



FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

# MINUTES of the 120<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL  
ASSOCIATION BOARD

PALACE HOTEL, LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND  
SATURDAY, 4 MARCH 2006



APPROVED BY THE IFAB MEMBERS - 06.04.06



*For the Good of the Game*

# FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES  
of the  
120<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the

# INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

held at the  
PALACE HOTEL,  
LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND  
on  
SATURDAY, 4 MARCH 2006  
at 09.30 hours

Hitzigweg 11  
8030 Zürich  
Switzerland

General Secretary  
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



# AGENDA

## I. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

## II. MINUTES

## 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 1 – The Field of Play

(Submitted by FIFA)

### 2. Law 4 – The Players' Equipment

(Submitted by FIFA)

### 3. Law 10 – The Method of Scoring

(Submitted by FIFA)

### 4. Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct (Cautionable Offences)

(Submitted by FIFA)

### 5. Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct (Sending-Off Offences)

(Submitted by FIFA)

### 6. Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct (Decisions of the IFAB)

(Submitted by FIFA)

### 7. Law 14 – The Penalty Kick

(Submitted by FIFA)

### 8. Law 17 – The Corner Kick

(Submitted by FIFA)

### 9. Additional Instructions for Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials

(Dealing with injured players – Exceptions)

(Submitted by The Football Association)

## IV. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS BOOKLET 2006

## **V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION**

- 1. The Ball – adidas/Cairos new goal-line ball technology**  
(Submitted by the IFAB following the 2005 AGM)
- 2. Request for tests with a referee communication system in UEFA club and youth competitions in spring 2006**
- 3. Request for tests with a video system to assist referees**  
(Submitted by the French Football Federation (FFF))
- 4. Technical Area**  
Report back from the Sub Committee regarding clarification on the advertising in the technical area

## **VI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

## **VII. 2007 MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD**

Venue and date

APPROVED BY THE IFAB MEMBERS - 06.04.06

# PRESENT

## **Fédération Internationale de Football Association**

Mr Joseph S Blatter  
Mr Lennart Johansson  
Mr Angel Maria Villar Llona  
Dr Urs Linsi

## **The Football Association**

Mr Geoffrey Thompson  
Mr Brian Barwick  
Mr David G Richards  
Mr David Davies

## **The Irish Football Association**

Mr Jim Boyce  
Mr Raymond Kennedy  
Mr Morton McKnight  
Mr Howard Wells

## **The Scottish Football Association**

Mr John McBeth  
Mr George Peat  
Mr Campbell Ogilvie  
Mr David Taylor

## **The Football Association of Wales**

Mr Peter Rees  
Mr Philip Pritchard  
Mr David Collins  
Mr Idwal Williams

**Excused:** Mr Tegwyn M Evans, MBE, President of the Football Association of Wales, due to illness. Mr Blatter said that the IFAB would convey best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mr Evans.

**Also Present:** Mr José Maria Garcia Aranda, Mr Hans Ulrich Schneider, Mr Neale Barry (FA), Mr William E Campbell and Mr David J Martin (IFA), Mr Donald McVicar (SFA), Mr Andreas Herren, Mr Guy-Philippe Mathieu and Mrs Maureen Huber (FIFA - minutes).

## **I. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The Fédération Internationale de Football Association President, Mr Joseph S Blatter, welcomed the members to the 2006 Annual General Meeting of the International Football Association Board and said how privileged he was to be chairing this meeting hosted by FIFA. He expressed gratitude that the British Associations had been careful and conscientious custodians of football's Laws of the Game since the IFAB's inception in 1886.

After introducing the participants, Mr Blatter said it was his sad duty to call for a minute's silence in reverence to the memory of former IFAB member and referee, Mr Thomas Wharton of Scotland, who had passed away since the last IFAB Annual General Meeting and Mr Werner Muller, Head of Refereeing of the Swiss Football Association, who had died suddenly a few days ago at the age of only fifty-four.

## **II. MINUTES**

The IFAB unanimously approved the minutes of the 2005 Annual General Meeting held at Miskin Manor Hotel, Vale of Glamorgan, Wales on 26 February 2005.

The IFAB received the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting held at the JW Marriott Hotel, Lima, Peru on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2005.

APPROVED BY THE IFAB MEMBERS - 2004.06

### 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 1 – The Field of Play

(Submitted by FIFA)

##### *The Corner Arc*

###### **Present Text**

- A quarter circle with radius of 1 m (1 yd) from each corner flagpost is drawn inside the field of play.

###### **Proposed Text**

- A quarter circle with radius of **2 m (2.2 yds)** from each corner flagpost is drawn inside the field of play.

##### **Reason**

To provide the players especially in stadiums where there is only a short distance between the commercial advertising or stands and the pitch sufficient space to kick the ball.

