



THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES

MINUTES

of the
2005 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

Held at
MISKIN MANOR HOTEL,
VALE OF GLAMORGAN, WALES

on
SATURDAY, 26th FEBRUARY 2005
at 09.30 Hours

Plymouth Chambers
3 Westgate Street
Cardiff
CF10 1DP

Secretary General
THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
OF WALES

AGENDA

I. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

II. MINUTES

To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Claridges, London, England, on Saturday, 28th February 2004 @ 10.00 hrs.
(Enclosure A)

To receive the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting held at FIFA House, Zurich, Switzerland, on 30th September 2004 @ 09.00 hrs.
(Enclosure B)

III. LAWS OF THE GAME AND DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

To consider the following proposals and amendments submitted under the International Football Association Board's regulations.

1. **Law 3 – The Number of Players**
(Submitted by FIFA)
2. **Law 3 – The Number of Players**
(Submitted by FAW)
3. **Law 4 – The Player's Equipment**
(Submitted by FAW)
4. **Law 5 – The Referee**
(Submitted by FAW)
5. **Law 5 – The Referee**
(Submitted by FAW)
6. **Law 11 – Offside**
(Submitted by the FIFA)
7. **Law 11 – Offside**
(Submitted by the FAW)
8. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FIFA)
9. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FIFA)

10. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FAW)
11. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FAW)
12. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FAW)
13. **Law 14 – The Penalty Kick**
(Submitted by FIFA)
14. **Law 15 – The Throw-In**
(Submitted by SFA)
15. **Law 15 – The Throw-In**
(Submitted by FAW)
16. **Additional Instructions for Referee, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials**
(Submitted by FAW)

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. **Technical Area**
(Submitted by SFA)
2. **The Ball**
(Submitted by FIFA)

V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

VI. 2006 MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD
Venue and Date

PRESENT

The Football Association of Wales:

Mr T M Evans MBE
Mr P Rees
Mr P C Pritchard
Mr D G Collins

Fédération Internationale de Football Association:

Mr J S Blatter
Mr A M Villar Llona
Mr M Bin Hammam
Dr U Linsi

The Football Association:

Mr G Thompson
Mr D Richards
Mr B Barwick
Mr D Davies

The Scottish Football Association:

Mr J McBeth
Mr G Peat
Mr C Ogilvie
Mr D Taylor

The Irish Football Association

Mr J Boyce
Mr R Kennedy
Mr J Semple
Mr H Wells

Also Present:

Mrs J Hoskin (FAW), Mrs V Jones de Kiff (FAW) & Ms C Salzmann (FIFA)
Messrs I Williams (FAW), J C Deakin (FAW), M Evans (FAW),
H U Schneider (FIFA), J M Garcia Aranda (FIFA), A Herren (FIFA),
M Al-Meshadi (FIFA), J Baker (FA), D McVicar (SFA), D Martin (IFA)
& W Campbell (IFA).

I. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Football Association of Wales President, Tegwyn Evans, MBE, welcomed the members to the 2005 Annual General Meeting of the International Football Association Board.

Mr. Evans especially welcomed the board members attending their first meeting – Mohamed Bin Hammam (President of the AFC and FIFA EXCO member), Brian Barwick (Chief Executive of The Football Association), Howard Wells (Chief Executive of the Irish FA) and Jim Semple (Vice President of The Irish FA).

In the past year, one former board member, Mr. R. Gwynfryn Jones, MBE of the Football Association of Wales had passed away. The members stood in memory of this gentleman.

Mr. Evans also mentioned Mr. David Bowen who had served the board for 27 years prior to his departure from the Irish FA the previous year and Mr. George Cumming former Scottish FA and FIFA delegate. Both gentlemen gave long and valued service to the board.

Mr. Evans asked Mr. Collins to chair the meeting with regard to items II, III and IV.

II. MINUTES

The Board unanimously approved the Minutes of the 2004 Annual General Meeting held in Claridges London on 28th February 2004.

The board received the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting held at FIFA House, Zurich, Switzerland, on the 30th September 2004.

III. LAWS OF THE GAME AND DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

To consider the following proposals and amendments submitted under the International Football Association Board's regulations.

