

No ref?



The Society recently came across an unusual case which is as follows:

Match with 2 sides ready to play, but no ref turns up. Different Ref in grounds and is asked to ref. Both team Captains agree and the game is played. Unfortunately, losing team then puts in an objection and game is void.

The Ulster Branch have Rules & Regs for such occasions and are quoted below:

4. REFEREES

(a) The Ulster Society of Rugby Football Referees shall (whenever possible) appoint Referees for all League and Cup matches, except for the finals of Cup or League Competitions, when the Society, through its representative, shall, at a Committee meeting held prior to the date of the final of each Cup Competition, recommend the name of a Referee to the Branch Committee for its approval.

(b) In relation to Law 6 (Laws of the Game) if a referee, having been duly appointed for a Cup or League game, is not in attendance, or if such appointment was not made, or if a referee who was appointed for a Cup or League game is unable to officiate for the whole period of a match, the game as scheduled may be postponed or in the latter case may be abandoned and reported to the CMC

*(c) If either Club offers an alternative person to referee (including a referee spectating at the ground) in circumstances covered by (b) to enable the match to be played or concluded, agreement to the arrangements should be confirmed by both Captains **signing the team lists** submitted to the Referee before the game or before the game is concluded.*

(d) Save as provided in (c) above, changes of a referee's appointment after arrival at a ground can only take place with the approval of a Referee's Selector.