##### **Amendments**

##### **Decisions**

The proposal submitted by FIFA was withdrawn.

## 2. Law 4 – The Players' Equipment

(Submitted by FIFA)

### **Basic Equipment**

#### **Present Text**

The basic compulsory equipment of a player is:

- a jersey or shirt;
- shorts – if thermal undershorts are worn, they are of the same main colour as the shorts;
- stockings;
- shinguards;
- footwear

#### **Proposed Text**

The basic compulsory equipment of a player **comprises the following separate items:**

- a jersey or shirt;
- shorts – if thermal undershorts are worn, they are of the same main colour as the shorts;
- stockings;
- shinguards;
- footwear

#### **Reason**

Adding "... the following separate items:" ensures that the basic equipment must consist of individual garments and therefore a player's jersey and shorts may not be joined together in any way.

#### **Amendments**

#### **Decisions**

The proposal submitted by FIFA was approved.

### 3. Law 10 – The Method of Scoring

(Submitted by FIFA)

#### **Competition Rules**

##### **Present Text**

- When competition rules require there to be a winning team after a match has been drawn, only the following procedures, which have been approved by the International F.A. Board, are permitted
- Away goals rule
- Extra time
- Kicks from the penalty mark

##### **Proposed Text**

- When competition rules require there to be a winning team after a match **or home-and-away** tie has been drawn, only the following procedures, which have been approved by the International F.A. Board, are permitted
- Away goals rule
- Extra time
- Kicks from the penalty mark

#### **Amendments**

#### **Decisions**

The proposal submitted by FIFA was approved.

#### 4. Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

(Submitted by FIFA)

##### **Cautionable Offences**

###### **Present Text**

- A player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he commits any of the following seven offences
  1. is guilty of unsporting behaviour
  2. shows dissent by word or action
  3. persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
  4. delays the restart of play
  5. fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick or free kick
  6. enters or re-enters the field of play without the referee's permission
  7. deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee's permission.

###### **Proposed Text**

- A player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he commits any of the following seven offences:
  1. is guilty of unsporting behaviour
  2. shows dissent by word or action
  3. persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
  4. delays the restart of play
  5. fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick **or throw-in**
  6. enters or re-enters the field of play without the referee's permission
  7. deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee's permission.
- **A substitute or substituted player is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he commits any of the following three offences:**
  1. **is guilty of unsporting behaviour**
  2. **shows dissent by word or action**
  3. **delays the restart of play**

##### **Amendments**

##### **Decisions**

The proposal submitted by FIFA was approved.

## 5. Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

(Submitted by FIFA)

### *Sending-Off Offences*

#### **Present Text**

- A player is sent off and shown the red card if he commits any of the following seven offences:
  1. is guilty of serious foul play
  2. is guilty of violent conduct
  3. spits at an opponent or any other person
  4. denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area)
  5. denies an obvious goalscoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
  6. uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
  7. receives a second caution in the same match.

A player who has been sent off must leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area

#### **Proposed Text**

- A player, **substitute or substituted player** is sent off and shown the red card if he commits any of the following seven offences:
  1. is guilty of serious foul play
  2. is guilty of violent conduct
  3. spits at an opponent or any other person
  4. denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area)
  5. denies an obvious goalscoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
  6. uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
  7. receives a second caution in the same match.

A player, **substitute or substituted player** who has been sent off **and shown the red card** must leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area

#### **Amendments**

#### **Decisions**

The proposal submitted by FIFA was approved.

## 6. Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

(Submitted by FIFA)

(Decisions of the IFAB)

### ***New Decision 7***

Present Text	Proposed Text
	<p>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 and thereby delays play or provokes a confrontation with an opponent is considered to be delaying the restart of play and shall 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 to the opposing team and when a player takes the ball from the goal net after his team has scored a goal and thus delays the opposing team's kick-off</p>

### ***Reason***

To stop unsporting tactics to delay the restart of play, such as holding the ball for a few seconds or throwing it away.

### ***Amendments***

### ***Decisions***

The proposal submitted by FIFA was withdrawn (since this point was covered under agenda point 9 - Additional instructions for Referees: Delaying the restart of play - new bullet point 6)

6.04.06

## 7. Law 14 – The Penalty Kick

(submitted by FIFA)

### *Infringements/Sanctions*

#### **Present Text**

*If the referee gives the signal for a penalty kick to be taken and, before the ball is in play, one of the following situations occurs:*

The player taking the penalty kick infringes the Laws of the Game:

- the referee allows the kick to proceed
- if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken
- 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

The goalkeeper infringes the Laws of the Game:

- the referee allows the kick to proceed
- if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
- if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken

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

- the referee allows the kick to proceed
- if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken
- 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
- if the ball rebounds from the goalkeeper, the crossbar or the goalpost and is touched by this player, the referee stops play and restarts the match with an indirect free kick to the defending team.