1. Law 3 – The Number of Players (Submitted by FIFA)

Other Matches

Present Text

In other matches, up to six substitutes may be used.

Proposed Text

In other matches, up to six substitutes may be used (**only applies to national team "A" matches**).

In all other matches (club, youth and women's football etc.) it is permissible to use a greater number of substitutes, if both teams agree before starting the match and inform the referee accordingly. If there is no agreement, up to six substitutes may be used.

Reason

This change will clarify the present position.

Amendments

(Submitted by SFA)

Other Matches

In National A team matches, up to a maximum of six substitutes may be used.

In all other matches, a greater number of substitutes may be used provided that:

- the teams concerned reach agreement on a maximum number
- the referee is informed before the match

If the referee is not informed, or if no agreement is reached before the match, no more than six substitutes are allowed.

Decisions

The amendment submitted by The Scottish Football Association was adopted.

2. **Law 3 – The Number of Players**
(Submitted by FAW)

Infringements/Sanctions

Bullet point 3

Present Text

- Play is restarted with a dropped ball at the place it was located when the play was stopped

Proposed Text

- Play is restarted with an **indirect free kick** at the place it was located when the play was stopped

Reason

It should be considered as an infringement by the team of the substitute player who enters the field of play without the permission, and his team should be penalised with an indirect free kick.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Football Association of Wales was adopted.

3. **Law 4 – The Player’s Equipment**
(Submitted by FAW)

Goalkeepers

Present Text

Each goalkeeper wears colours which distinguish him from the other players, the referee and the assistant referee.

Proposed Text

Each goalkeeper wears colours which distinguish him from the other players.

Reason

Given that the match officials have only three different colours, in some cases it is virtually impossible to avoid similar colours to a goalkeeper. However, there is no real clash during the match between the match officials and the goalkeeper. Therefore, for practical reasons, this clause should be amended.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Football Association of Wales was withdrawn.

4. **The Referee**
(Submitted by FAW)

Decisions of the Referee

Present Text

The referee may only change a decision on realising that it is incorrect or, at his discretion, on the advice of an assistant referee, provided that he has not restarted play.

Proposed Text

The referee may only change a decision on realising that it is incorrect or, at his discretion, on the advice of an assistant referee, provided that he has not restarted play.

Once the referee has terminated the match, he cannot change a decision.

Reason

Text needs to be clarified because of a practical situation that arose in France, when a referee saw the Assistant Referee signal after he had ended the match.

Amendments

(Submitted by SFA)

The referee may only change a decision on realising that it is incorrect or, at his discretion, or on the advice of an assistant referee, provided that he has not restarted play **or terminated the match.**

Decisions

The Amendment submitted by The Scottish Football Association was adopted.

5. **The Referee**
(Submitted by FAW)

The Referee:

Bullet point 8

Present Text

An injured player may only return to the field of play after the match has restarted.

Proposed Text

An injured player may return to the field of play **immediately, whether the match has restarted or not.**

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Football Association of Wales was withdrawn.

6. **Law 11 – Offside**
(Submitted by the FIFA)

a) New International FA Board Decision 1

In the definition of offside position, “nearer to his opponents’ goal line” means that any part of his head, body or feet is nearer to his opponents’ goal line than both the ball and the second last opponent. The arms are not included in this definition.

Reason:

Football is played with the head, body and feet. If these are nearer the opponents’ goal line, there is a potential advantage. There is no advantage to be gained if only the arms are in advance of the opponent.

b) New International FA Board Decision 2

The definitions of elements of involvement in active play are as follows:-

- Interfering with play means playing or touching the ball passed or touched by a team mate.
- Interfering with an opponent means preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent’s line of vision or movements or making a gesture or movement which, in the opinion of the referee, deceives or distracts an opponent.
- Gaining an advantage by being in that position means playing a ball that rebounds to him off a post or the crossbar having been in an offside position or playing a ball that rebounds to him off an opponent having been in an offside position.

Reason

These definitions have been tried out over two seasons and modified following the approval of the original interpretation by the IFAB Business meeting in September. This IFAB decision gives the appropriate recognition to the Laws of the Game booklet.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association was adopted.

