

125th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

International Football Association Board



FIFA[®]



MINUTES

of the
125th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the
INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

Held at
The Celtic Manor Hotel, Usk Valley, Wales
on
Saturday, 5th March 2011

AGENDA

I. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

II. MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Home of FIFA, Zurich, Switzerland on 6 March 2010.

To confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of the IFAB held at the Home of FIFA, Zurich, Switzerland on 18 May 2010.

To confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of the IFAB held in Cardiff, Wales on 21 July 2010.

To confirm the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the IFAB held in Cardiff, Wales on 20 October 2010.

III. LAWS OF THE GAME AND DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

To consider the following proposals and amendments submitted under the regulations of the IFAB -

1. Notes on the Laws of the Game – Modifications
(Submitted by The FA)
2. Law 1 – The Field of Play
(Submitted by FIFA)
3. Law 2 – The Ball
(Submitted by FIFA)
4. Law 3 – The Number of Players
(Submitted by FIFA)
5. Law 4 – Players' Equipment
(Submitted by the FA of Wales)
6. Law 5 – The Referee
(Submitted by FIFA)
7. Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play
(Submitted by FIFA)

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

1. Additional Assistant Referees (AAR)
(Submitted by FIFA)
2. Goal – Line Technology (GLT)
(Submitted by FIFA)

V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

VI. 2012 MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

PRESENT

Fédération International de Football Association

The Football Association

The Scottish Football Association

The Irish Football Association

The Football Association of Wales

ALSO PRESENT

Fédération International de Football Association

The Irish Football Association

The Football Association of Wales

Mr Joseph S BLATTER
Mr Julio GRONDONA
Mr Ángel María VILLAR LLONA
Mr Jérôme VALCKE

Mr David BERNSTEIN
Sir Dave RICHARDS
Mr David ELLERAY
Mr Alex HORNE
Mr Neale BARRY

Mr George PEAT
Mr Campbell OGILVIE
Mr Alan MCRAE
Mr Stewart REGAN
Mr John FLEMING

Mr Jim SHAW
Mr Terry PATEMAN
Mr Neil JARDINE
Mr Patrick NELSON
Mr William CAMPBELL

Mr Philip PRITCHARD
Mr Trefor LLOYD-HUGHES
Mr Kenneth TUCKER
Mr David GRIFFITHS
Mr Jonathan FORD
Mr John DEAKIN

Mr Michel PLATINI
Mr David CHUNG
Mr Chuck BLAZER
Mr Yousef Al SERKAL
Mr Ahmed JASSIM
Mr Christoph SCHMIDT
Mr Jean-Paul BRIGGER
Mr Fernando TRESACO GRACIA
Mr Alex STONE
Mr Lukas BRUD
Ms Marta MULERO

Mr Raymond KENNEDY
Mr David MARTIN

Mr Paul EVANS
Mr Andrew HOWARD

I. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The FAW President, Mr Philip Pritchard, welcomed the members to the 125th Annual General Meeting of the International Football Association Board at the Celtic Manor Hotel, Usk Valley, Wales. Mr Pritchard expressed to the members how much of a great honour and privilege it was for The Football Association of Wales to host this historic meeting and wished to extend a warm welcome to all those present who were attending their first Annual General Meeting of the IFAB.

The FAW President reported to the Board the sad death in November 2010 of Mr Jim Farry, former Chief Executive of the Scottish Football Association, and invited the members to observe a minute's silence in memory of Mr Farry.

Mr Pritchard then invited the FIFA President, Mr Blatter, to address the meeting.

Mr Blatter reflected on how the growth in the popularity of the game was intrinsically linked to the 125 year history of the International Football Association Board. He remarked that football in its simplest form is a game that can be played anywhere and by anyone. It is a game that everyone knows how to play and it is this universal knowledge of the rules that stands as a testament to the success of the IFAB and its guardianship of the Laws of the Game.

Mr Pritchard thanked Mr Blatter for his remarks and invited the members to watch a short film highlighting the history of the International Football Association Board.

II. MINUTES

The IFAB unanimously approved the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the International Football Association Board held at the Home of FIFA, Zurich, Switzerland on Saturday, 6th March 2010.

The IFAB unanimously approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of the International Football Association Board held at the Home of FIFA, Zurich, Switzerland on 18th May 2010.

The IFAB unanimously approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of the International Football Association Board held in Cardiff, Wales on 21st July 2010.

