



Memorandum 2010





AMENDMENTS TO THE LAWS OF THE GAME AND DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

2010-2011

Two meetings this year (March 6 & May 18)

- Some issues had been left undecided**
- World Cup**



Law 1 – The Field of Play

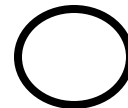
Current Text:

Goals

They [goalposts and crossbar] **may** be square, rectangular, round or elliptical in shape and must not be dangerous to players.

New Text: **must**

USSF Advice to Referees: No other shapes are permitted.





Law 5 – The Referee

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

Injured Players

General Ruling: if play is stopped for a serious injury or if, regardless of why play is stopped, the referee beckons medical personnel onto the field to assist an injured player,

- the player must leave the field and may not return until play has restarted and the permission of the referee is obtained
- the player may not receive treatment on the field



Law 5 – The Referee

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

Injured Players

Present Text

Exceptions to this ruling are to be made only when:

- a goalkeeper is injured
- a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need immediate attention
- a severe injury has occurred, e.g. swallowed tongue, concussion, broken leg



Law 5 – The Referee

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

Injured Players

New Text

Exceptions to this ruling are to be made only when:

- a goalkeeper is injured
- a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need immediate attention
- **players from the same team have collided and need immediate attention**
- a severe injury has occurred, e.g. swallowed tongue, concussion, broken leg

USSF Advice to Referees: The reference to “outfield player” (2nd bullet) is interpreted to include any field player from either team.



Law 5 – The Referee

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

Injured Players

Present Text

- The stretcher-bearers should enter the field of play with a stretcher at the same time as the doctors to allow the player to be removed as quickly as possible

New Text

- Stretcher-bearers should only enter the field of play with a stretcher **following a signal from the referee**

USSF Advice to Referees: The referee may permit the entry of medical personnel with or without stretcher-bearers at the same time, or may permit stretcher-bearers to enter the field after the entry of medical personnel, or may decide not to permit stretcher-bearers to enter at all if deemed not necessary



Other Decisions of the IFAB

Law 1 – The Field of Play

Interpretations of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

Logos and Emblems

The IFAB reiterated that the reproduction, whether real or virtual, of representative logos or emblems of FIFA, confederations, member associations, leagues, clubs or other bodies is forbidden on the field of play, the goal nets and the areas they enclose, the goals, the flagposts and their flags during playing time.

Particular emphasis was placed on the fact that such logos may not be reproduced on corner flags.



Other Decisions of the IFAB

Goal-line technology

(continuation of discussions at the 122nd Annual General Meeting)

The use of goal-line technology and indeed technology in general within the game was rejected by majority decision.



Other Decisions of the IFAB

Authoritative language for the Laws of the Game

It was confirmed that in the event of any divergence between translations of the Laws of the Game, the English text is authoritative.



Other Decisions of the IFAB

Additional instructions to match officials

It has been noted that certain associations and confederations are unilaterally issuing their own instructions and recommendations to referees within their territories concerning the enforcement of the Laws of the Game, thus increasing the chance of differing interpretations around the world. We would like to reiterate that the International Football Association Board (or FIFA on its behalf) is the only body with the authority to issue such additional instructions concerning the Laws of the Game in order to ensure uniform application worldwide.



Law 14 – The Penalty Kick

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

Procedure

Present Text

Feinting to take a penalty kick to confuse opponents is permitted as part of football. However, if, in the opinion of the referee, the feinting is considered an act of unsporting behavior, the player must be cautioned.

New Text

Feinting **in the run-up to take a penalty kick** to confuse opponents is permitted as part of football. **However, feinting to kick the ball once the player has completed his run-up is considered an infringement of Law 14 and an act of unsporting behavior for which the player must be cautioned.**



Law 14 – The Penalty Kick

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

USSF Advice to Referees:

- *Kicker may feint during the run to the ball (but no delay or excessive direction changes)*
- *Between the completion of the run to the ball and the actual kick, a feint is a violation of Law 14*
 - *Example: clearly stopping and waiting for a reaction from the goalkeeper before kicking*
- *Treat the same as other violations of Law 14*
 - *Allow the kick to proceed*
 - *If ball in the net, cancel goal and order a retake*
 - *If ball not in net, indirect free kick for opposing team where violation occurred*
- *In either case, caution the kicker for unsporting behavior before restarting play*



The Fourth Official

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

The fourth official and the reserve assistant referee (bullet point 7)

Present Text:

He [4th official] must indicate to the referee when the wrong player is cautioned because of mistaken identity or when a player is not sent off having been seen to be given a second caution or when violent conduct occurs out of the view of the referee and assistant referees. The referee, however, retains the authority to decide on all points connected with play.

New Text:

He assists the referee to control the match in accordance with the Laws of the Game. The referee, however, retains the authority to decide on all points connected with play.



The Fourth Official

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

The fourth official and the reserve assistant referee (bullet point 7)

USSF Advice to Referees: The removal of the listed duties for the fourth official does not mean that they no longer are fourth official responsibilities. As the Board explained, the change was for the purpose of broadening the areas of fourth official assistance to include anything which may pertain to assisting the referee to control the match. The change emphasizes the importance of including in the pregame conference a discussion of the areas in which the referee wishes the fourth official to provide specific assistance.



Entry into force of Laws of the Game 2010/2011

The IFAB unanimously agreed that the decisions of the 124th IFAB Annual General Meeting and the special meeting of the International Football Association Board (IFAB) would come into force on 1 June 2010 and therefore apply for the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.