A team-mate of the goalkeeper enters the penalty area or moves in front of or within 9.15 m (10 yds) of the penalty mark:

#### **Proposed Text**

*If the referee gives the signal for a penalty kick to be taken and, before the ball is in play, one of the following situations occurs:*

The player taking the penalty kick infringes the Laws of the Game:

- the referee allows the kick to proceed
- if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken
- 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 **from the place where the infringement occurred**

The goalkeeper infringes the Laws of the Game:

- the referee allows the kick to proceed
- if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
- if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken

A team-mate of the player taking the kick **infringes the Laws of the Game:**

- the referee allows the kick to proceed
- if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken
- 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 **from the place where the infringement occurred**

A team-mate of the goalkeeper **infringes the Laws of the Game:**

### Present Text

- the referee allows the kick to proceed
- if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
- if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken

A player of both the defending team and the attacking team infringe the Laws of the Game:

- the kick is retaken

*If, after the penalty kick has been taken:*

The kicker touches the ball a second time (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred. \* (see page 3)

The kicker deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred. \* (see page 3)

The ball is touched by an outside agent as it moves forward:

- the kick is retaken

The ball rebounds into the field of play from the goalkeeper, the crossbar or the goalposts, and is then touched by an outside agent:

- the referee stops play
- play is restarted with a dropped ball at the place where it touched the outside agent. \* (see page 3)

### Proposed Text

- the referee allows the kick to proceed
- if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
- if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken

A player of both the defending team and the attacking team infringe the Laws of the Game:

- the kick is retaken

*If, after the penalty kick has been taken:*

The kicker touches the ball a second time (except with his hands) before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred. \* (see page 3)

The kicker deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred. \* (see page 3)

The ball is touched by an outside agent as it moves forward:

- the kick is retaken

The ball rebounds into the field of play from the goalkeeper, the crossbar or the goalposts, and is then touched by an outside agent:

- the referee stops play
- play is restarted with a dropped ball at the place where it touched the outside agent. \* (see page 3)

### Reason

To be consistent with the other infringements (proposed new text). Bullet point 4 is covered by bullet point 3

### Amendments

### Decisions

The proposal submitted by FIFA was approved.

## 8. Law 17 – The Corner Kick

(Submitted by FIFA)

### **Procedure**

bullet point 3

#### **Present Text**

- opponents remain at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball until it is in play

#### **Proposed Text**

- opponents remain at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from **the corner arc** until the ball is in play

### **Reason**

To be consistent with Law 1.

### **Amendments**

### **Decisions**

The proposal submitted by FIFA was approved.

**9. Additional Instructions for Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials**  
(Submitted by The Football Association)

***Dealing with injured players - Exceptions***  
new bullet point 4

<b>Present Text</b>	<b>Proposed Text</b>
<p>Exceptions to this ruling are made only for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• injury to a goalkeeper</li><li>• when a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need immediate attention</li><li>• when a severe injury has occurred, e.g. swallowed tongue, concussion, broken leg etc.</li></ul>	<p>Exceptions to this ruling are made only for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• injury to a goalkeeper</li><li>• when a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need immediate attention</li><li>• when a severe injury has occurred, e.g. swallowed tongue, concussion, broken leg etc.</li><li>• <b>when a player requires treatment following an offence which results in the referee sanctioning the offender with a caution or a sending-off</b></li></ul>

***Amendments***

***Decisions***

The proposal submitted by The Football Association was not approved.

APPROVED BY THE IFAB

## 9. Additional Instructions for Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials

(Submitted by FIFA)

### ***Delaying the restart of play***

new bullet point 6

#### **Present Text**

Referees must caution players who delay the restart of play by tactics such as:

- taking a free kick from the wrong position with the sole intention of forcing the referee to order a retake
- appearing to take a throw-in but suddenly leaving it to one of his teammates to throw-in
- kicking the ball away or carrying it away with the hands after the referee has stopped play
- excessively delaying the taking of a throw-in or free kick
- delaying leaving the field when being substituted

#### **Proposed Text**

Referees must caution players who delay the restart of play by tactics such as:

- taking a free kick from the wrong position with the sole intention of forcing the referee to order a retake
- appearing to take a throw-in but suddenly leaving it to one of his teammates to throw-in
- kicking the ball away or carrying it away with the hands after the referee has stopped play
- excessively delaying the taking of a throw-in or free kick
- delaying leaving the field when being substituted
- **provoking a confrontation by deliberately touching the ball after the referee has stopped play**

#### ***Amendments***

#### ***Decisions***

The proposal submitted by FIFA was approved.