The IFAB unanimously approved the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the International Football Association Board held in Cardiff, Wales on 20th October 2010.

III. LAWS OF THE GAME AND DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

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

- Notes on the Laws of the Game – Modifications (Submitted by The FA)

Present Text	Proposed Text
<p>Subject to the agreement of the member association concerned and provided the principles of these Laws are maintained, the Laws may be modified in their application for matches for players of under 16 years of age, for women footballers, for veteran footballers (over 35 years of age) and for players with disabilities.</p> <p>Any or all of the following modifications are permissible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • size of the field of play • size, weight and material of the ball • width between the goalposts and height of the crossbar from the ground • duration of the periods of play • substitutions <p>Further modifications are only allowed with the consent of the International Football Association Board.</p>	<p>Subject to the agreement of the member association concerned and provided the principles of these Laws are maintained, the Laws may be modified in their application for matches for players of under 18 years of age, for women footballers, for veteran footballers (over 35 years of age) and for players with disabilities.</p> <p>Any or all of the following modifications are permissible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • size of the field of play • size, weight and material of the ball • width between the goalposts and height of the crossbar from the ground • duration of the periods of play • substitutions <p>Further modifications are only allowed with the consent of the International Football Association Board.</p>

Reason

Increasing the age for which dispensations are possible within National Associations (from U16 to U18) will help with the growth and retention of players within football in that age bracket. In England we have identified this age bracket as a focus for growth and retention (which in turn may assist with growth and retention in adult participation in later years) as drop off of interest and participation is at its greatest in this age bracket. The change will allow National Associations to come up with more flexible ways of playing the game in order to encourage people in this age bracket to take up the sport or to continue their participation.

Decision

The proposal was not approved. The members were concerned that this proposal was open to misinterpretation. Its intention was to focus on grassroots football only, not on professional football.

Since there is no provision on grassroots football in the current edition of the Laws of the Game, this clarification could be discussed by the IFAB at a later date.

2. Law 1 – The Field of Play
(Submitted by FIFA)

a) Field Markings

Present Text	Proposed Text
Only the lines indicated in Law 1 are to be marked on the field of play.	Only the lines indicated in Law 1 are to be marked on the field of play. Where artificial surfaces are used, other lines are permitted provided that they are of a different colour and clearly distinguishable from the lines for the field of play for football.

Reason

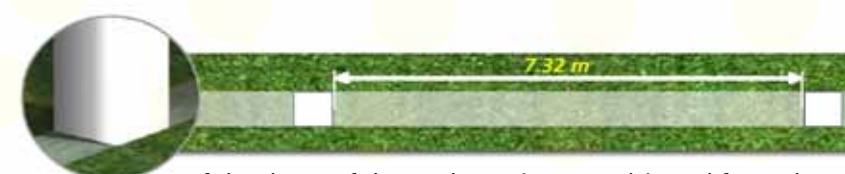
There is clearly a demand for football turf pitches to have markings for more sports than just football. Considering the lines will be fixed on a football turf pitch, it is problematic under the current Laws of the Game to justify a competitive football match taking place on a football turf pitch that is used for multiple sports.

Decision

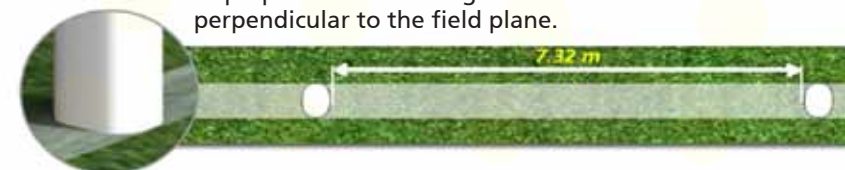
The proposal was approved.

b) Goals

Present Text	Proposed Text
	The position of the goal posts in relation to the goal line must be according to the graphics below.



If the shape of the goalposts is square (viewed from above), the sides must be parallel or perpendicular to the goal line. The sides of the crossbar must be parallel or perpendicular to the field plane.



If the shape of the goalposts is elliptical (viewed from above), the longest axis must be perpendicular to the goal line. The longest axis of the crossbar must be parallel to the field plane.



If the shape of the goalposts is rectangular (viewed from above), the longest side must be perpendicular to the goal line. The longest side of the crossbar must be parallel to the field plane.



