

Law 5 - The Referee

REFEREE OBSERVATION REPORT

Competition, match, final score:

FIFA Under-20 World Cup Poland 2019 – Match 6; Uruguay X Norway **3 - 1** (2 - 0)

Refereeing team:

Referee: Ismail Elfath (USA)
Assistant Referee 1: Kyle Atkins (USA)
Assistant Referee 2: Corey Parker (USA)
Fourth Official: Ilgiz Tantashev (UZB)
Video Assistant Referee: Alan Kelly (IRL)
Assistant Video Assistant Referee: Paweł Raczkowski (POL)
Law 5 Blog Observer: RJC

Presentation of the match:

Little assistance in the stadium (about 4700 spectators) despite the good weather conditions. The playing field seemed to be in good condition. The teams focused them from play and win the game. They committed a normal number of fouls without cause problems to the refereeing team. There was a steady balance throughout the game between both teams. Even though in the first half the Uruguayan team is winning by 2 to 0 when the begin of second half the norway scored a goal and put opened the final result until 87'. Game with few challenges to solve. All the referees had to deal with normal conditions.

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

Keep the game controlled from the beginning. When necessary, he made public warnings (32 '). On the other hand, all the players respected their decisions and their opponents. He tried to let the game flow by not ticking minor faults. Assigned twice by advantage (21 'and 65') having in the first situation finished in goal (21 '). He was proactive in trying to anticipate possible conflict situations running to close players (24 ').

Correctly applied the disciplinary powers according to the laws of the game, however, there were 2 warnings to be made (45 'and 77'). First does not show yellow card to #17 NOR, by stepping on the foot of #11 URU. In the second case does not show Yellow card to # 9 NOR by entrance with the arm against the head of # 6 URU. No direct free kick was awarded. The game restarts with a dropped ball with the referee to move URU away. The referee cannot decide who may contest a dropped ball or its outcome. Both situations occurred in the zone of the fourth referee who could have helped.

Has revealed a good condition and presents an athletic body. However, its excessive movement in the central area of the playing field only extends to the sides near the penalty areas. This positioning

sometimes made it difficult for the players to move and caused some delays to accompany against quick attacks.

He was well assisted by his assistants who did a discreet but efficient job. He could have had collaboration from the fourth official in the caution missed.

Regarding the VAR I have some doubts about the validation of the last goal of the URU. The images are not clear as to whether there is or is not lacking # 5 URU on the # 2 NOR at the beginning of the play that ends in a goal. VAR protocol say that "An offence by the team that scored the goal in the attacking phase that ended with the scoring of a goal, including offence by the attacking team in the build-up to or scoring of the goal (handball, foul, etc.)."

Overall, the game was easy to management with the contribute of players. The referee team don't had complicated situations to resolve. This is the third international season for Ismail Elfath. I should have bettered your movement on the field widding the diagonal for to have a side vision more wide. This is the third international season for Ismail Elfath. I should have bettered your movement on the field widding the diagonal for to have a side vision more wide. He need a more flexible movements and follow the game behind the players and the ball and not wait the attack near the defensive line. I would like to see your performance at a most challenge game before the next stage of competition.

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

The AR1 signaled one offside position (30') wich were fully corret. Made right decisions not revealing failures. Good performance on an expected level.

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

The AR1 signaled two offside positions (11', 63') which were fully correct. First let the move followed and when the ball entered the goal raised the flag to indicate offside. This behavior caused that in case of error the VAR could validate the goal. In the second situation it proceeded in the same way. When the ball went out the goal line it signaled offside.

According to VAR protocol "If an assistant referee delays a flag for an offence, the assistant referee must raise the flag if a goal/penalty/corner or attacking free kick or throw-in results as this decision will be the basis for any 'check'/'review' Check".

Made right decisions not revealing failures. Excellent performance on an expected level.

Fourth Official performance:

In the cautions missed should have helped the referee because the the faults happen close to him.