

GUIDELINES FOR DEALING WITH BLOOD

If a player incurs an injury that causes bleeding, the 1st or 2nd referee shall immediately stop play in accordance with Rule 17.1.1. The player shall leave the court for evaluation/treatment. If the player cannot continue play and must be replaced, this should be done within the guidelines of Rule 15.6 or 15.7. If substitution cannot be made, refer to Rule 17.1.2. If a player's uniform becomes saturated with blood, a change of uniform will be authorized. This change should be accomplished as quickly as possible to cause no additional delay to the resumption of play. The replacement uniform should be of a similar color and style. Though duplicate numbers will not be allowed, no sanction will be assessed if the player's replacement uniform number is different than the original number. If a replacement uniform is not available, the player must be replaced by a legal substitution. If the referee observes blood on the playing surface or equipment, play shall be stopped immediately, and measures taken to clean any contaminated area or equipment using universal precautions.