Manage Substitute Instructors for Classes

Streamline substitute tracking with Jackrabbit's Substitutes feature! Easily assign, record, view, and manage substitutes for absent instructors in classes.

Save even more time by also utilizing the **Staff Availability** feature. It's the perfect pairing! Substitute records are added, updated, and deleted whenever Staff Time Off is added, updated, or deleted from within Jackrabbit or the Staff Portal.

Additionally, customize settings to:

- Allow instructors to view and manage the classes they are going to substitute in the **Staff Portal**.
- Advise parents when a substitute has been assigned to a class in the **Parent Portal**.
- Notify parents and students at **Self Check-in** when a regular instructor is away and a substitute has been assigned.

Use the button below to expand or collapse all sections, or select a heading to view one section at a time.

> **Expand/Collapse All**

Get Set Up to Use Substitutes

Before getting started with the Substitutes feature, there are some settings to review.

User ID Permissions	The Substitutes feature is controlled by two User Permissions: • The *View Classes* (Classes category) permission only allows Users to view substitutes on the Instructors tab in the Class record. No action can be taken (no Assign Substitute button or row menus). • The *Manage Substitutes* (Classes category) permission allows Users to add, edit, and delete Substitute records. ○ This permission defaults on for Owner/Manager **User roles** only. To edit User Permissions, go to the **Gear** icon > **Settings** > **User IDs** (left menu) > Select a **User ID** > **User Permissions** (left menu). **Learn more about Permissions for Jackrabbit Users**
Notification Settings	Decide whether or not Jackrabbit should send a notification email to the instructor who is away and to the substitute taking their class anytime the Substitute record is assigned, edited, or deleted. The *Send notification email to absent instructor and substitute instructor when a record is assigned, edited, or deleted* setting defaults to on for all Users. To edit the setting, go to the **Gear** icon > **Settings** > **General** > **Organization Defaults** (left menu) and scroll down to the *Class Settings* section.

Staff Requirements	Substitute instructors must be added to Jackrabbit (Staff menu > Add Staff).
	
	For the Substitutes feature, the Summary tab of all Staff records must have:
	
	- *Status* = Active
	- *Instructor* = Yes
	- *Email* (required for notification emails)
	
	Tip: If you are using the **Staff Portal**, review the substitutes' Portal Settings tab in their Staff record. Ensure they have the proper settings to manage the classes they are assigned to as a substitute.
	
	Optional but super cool:
	
	- When assigning a substitute, the drop-down list can display Staff Skills if any have been entered. To ensure a qualified substitute is selected, add Staff Skills, for example, Tumbling or Acro, on the Skills tab of the Staff record (see **Assign a Substitute within Jackrabbit** below).
	
	  Learn more about Staff / Instructor Skills
	- Knowing when staff are available to work and when they need time off is essential for scheduling classes and finding substitutes. When using Staff Availability, time off and availability are added to the Availability tab of the Staff record. The Instructor View in the Activity Calendar displays time blocks for an at-a-glance view of who's scheduled to be in and out.
	
	  Learn more about Staff Availability

Class Requirements	In order to assign a substitute to a class, the Class record must have: - at least one *Instructor* assigned on the Instructors tab. - a *Class Start Date* (Summary tab). - at least one *Day* of the week (Summary tab). - a *Start Time* and *End Time* (Summary tab). If any of these fields are missing, an error message will display on the Instructors tab when attempting to assign a substitute.

How the Substitutes Feature Works

Introducing 'The Players'

The Substitutes feature touches several areas of Jackrabbit:

- Class record > Instructors tab
- Substitutes report
- Dashboard Alert

When you are also saving heaps of time by using the **Staff Availability** feature, another area comes into play:

- Staff record > Availability tab

Save even more time by using **Staff Availability in the Staff Portal**!

Okay, now that we know who is who, let's go through how they all play in the sandbox together.

Create a Substitute Record

Substitutes are managed using a Substitute record. A Substitute record is created in two ways.

Assign a Substitute within Jackrabbit

On the Instructors tab of the Class record, select the **Assign Substitute** button to open the Assign Substitute window.

- If there is more than one instructor, select the instructor who will be absent.
- Use the calendar to select the dates (*From* and *To*) of the instructor's absence. There is a substitute record created for every class the instructor will miss in the date range. Note: Days the class doesn't meet are disabled on the calendar.
- Options for assigning the substitute:
  - *Select Substitute* - Use the drop-down menu to select the substitute. If you have many names in the list, use the *Search All Substitutes* field to look for a specific name (instructors already assigned to the class will not be available for selection). Note: Showing **Staff Skills** allows you to ensure you are selecting a substitute who is qualified to teach the class.
  - *Assign Later* - Select **Assign Later** to record the instructor's absence without selecting a substitute at this time. Substitute records marked Assign Later will trigger an Alert icon in the Alerts section of the Executive Dashboard (see **Executive Dashboard** below)*.
  - *Not Needed* - Select **Not Needed** to record the instructor's absence without assigning a substitute. This will report the instructor's absence on the Activity Calendar (see **Activity Calendar** below).
- Optionally add *Comments* (max 500 characters). These comments are included in the notification emails sent to the absent instructor and the substitute. They are also shown in the grid on the Instructors tab of the Class record and the Substitutes

report.

