

Situation 1.

During a match with two sessions of play, Player A has to leave the room for a comfort stop during the first session. He is away from the table for 1 minute and 35 seconds and the referee has taken a note of the time to be added on. Should this time be added on and played out at the end of the first session, or at the end of the match (i.e. at the end of the second session?)

As clocks are supplied and if player A needs comfort break, clock is paused by referee until returned ready to play. (Sometimes both will then go). Time is always completed in the same session, in this case first session. If for example Player B is on a break and Player A indicates to referee they need a comfort stop, referee signals ok and clock won't be paused until Player B completes their break. Sometimes the opponent can be back from comfort stop before player at table has finished break, therefore no disruption to time, play continues.

Situation 2

Near the end of a two hour match, there are a few seconds remaining, and it is going to be a very close finish. Player A (who is just a few points behind his opponent) is at the table. He asks the referee how much time is left. The referee tells him, and Player A quickly plays two more scoring shots to win the match.

(a) should the referee have told Player A how much time was remaining?

(b) Player B feels that the referee's actions contributed to him losing the match. He claims that the referee's actions assisted his opponent, and he was powerless to do anything about it. What rights does Player B have in these circumstances?

(a) Yes

(b) None

Normally the clock is displayed in manner visible to players and both players have a right to know the status of the time. The only risk to this would be if the referee was to misread the time which could present a problem.

Situation 3

Player A is in a very difficult position, with all three balls in a straight line, and his opponent's cue ball and the red ball touching. He tries to play a cannon of the side cushion onto the other two balls but misses them both. The referee calls the foul. His opponent (Player B) would normally have the option of spotting the balls up or playing them from where they lay, but his cue ball and the red ball are touching. Player B has indicated that he wished to play the balls from where they lay by playing away from the touching red ball (as in Snooker). Does he have this option or must the balls be spotted because Player B's cue ball is touching the red ball?

Rules require that after consultation with both players by the referee on identifying a touching ball situation, balls shall be set up and incoming striker plays from in hand. Incoming striker does not have the option to play from where balls lay.

Note; this rule is currently being assessed for change and may well reverse this decision if adopted.

Situation 4

Player A places his cue on the table and obtains the long cue and long rest from the referee for his next shot. He plays his shot with the long equipment. One of the balls is about to make contact with the cue that he left on the table. The referee sees this is about to happen and quickly removes the cue from the table, and contact is avoided. Should the referee have taken this action?

No, the referee should not have taken that action as the player is responsible for placing and removing equipment from the table. Any foul occurring whilst using the equipment shall apply per rules. Referee shall not advantage or disadvantage either player in fairness of play.