Reason

It is necessary to define the position of the goal posts in relation to the goal line in order to avoid inconsistencies between one field of play and another.

Decision

The proposal was approved.

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

c) Commercial advertising

Present Text	Proposed Text
Commercial advertising shall be at least 1m (1yd) from the boundary lines of the field of play.	Advertising on the ground shall be at least 1m (1 yd) from the boundary lines of the field of play. Upright advertising shall be at least 1m (1yd) from the touch lines of the field of play. Upright advertising shall be at least the same distance from the goal line as the depth of the goal net.

Reason

Due to the increasing use of new advertising boards in an upright position very close to the boundaries of the field of play, according to the present text of the Laws it is necessary to define the location of these upright advertising boards, particularly behind the goal line because they may hide part of the net from a lateral view and can also be unsafe for players.

Decision

The proposal was not approved. The members were concerned that the proposed new text was open to misinterpretation.

3. Law 2 – The Ball (Submitted by FIFA)

Replacement of a Defective Ball

Present Text	Proposed Text
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the ball bursts or becomes defective during the course of a match <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the match is stopped the match is restarted by dropping the replacement ball at the place where the original ball became defective, unless play was stopped inside the goal area, in which case the referee drops the replacement ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the original ball was located when play was stopped 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the ball bursts or becomes defective during the course of a match <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the match is stopped the match is restarted by dropping the replacement ball at the place where the original ball became defective, unless play was stopped inside the goal area, in which case the referee drops the replacement ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the original ball was located when play was stopped <p>If the ball bursts or becomes defective during a penalty kick or during kicks from the penalty mark as it moves forward and before it touches any player or the crossbar or goalposts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the penalty kick is retaken

Reason

It is considered unfair that if the ball bursts or becomes defective during a penalty kick or during kicks from the penalty mark, play is restarted with a dropped ball according to the present text of Law 2.

Decision

The proposal was approved.

4. Law 3 – The Numbers of Players
(Submitted by FIFA)

a) Structure amendment

Present Structure	Proposed Structure
<p>Law 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players • Official Competitions • Other Matches • All Matches • Substitution Procedure • Changing the Goalkeeper • Infringements and Sanctions • Players and Substitutes Sent Off 	<p>Law 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Players • Number of Substitutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Official Competitions - Other Matches • Substitution Procedure • Changing the Goalkeeper • Infringements and Sanctions • Players and Substitutes Sent Off

Reason

The text of the Law 3 has been re-organised by the technical sub-committee of the IFAB in order to have a clearer structure of the Laws and to avoid current misinterpretations.

Decision

The proposed new structure was approved.

b) Addition to the current text

Present Text	Proposed Text
	<p>Infringements and sanctions</p> <p>If a named substitute enters the field of play instead of a named player at the start of the match and the referee is not informed of this change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the referee allows play to continue • the referee cautions the player concerned when the ball is next out of play

Reason

It is not rare that a substitution is made prior to the start of the match and after the referee has been informed of the names of the players and substitutes. This is normally due to an injury of a player during the warm-up. If the referee is informed of the substitution, this is permitted but it is necessary to clarify how to proceed if the referee is not informed of this change.

Decision

The principle behind the proposed new text was approved. However, the members requested that any new text be submitted for a final decision at the 126th Annual General Meeting.

c) Addition to the current text

Present Text	Proposed Text
<p>Extra persons on the field of play</p> <p>Outside agents</p> <p>Anyone not indicated on the team list as a player, substitute or team official is deemed to be an outside agent, as is a player who has been sent off.</p> <p>Team officials</p> <p>If a team official enters the field of play: ...</p>	<p>Extra persons on the field of play</p> <p>Outside agents</p> <p>Anyone not indicated on the team list as a player, substitute or team official is deemed to be an outside agent, as is a player who has been sent off.</p> <p>Team officials</p> <p>The coach and other officials indicated on the team list (with the exception of players or substitute players) are deemed to be team officials.</p> <p>If a team official enters the field of play: ...</p>

Reason

There are some references to team officials in the Laws of the Game but no definition of the term. The re-organisation of the text of Law 3 is a good opportunity to include a definition of team officials for better understanding.

Decision

The proposal was approved.