7. **Law 11 – Offside**
(Submitted by FAW)

Offside Position

Present Text

A player is not in an offside position if:

- He is in his own half of the field of play.

Proposed Text

A player can only be considered as being in an offside position if:

- He is inside the opponent's penalty area.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Football Association of Wales was withdrawn.

8. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FIFA)

Decision of the IFAB

Decision 4.

Present Text

A tackle from behind, which endangers the safety of an opponent, must be sanctioned as serious foul play.

Proposed Text

A tackle, which endangers the safety of an opponent, must be sanctioned as serious foul play.

Reason

A tackle from behind but also from the side or the front, which injures or could have injured the opponent, must be sanctioned as serious foul play.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposals submitted by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association were adopted.

9. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FIFA)

Decision of the IFAB

New Decision 7.

Once the referee has stopped the match to award a free kick, any player from the team that committed the foul who deliberately touches the ball is considered as delaying the restart of play and should be punished with a yellow card. This sanction also applies to a player who touches the ball when a throw-in or corner kick is awarded in favour of the opponent and if a player takes the ball from the goal net after his team has scored a goal (kick-off for the opponent).

Reason

Clear guidelines should stop unsporting tactics to delay the restart of play, such as holding the ball for a few seconds or throwing it away, thereby allowing the defence to regain its position. It should also stop players fighting for the ball.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association was withdrawn. The Board decided to allow FIFA to experiment with this proposal at the FIFA World Youth Championship in the Netherlands and the FIFA Under 17 World Championship in Peru. FIFA would report on the experiment at the next AGM.

10. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FAW)

Cautionable Offences

New bullet point 8.

8. Denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards his goal by an offence punishable by a penalty kick (except in the case of hand ball)

Sending Off Offences

Bullet point 5.

Present Text

Denies and obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick.

Proposed Text

Denies and obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick.

Reason

The goal-scoring opportunity is "returned" to the team by awarding a penalty.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Football Association of Wales was withdrawn.

11. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FAW)

Decisions of the IFAB

Decision 6.

Present Text

A player who removes his jersey when celebrating a goal must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

Proposed Text

A player who **completely** removes his jersey when celebrating a goal must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Football Association of Wales was withdrawn.

12. **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**
(Submitted by FAW)

Disciplinary Sanctions

Present Text

Only a player or substitute or substituted player may be shown the red or yellow card.

Proposed Text

Only a player or substitute or substituted player may be shown the red or yellow card.

The Referee has the authority to take disciplinary sanctions, as from the moment he enters the field of play until he leaves the field of play after the final whistle.

Reason

Important to define when the referee is authorised to show red and yellow cards. When incidents happen on the pitch right after the final whistle, a card may now be shown and, it would be more effective than the current practice of just reporting the incident.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Football Association of Wales was adopted.

13. **Law 14 – The Penalty Kick**
(Submitted by FIFA)

Infringements/Sanctions

- a) The player taking the penalty kick infringes the Laws of the Game - Bullet point three

Present Text

If the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is not retaken.

Proposed Text

If the ball does not enter the goal, **the referee stops play and restarts the match with an indirect free kick to the defending team.**

- b) A team-mate of the player taking the kick enters the penalty area or moves in front of or within 9.15m (10 yds) of the penalty mark - Bullet point three

Present Text

If the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is not retaken.

Proposed Text

If the ball does not enter the goal, **the referee stops play and restarts the match with an indirect free kick to the defending team.**

Reason

The current text is confusing and leads to different interpretations.

Amendments

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6

Decisions

The proposals submitted by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association were adopted.

14. **Law 15 – The Throw-In**
(Submitted by SFA)

Procedure

Delete present text and substitute new text

New Text

At the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower

- Faces the field of play
- Has part of each foot either on the touch-line or on the ground inside the touch-line
- Uses both hands
- Delivers the ball from behind and over his head.

The thrower may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

All opponents must stand no less than 1.83 metres (2 yds) from the point at which the throw-in is taken.

The ball is in play immediately it enters the field of play.

