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Media briefing notes re the Video Umpire
Samsung Hockey Champions Trophy Men 2007, Kuala Lumpur (MAS), 29 November - 9
December 2007

Introduction

It has been agreed that the Video Umpire will be used at the Samsung Hockey Champions Trophy Men 2007, using the existing TV camera coverage. There will be no in-goal cameras. The location of the Video Umpire will be in a separate section of the UM Office with a view overlooking the pitch.

A monitor will be provided for reviewing the incidents and replays, together with a switchable two-way communication system with the TV truck/TV Director of the World feed, in order to request the necessary replays.

The Video Umpire will be appointed by the Tournament Director from the panel of umpires appointed to the Tournament

Decisions which can be referred to the Video Umpire

The decisions for referral are those listed in Regulation 14 of the Tournament Regulations and are restricted to the following two scenarios, which each require a 'yes', 'no' or 'no decision possible' answer from the Video Umpire: -

1. Has the ball has crossed the goal line (within the area bounded by the goalposts and crossbar)
2. Was the ball played or touched inside the circle by the stick of an attacker before the ball crossed the goal line

The Video Umpire can only answer the question asked but, in cases where a breach of the rules is observed (in relation to the question asked), he/she is to advise the umpire of that breach. It is then for the umpire to take the breach into account in reaching his/her decision.

The final decision therefore remains with the match umpire, and not with the Video Umpire.

All other decisions will remain with the match umpires only.

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Referral of decisions to the Video Umpire

The only persons who can refer decisions to the Video Umpire will be the match umpires. This referral should only occur if both the match umpires are not convinced that they have taken, or are able to take, the correct decision.

Referrals cannot be made as a result of protests, queries or pressure from players, team managers or coaches.

No one else, including the Video Umpire or Officials at the Technical Table, can stop the match to request a referral.

Procedure of referring decisions to the Video Umpire

Umpires are advised that in cases where referral needs to be made to the Video Umpire: -

1. Play and time should be stopped before referring to the Video Umpire
2. If possible, the engaged umpire is to signal the decision he/she considers to be the correct one
3. The engaged umpire indicates that that decision is referred to the Video Umpire by a clear hand signal (rectangular screen shape as used in cricket)
4. The engaged umpire (only) will then communicate with the Video Umpire through radio contact
5. The engaged umpire must clearly explain what they wish to be advised upon
6. The Video Umpire will confirm that the request has been received and understood
7. The Video Umpire will advise the decision ('yes' / 'no' / 'no decision possible'; plus, if necessary, advice on any breach of the rules) within the shortest time frame possible. If a breach of the rules is observed (in relation to the questions asked) and advised to the match umpire, it is then for the umpire to take into account the breach in reaching the final decision
8. The advice of the decision will be given to the umpires by radio contact
9. The only possible outcomes of referrals are:
 - ♦ Goal or no goal, based upon the scenarios as detailed above
 - ♦ A breach of the rules is observed and advised to the match umpire, which the umpire shall take into account in reaching his/her final decision
 - ♦ If the video footage is inconclusive, the original decision of the match umpire stands. If there was no decision given before the hand signal, then the final decision is no goal
10. The decision of the match umpire shall be final and no protest against this will be possible

The Tournament Regulations for the Samsung Hockey Champions Trophy Men 2007 are updated and include the procedures for the Video Umpire: -

14. VIDEO UMPIRE

- 14.1 The match umpires shall be entitled to refer for decision by the video umpire any of the following questions:
- (a) Whether the ball has crossed the goal line legally (within the area bounded by the goalposts and crossbar); or
 - (b) Whether the ball has been touched inside the circle by the stick of an attacker, before the ball crossed the goal line.

The Video Umpire can only answer the question asked but, in cases where a breach of the rules is observed in relation to the question asked, the match umpire is to be advised of that breach. It is then for the match umpire to take the breach into account in reaching his/her final decision

However, if when reviewing the video replay(s) the decision is not clear to the video umpire, he/she shall indicate to the referring match umpire who will then be responsible for making the final decision.

- 14.2 The video umpire shall call for as many replays from any camera angle as necessary to reach a decision. As a guide, a decision should be made within 30 seconds whenever possible, but the video umpire shall have a discretion to take more time in order to finalise a decision.
- 14.3 The decision of the video umpire shall be final and binding on the match umpire who referred the matter for decision.
- 14.4 All other decisions shall remain with the match umpires.