#### **IV. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS BOOKLET 2006**

The IFAB approved the request of the IFAB Sub-Committee to make the necessary changes and update the Questions and Answers Booklet for 2006.

#### **V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION**

The IFAB was of the unanimous opinion that technological assistance should be confined to ruling whether or not a goal had been scored and that any decision to this effect must be immediate.

##### **1. The Ball – adidas/Cairos new goal-line ball technology**

(Submitted by the IFAB following the 2005 AGM)

The IFAB agreed that the experiments started at the FIFA U-17 World Championship Peru 2005 with this “smart” ball goal-line technology should be continued as the system showed promise but still required considerable technical improvement.

##### **2. Request for tests with a referee communication system in UEFA club and youth competitions in Spring 2006**

(Submitted by UEFA Refereeing Unit)

UEFA President, Mr Johansson, apologised for the inadvertency that UEFA had started on tests without previously consulting the IFAB or FIFA.

The IFAB General Secretaries were mandated (at a meeting at 15.00 h that day) to discuss combining this technology with the less injury-prone system (a smaller microphone attached to the lapel) used successfully in Scotland for the past two years. It was also unanimously agreed that a proviso be made exclusively confining the use of such communication to the referee, assistant referees and the fourth official and that it be inaccessible to broadcasters or spectators.

##### **3a. Request for tests with a video system to assist the referees**

(Submitted by the French Football Federation (FFF))

The request of the FFF was not approved, mainly because this video system went beyond the scope and the remit of the IFAB and did not allow for immediate decisions.

##### **3b. Request for tests with a digital-camera system to assist the referees**

(Submitted by the Italian Football Association (FIGC))

The request submitted by the FIGC, after the agenda had been written, was discussed at length and approved.

#### 4. Technical Area

The IFAB agreed that the Scottish Football Association should submit a proposal to the 2006 Annual Business Meeting in the autumn on the matter of advertising in the technical area, particularly on the players' shelter, because Law 1 Decision 4 was often ignored and credibility suffered as a consequence. The Scottish Football Association would subsequently submit a proposal to the IFAB at the 2007 Annual General Meeting.

#### 5. 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany™ - special instructions for referees

The chairman said that as refereeing would be the focus of attention at the forthcoming FIFA World Cup™ in Germany, the plan was to exclusively appoint refereeing trios from the same country or region to officiate World Cup matches.

The chairman requested IFAB approval for FIFA to issue special instructions to the FIFA World Cup™ referees on the following points: elbowing, serious foul play, shirt-pulling, delaying the restart of play, attitude towards referees, jewellery, the wall, simulation.

The referees would be instructed:

- to clamp down severely on elbowing, and serious foul play through reckless tackling by sanctioning offenders with a red card
- to caution any player holding an opponent or pulling his shirt with a caution and yellow card.
- to avert injury by rigorously applying Law 4 – Players' Equipment, which as a safety precaution forbade the wearing of jewellery (ear-rings, rings, necklaces, bracelets or leather or rubber bands) or covering jewellery with adhesive tape
- to closely observe the behaviour of players forming the wall
- to caution any player delaying the restart of play ("by provoking a confrontation by deliberately touching the ball after the referee has stopped play") and for simulation (which was deemed to be synonymous with cheating) with a caution and yellow card and to try and avoid a team from arguing about his decisions and, if necessary, to caution the instigator(s).

The Chairman pointed out that it was intended to highlight these instructions at the forthcoming 2006 FIFA World Cup™ finalist teams' workshop from 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

The IFAB gave its approval to FIFA to instruct the 2006 FIFA World Cup referees accordingly.

## **VI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The IFAB agreed that the special instructions to referees and the amendments made to the Laws of the Game should enter into force on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2006, prior to the 2006 FIFA World Cup, instead of on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2006.

The Football Association President, Mr Thompson, thanked the chairman, on behalf of the IFAB, for the democratic way he had chaired the meeting and called for a vote of thanks to FIFA for its generous hospitality.

As the longest-serving General Secretary of the IFAB, Mr Collins of the Football Association of Wales wished Mr Blatter a Happy 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 10<sup>th</sup> March on the IFAB's behalf.

Mr Blatter thanked the IFAB members for their kind remarks and closed the meeting at 12.05 with the suggestion that the FIFA General Secretary look into the possibility of awarding honorary membership to colleagues who had retired after ten or twenty years' service as an International Football Association Board member.

## **VII. 2007 MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD**

The 2007 Annual General Meeting would be organised by The Football Association in Manchester, England on 2 to 4 March 2007.

APPROVED BY THE IFAB MEMBERS 0604.06

APPROVED BY THE IFAB MEMBERS - 06.04.06