5. Law 4 – Players' Equipment
(Submitted by the FA of Wales)

Basic equipment

Present Text	Proposed Text
<p>Shorts – if undershorts are worn, they must be of the same main colour as the shorts</p>	<p>Shorts – if undershorts or tights are worn, they must be of the same main colour as the shorts</p>

Reason

The current Law permits tights to be worn that are not of the same basic colour as the shorts, which could possibly result in confusion for opponents and match officials. This change would ensure consistency with the present wording that requires undershorts if worn to be of the same basic colour as the shorts and prevent the aforementioned confusion.

Decision

The proposal was approved.

6. Law 5 – The Referee
(Submitted by FIFA)

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees
Powers and Duties

Present Text	Proposed Text
	If an extra ball, other object or animal enters the field of play during the match, the referee must stop the match only if it interferes with play. Play must be restarted by a dropped ball in the position where the match ball was at the time when the match was stopped, unless play was stopped inside the goal area, in which case the referee drops the ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when play was stopped. If an extra ball, other object or animal enters the field of play during the match without interfering with play, the referee must have it removed at the earliest possible opportunity.

Reason

There are many times when objects may enter the field of play, and it is unclear in the current text of the Laws of the Game which decision the referee should take when an object interferes with play, and which decision the referee should take when an object does not interfere with play.

Decision

The proposal was approved.

- As this amendment was approved, the paragraph below is deleted.

Law 2 – The Ball

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees
Extra balls on the field of play

If an extra ball enters the field of play during the match, the referee must stop the match only if it interferes with play. Play must be restarted by a dropped ball from the position of the ball when the match was stopped, unless play was stopped inside the goal area, in which case the referee drops the ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when play was stopped.

If an extra ball enters the field of play during the match without interfering with play, the referee must have it removed at the earliest possible opportunity.

7. Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play
(Submitted by FIFA)

a) Structure amendment

Present Structure	Proposed Structure
Law 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminaries • Kick-off • Procedure • Infringements and Sanctions • Dropped Ball • Procedure • Infringements and Sanctions 	Law 8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of Kick-off • Procedure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Before a kick-off at the start of the match or extra time - Kick-off • Infringements and Sanctions • Definition of Dropped Ball • Procedure • Infringements and Sanctions

Reason

A new organisation of the text of the Law 8 has been prepared by the technical subcommittee of the IFAB in order to have a more clear structure of the Laws and avoid current misinterpretations.

Decision

The proposal was approved.

b) Addition to the current text

Present Text	Proposed Text
Dropped Ball If, while the ball is still in play, the referee is required to stop play temporarily for any reason not mentioned elsewhere in the Laws of the Game.	Definition of Dropped Ball A dropped ball is a method of restarting play when, while the ball is still in play, the referee is required to stop play temporarily for any reason not mentioned elsewhere in the Laws of the Game.

Reason

Following the general structure of the Laws of the Game of definition, procedure and infringements, it is considered necessary to include a definition of a dropped ball.

Decision

The proposal was approved.

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

1. Additional Assistant Referees (AAR)

(Submitted by FIFA / Donald McVicar)

1.1 Experiment Status

Mr Donald McVicar, the coordinator appointed by the IFAB to analyse and evaluate the AAR experiment, was invited into the meeting to present to the members the following –

- a) Summary of events since the start of the AAR experiment
- b) A project plan for 2011-2012 with detailed timelines and goals
- c) An evaluation plan - success measurement

Mr McVicar reported that to date the AAR experiment had been carried out in a total of 389 games, the majority of which (240) had occurred in UEFA competitions. The members were informed that the current status of the 8 participants in the AAR experiment was as follows –

- Qatar, Morocco, AFC, France and UEFA had started the experiment and provided feedback;
- Brazil had started the experiment but had yet to provide official confirmation or feedback;
- Cote d'Ivoire had yet to confirm the start date of the experiment; and
- Mexico had postponed the start of the experiment due to complexity and costs.

In summary, Mr McVicar informed the members that the use of AARs had improved teamwork between the match officials. Furthermore, their presence had reduced (but not eliminated) foul play in and around the penalty area and there had been fewer goal line decision errors. He stressed the fact that all report summaries were based simply on overall impression' rather than statistical analysis. Only Qatar confirmed that their evaluation was based on statistics available from previous years.

However, feedback from the participants in the experiment had highlighted a number of issues, including the need to increase the training of less experienced match officials, as well as the continuous problems being experienced with the current positioning of referees and AARs.