Reason

There is an increasing trend for an opponent to stand immediately in front of the thrower at a throw-in, with his feet virtually on the touch line. There is no breach of Law 15 but without doubt the thrower is being impeded from completing the throw. In addition, there is the possibility of a confrontational situation developing between both players.

The only occasions where players need not presently retreat a prescribed distance at the start or restart of play is at a dropped ball or a throw-in and the proposal brings the throw-in in line with other laws.

A number of National Associations are actually unofficially imposing a prescribed distance in such situations and this proposed amendment would ensure standardisation of the application of the Laws of the Game.

Amendments

(Submitted by SFA)

- Has part of each foot either on the touch-line or on the ground **outside** the touch-line.

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Scottish Football Association together with its amendment and replacing 1.83 metres with 2.0 metres was adopted.

15. Law 15 – The Throw-In
(Submitted by FAW)

Infringements/Sanctions

Present Text

If an opponent unfairly distracts or impedes the thrower:

- he is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and shown the yellow card.

Proposed Text

All opponents must be at least 1.83m (2 yds) from the thrower until the ball is in play.

If an opponent unfairly distracts or impedes the thrower or is closer to the thrower than the required distance:

- he is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and shown the yellow card.

Reason

Opponents must keep a distance of at least 1.83m (2 yds) so that the throw-in can be taken without hindrance, risk of injury (body contact between the thrower and the opponent) and disturbance.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Football Association of Wales was withdrawn.

16. **Additional Instructions for Referee, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials**
(Submitted by FAW)

Dealing with injured players:

a) Bullet Point 5

Present Text

The Referee ensures an injured player is removed from the field of play.

Proposed Text

The referee ensures a **seriously** injured player is **safely** removed from the field of play.

b) Bullet Point 6

Present Text

A player is not allowed to be treated on the field of play

Proposed Text

A player who has sustained superficial injuries may be allowed to be treated on the field of play at the discretion of the Referee; the player may not necessarily be required to leave the field of play following treatment.

c) Bullet Point 7

Present Text

As soon as the Referee has authorised the doctors to enter the field, the player must leave the field, either on the stretcher or on foot. If a player does not comply he is cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

Proposed Text

As soon as the Referee has authorised the doctors to enter the field of play, the seriously injured player must leave the field of play, either on the stretcher or on foot, providing the doctor considers it safe for him to do so.

Reason

The changes suggested attempt to clarify the position by not allowing the side that may have caused the injury to gain advantage by having an extra player on the field of play.

Amendments

Decisions

The proposal submitted by The Football Association of Wales was withdrawn.

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

1. Technical Area

The board referred to the Sub Committee the task of seeking clarification on the advertising in the technical area.

Submitted by The Scottish Football Association

2. The Ball

A detailed presentation was given by Adidas and Cairros on new goal line ball technology. Following the presentation there was a detailed question and answer session.

The board gave FIFA permission to experiment with the new technology in the FIFA Under 17 World Championship in Peru this year and in addition the FIFA Club World Championship in Japan. Following which FIFA would report to a future meeting.

Submitted by The Federation International de Football Association

V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i) Questions and Answers Booklet

The Football Association, on behalf of the IFAB Sub Committee, made a request to update the FIFA Question and Answer Booklet. The Board gave its permission and asked the Sub Committee to make the necessary changes.

ii) World Issues

The FIFA President, Mr. Blatter, spoke about current issues surrounding referees, the game in general and other related issues including racism, the international calendar and the Tsunami disaster. Mr. Blatter went on to say that he believed that football was continuing to grow throughout the world.

Mr. J. S. Blatter, President of FIFA on behalf of the Board, thanked The Football Association of Wales' President, Mr. Tegwyn Evans and the Secretary General, Mr. David Collins for the way in which they had chaired the meeting and offered especial thanks to them for the hospitality and the excellent way the weekend had been conducted.

Mr. Tegwyn Evans thanked the Board members for their participation and added his thanks to Mr. David Collins and his staff for all their hard work. Mr. Evans concluded by wishing everyone a pleasant stay in Wales.

VI. 2006 MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

The 2006 Annual General Meeting of the International FA Board will take place on Saturday, 4th March 2006. FIFA will confirm the venue at a later date.