty areas. At min. 09' it was a good time to stop the corner from being executed and warn players for holding.

His disciplinary control was good. He issued 3 cautions (52' N17 PAN -> reckless, 64' N14 UKR -> reckless usage of arm, 89' N15 UKR -> SPA). At min. 26' he should at least warn N17 PAN for his reckless challenge on an opponent. Identification of the offender was as expected. No other incidents here.

His physical condition is good. He is able to be close to play without intervening with play. Moreover he didn't appear tired at any moment of the match. He should, however, be closer to the P.A. at some moments (45', 60') and especially when the ball is being played near the goal-line.

Overall it was an expected level performance. The referee had good foul detection and consistency. Moreover his disciplinary control was also good. Given the fact that it was only his 2<sup>nd</sup> appointment on this tournament, a further one is still possible. Good luck to the future.

Assistant Referee 1 performance (Please mention the minutes of important / crucial situations):

AR1 had a good performance. He was always in line with the 2<sup>nd</sup> last defender and used sidewalk when needed. He correctly kept his flag down before 1-0. The attacker was level with the defenders. Flag technique (when indicating

throw-ins) needs revision. It was rather disturbing seeing it that way. Nothing more. Expected level.

Assistant Referee 2 performance (Please mention the minutes of important / crucial situations):

AR2 had also a good performance. He was always in line with the 2<sup>nd</sup> last defender and used sidewalk when needed. He correctly kept his flag down before 4-1. He had 1 correct offside call at min. 42' and an offside call at 86' which wasn't really needed since the flag went up AFTER the ball was already out for a goal-kick. Correct foul call at min. 52'. Expected level performance.

Fourth Official performance:

He executed his duties without any problem. He correctly signaled 1' and 3' additional minutes at the end of each half. Expected level.