Further to this point, Mr McVicar informed the members that UEFA had submitted a proposal to move the AAR's position from left to right, which would allow the referee to return to his "traditional" diagonal system and thus avoid any loss in his concentration.

In support of this proposal, Mr Platini (UEFA President) was invited to address the meeting. He informed the members that the use of AARs in the UEFA competitions was receiving increasing support from referees. It gave them greater control in the penalty area which meant that more infringements were being identified and punished and there was an improvement in the confidence of decisions relating to the goal line.

Mr Blatter expressed FIFA's on-going concerns regarding the high costs and difficulties being experienced by the confederations in conducting the AAR experiment. This point was supported by Mr Chuck Blazer

(CONCACAF General Secretary), who, having been granted permission to address the meeting, informed the members that his confederation's attempt to introduce the experiment had proved very expensive and problematic, which had ultimately resulted in Mexico postponing their involvement in the AAR experiment.

Following further discussions on the matter, the members unanimously determined the following –

1. The proposal to move the AAR's position from left to right and to allow the referee to return to his "traditional" diagonal system should be approved, provided that any such change must commence only at the start of a new season (e.g. 2011/2012 in Europe)
2. The AAR experiment shall be permitted to continue until its planned conclusion, following which the IFAB will make a final decision.

1.2 Use of Additional Assistant Referees at the EURO 2012™

(Submitted by FIFA / UEFA)

Mr Blatter informed the meeting that FIFA had received from UEFA a request for permission to use Additional Assistant Referees for the duration of the EURO 2012™ Final Tournament in Poland and Ukraine. During the members' discussion regarding the request, Mr Blatter reminded the meeting that the EURO 2012™ qualifying tournament had already started and was not part of the on-going AAR experiment. Furthermore, the principle behind the AAR experiment was that it should be applied to club games only.

Following further discussions on the matter, the members unanimously agreed to grant permission to UEFA to use Additional Assistant Referees at the EURO 2012™ Final Tournament.

2. Goal – Line Technology (GLT)

(Submitted by FIFA)

Dr Erwin Hack of EMPA (Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology based in St. Gallen, Switzerland, who were commissioned by FIFA on behalf of the IFAB to undertake GLT tests) was invited into the meeting to present their findings in relation to the GLT field-tests that had taken place at the Home of FIFA between the 7th and 13th February 2011. Dr Hack informed the meeting that of the initial fourteen companies that had presented their systems to FIFA in October 2010, only ten had subsequently submitted their registration forms to FIFA and therefore had gone forward for testing in February.

Dr Hack informed the members that the test procedure established was based on the four re-defined GLT criteria which had been approved at the IFAB Annual Business Meeting held on 20th October 2010. These being –

- (i) the GLT will apply solely to the goal line and is solely to determine whether a goal has been scored or not;
- (ii) the system must be accurate;
- (iii) the indication of whether a goal has been scored must be immediate and automatically confirmed within one second; and
- (iv) the indication of whether a goal has been scored will be communicated to the match officials only (via the referee's watch, by vibration and visual signal).

In order to satisfy the criteria set, EMPA had determined that the GLT systems should be tested under four different scenarios, as follows –

- (i) Unrestricted shots, to include shots into the goal at different positions, shots into the outer net and near misses (shots over the crossbar and past the goalposts).
- (ii) Shots of differing speeds at a target wall placed behind the goal-line.
- (iii) Shots at a target wall with a blocked view.
- (iv) The use of a slide translation stage so as to determine the trigger point for goal detection.

In summary, Dr Hack reported to the members that none of the GLT systems on test were able to reliably distinguish between shots into the goal from that of near misses. The best result being 98%. In addition, shots at the target wall posed a problem for all the GLT systems on test, with an average of approximately 50% of the shots being recognised by the systems; the same level of success being achieved where the target wall incorporated a blocked view. Of the three types of GLT systems (camera based, magnetic field based and GPS based) being used in the test-field, it was only the two magnetic-field systems that passed the precision test; with only three out of the ten systems fulfilling the requirements regarding the indication device for the referee.

Following Dr Hack’s presentation, Mr Valcke informed the members that whilst ‘Hawk-Eye’ had not been one of the ten companies that had carried out the field tests in February, FIFA had agreed to test the company’s GLT system in the near future.

During discussions The FA suggested that the criteria set by the IFAB may be overly stringent, specifically the requirement of an indication of a goal to be confirmed within one second. In addition, both The FA and the SFA requested that the IFAB make a decision in principle of the acceptance of Goal-line Technology.