Automatically Create a Substitute Record

When using Staff Availability, a Substitute record is automatically created when a Time Off entry is added for an instructor. The time off can be added from within Jackrabbit or by staff in the Staff Portal.

The addition of a Time Off entry starts a process where Jackrabbit compares the time off with the instructor's schedule and creates a Substitute record for each of their classes that meet during the time off. Those records are added to the Instructor tab of each Class record and are marked Assign Later. They are also added to the Substitutes report and the Executive Dashboard Alert (if within the next 30 days).

Notes:

- If there has already been a Substitute record created for a class occurrence in the period of time off, Jackrabbit will not create a duplicate record.
- When a Time Off entry is added, a toast message will pop up (*thus its name!*) to let you know how many Substitute records were created. It will contain a link that opens the Substitute report for your review.
- Substitute records automatically created in the Staff Portal will include a comment *Auto-created by Staff Portal Time Off entry*. Those created within Jackrabbit will have the comment, *Auto-created by Admin Time Off entry*. These comments are viewable on the Substitutes report, in the Class record > Instructors tab, and in the Staff record > Availability tab.

Edit a Substitute Record

A Substitute record can be edited using the row menu icon   in the Substitutes grid on either the Instructors tab of the Class record or on the Substitutes report.

When utilizing Staff Availability, a Substitute record is edited when an edit is made to a Time Off entry. For any edits made to a Time Off entry, Jackrabbit compares the edited time off period to the instructor's schedule and will create or delete Substitute records as needed. Time Off entries can be edited either in Jackrabbit on the Availability tab of the Staff record or by staff through the Staff Portal.

Delete a Substitute Record

Delete individual substitute records using the row menu icon   in the Substitutes grid on either the Instructors tab of the Class record or on the Substitutes report. Use the checkboxes to choose substitute records and then select the more menu icon   to delete several records at once (Mass Delete). Note: Once any checkboxes have been selected, the individual row menus are removed from the grid, and the Print and Export to Excel options are removed from the more menu.

Staff Availability deletes Substitute records when either a Time Off entry has been edited to exclude the class for which it was created or the related Time Off entry has been deleted.

Tracking and Reporting for Substitutes

On the Executive Dashboard, in the Alerts widget, the *Substitutes next 30 days* alert displays the number of records for substitution dates in the next 30 days.

- Users with the right permissions can click the **Substitutes next 30 days** alert to open the Substitutes report filtered for the next 30 days; this filter can be cleared to view all substitutes.
- This alert displays under *Critical Alerts* with a red circle if a substitution date in the next 30 days is marked as Assign Later. This indicates that a substitute still needs to be found for the class and assigned on the Instructor tab of the Class record.
- This alert displays under *Mild Alerts* with a yellow circle if all substitution dates in the next 30 days are assigned a substitute or marked as Not Needed. This indicates that no action is needed.

The Substitute report is accessed from either the Reports menu > Find Reports or from the link in the Dashboard alert for *Substitutes next 30 days*.

- Individual substitute records can be edited or deleted using the row menu .
- Options to Print, Export to Excel, or Mass Delete are located in the more menu .
- Use the search fields in each column to filter for specific records.

Use the **Calendar** link (top right) available on every Jackrabbit page to access the Activity Calendar.

Week View

- Hover over an activity card to view the absent instructor and the substitute if one has been assigned.

Day View

- Hover over an activity card to view the absent instructor and the substitute if one has been assigned.

Agenda View

- Hover over an activity in the list to view the absent instructor and the substitute if

one has been assigned.

Room View

- Hover over an activity card to view the absent instructor and the substitute if one has been assigned.

Instructor View

- The activity will appear in both the absent instructor and the substitute instructor's columns.
- An icon and a zebra stripe on the activity card indicate that an instructor is absent and that a substitute will be teaching.
- Hover over an activity card to view the absent instructor and the substitute if one has been assigned.

Weekly Schedule

In a Staff record, select the **Weekly Schedule** button to open a calendar for the current week, filtered for that instructor. In addition to their own classes, those they are assigned to as a substitute will be displayed.

Click on the image to view it in full size in a new window.

Staff Portal > My Schedule

Within the Staff Portal, the My Schedule tab features a useful section called My Substitutions. This area allows logged-in staff members to conveniently view both the classes they are scheduled to substitute for, as well as the classes that will have a substitute in their place.

Parent Portal > Class Cards

In your Parent Portal Settings, you have the option to display substitutes and provide details about any substitutions in the classes the students are enrolled in.

Self Check-in

When checking in, parents and students are informed if there is a substitute assigned for their regular instructor.