

Preventing Forfeits

(Player May Play Twice on One Night)

The Official Team Manual states “You may only play once in a team match.” However, to help prevent forfeits and to make it more likely matches are awarded on the table rather than by forfeit, the Roanoke APA has chosen to adopt the Replay Rule approved by the APA National Office. This rule allows one player (the “Replay Player”) from a team (the “Replay Team”) to play twice on the same night in the following circumstances:

- The Replay Team does not have enough players present or cannot play the players it does have present without violating the Team Skill Level Limit rule (23-Rule). Teams may NOT play a better lineup using a replay than if all of their players were present. If a team with the skill levels of 7,7,6,5,4,3,3,2 requests a replay they must make sure that the total of the first 4 matches would allow a 5th team member who is not present to play if they showed up to play. This means that the team could not field 7,7,5 and their SL2 twice, this does equal 23; however, $7,7,5,2 = 21$ and there is not a 2nd SL2 on the roster. They violated the 23-Rule because if their 3 had walked in the door they could not play due to putting the team total over 23.
- The Replay Team’s need to invoke the Replay Rule is not the result of a player being sent home and/or made unavailable. Attempts to take advantage of the Replay Rule should be reported to the Local League Office.
- The Replay Team notifies their opponent of the need to use / or potential need to use the Replay Rule prior to the start of the 4th individual match. The opposing team must allow the replay; they cannot demand the Replay Team forfeit a match.
- The opposing team gets to pick which player from the other team will be the Replay Player. The opposing team can pick any player present except those whose play would cause the Replay Team to violate the Team Skill Level Limit Rule (23-Rule) or the Limited Number of Senior Players rule.

All players who have already played must be available as a choice for the “replay” match.

- The “replay” must be played as the last match of the night. If a “replay” is used in a match other than the last match of the night, the re-played match and all subsequent matches will be forfeited by both teams.
- Both teams may utilize the Replay Rule on the same night if necessary. In this situation, both teams put up their own player. The team scheduled to put up a player in the 5th match designates their Replay Player first.

- Once a “replay” is used, the remaining matches must be forfeited, even if another player shows up. If another player from the Replay Team shows up prior to the start of the “replay” match, the “replay” match is cancelled, and the new player must play.
- There is no limit on how often a team can use the Replay Rule during the regular session as long as the above criteria are met in each instance. The Replay Rule is not in affect during the last week of regular weekly League play of the session, Playoffs, Tri-Cup Tournaments or the World Qualifier.