Following further discussions, the members agreed to the continuation of the GLT project and approved the following recommendations submitted by EMPA –

- Set a timeframe for companies to further develop their technologies (by February 2012)

Appoint an independent company (such as EMPA) to conduct two further tests on goal-line technologies at the expense of the technology provider, who can also choose the test site.

- A summary of results should be provided at the 126th AGM of the IFAB in London.
- A final decision on GLT should be made during the IFAB Special Meeting which should be convened following the conclusion of the UEFA Euro 2012. (Same Special Meeting as for the decision on AAR).

In addition, it was requested that the IFAB Technical Sub-committee should meet as soon as possible to develop a plan for further testing, which should include testing the technologies in different circumstances (such as rain, fog, wind etc.), as well as in different locations.

V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Submitted by FIFA)

1. Law 4 – Players’ Equipment

- a) Other equipment: usage of radio communication

Present Text

Other equipment

The use of radio communication systems between players and/or technical staff is not permitted.

Reason

FIFA explained to the members that the current text about the usage of communication systems between players and/or coaches was being interpreted in different ways in the different competitions and leagues. Furthermore, new technologies, such as computers, iPods, iPads, BlackBerrys, etc. are currently being used in the technical area, which in some cases allow the match to be followed live. As a consequence, it was considered necessary to start a discussion on what should or should not be allowed in the technical area in terms of radio communication and new technologies.

Decision

Following a discussion, the members agreed that this item should be referred to the FIFA Task Force Football 2014 for their considerations.

- b) Other equipment: Wearing of “snoods”

Present Text

Other equipment

A player may use equipment other than the basic equipment provided that its sole purpose is to protect him physically and it poses no danger to him or any other player.

Reason

FIFA informed the members that they had submitted this item as there had been an increase in the use of different items of “other equipment”, such as “snoods”, “balaclavas”, “scarfs”, etc., and that the IFAB had received requests for clarification as to whether this equipment met the definition of “other equipment” or not.

Decision

Following a discussion, the members determined that items such as “snoods” and other similar clothing did not meet the definition of “other equipment” under Law 4 and was therefore not permitted.

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

Sending off offences

Present Text
<p>A player, substitute or substituted player is sent off if he commits any of the following seven offences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ... • denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal – scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area) • denying an 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

Reason

FIFA advised the members that they had received a letter in November 2010 from the DFB General Secretary raising concerns that where a player denies an obvious goal scoring opportunity to the opposing team, the resulting punishment could be considered excessive; in that a penalty kick could be awarded, a player then sent-off, and as consequence, a suspension be imposed.

Decision

Following a short discussion, the members agreed that the matter should be referred to the FIFA Task Force Football 2014 for their considerations.

3. Vanishing Spray
(Submitted by The FA)

FIFA explained to the members that despite the fact that at its 124th AGM, the IFAB had not permitted the use of spray paint, CONMEBOL was again asking for permission to use it. Mr Julio Grondona was invited to address the meeting, and he informed the members that referees were reporting to CONMEBOL increasing difficulties to get players to respect the distance rules and that the use of the vanishing spray was proving to be an effective means of controlling and monitoring such situations.

Following a short discussion, the members approved the use by CONMEBOL of the vanishing spray on a trial basis.

VI. 2012 MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD
(Proposals submitted by FIFA)

The Chairman of The Football Association, Mr David Bernstein, announced that the 126th Annual General Meeting of the International Football Association Board would be hosted by The Football Association on 2nd – 4th March 2012.

The members agreed also that the IFAB Special Meeting that will be considering AAR and GLT will meet following the conclusion of the Final Tournament of the EURO 2012™.

In closing the meeting, the FAW President, Mr Pritchard, thanked the members for their attendance and participation in the debates during the meeting, and invited the FIFA President, Mr Blatter, to address the meeting with any closing remarks.

Mr Blatter thanked Mr Pritchard for his chairmanship of the meeting and commented that he was pleased with the discussions that had taken place which he believed had reaffirmed the Board as a unified body.

Mr Blatter referred the members to the medals that FIFA had commissioned in recognition of the work of the IFAB over its 125 year history, and informed the meeting that it was the intention of FIFA to also distribute these medals to all the member associations of FIFA, during its 61st Congress.

