



For the Good of the Game

Laws of the Game

2006



100 YEARS FIFA 1904 - 2004



Laws of the Game 2006

Questions and Answers Laws of the Game

For the Good of the Game

FIFA



2006



Laws of the Game 2006

July 2006

Authorised by the International Football Association Board

This booklet may not be reproduced or translated in whole
or in part in any manner without the permission of FIFA.

Published by

Fédération Internationale de Football Association
FIFA-Strasse 20, 8044 Zurich, Switzerland

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

President: Joseph S. Blatter (Switzerland)
General Secretary: Urs Linsi (Switzerland)
Address: FIFA House, FIFA-Strasse 20
8044 Zurich, Switzerland
Telephone: 41-(0)43-222 7777
Telefax: 41-(0)43-222 7878
Internet: www.FIFA.com

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD (IFAB)

Members: The Football Association
The Scottish Football Association
The Football Association of Wales
Irish Football Association
(1 vote each)

Fédération Internationale
de Football Association (FIFA)
(4 votes)

Modifications

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) and for players with disabilities.

Any or all of the following modifications are permissible:

- 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

Further modifications are only allowed with the consent of the International Football Association Board.

Male and Female

References to the male gender in the Laws of the Game in respect of referees, assistant referees, players and officials are for simplification and apply to both males and females.

Key

Throughout the Laws of the Game the following symbols are used:

* Unless covered by the Special Circumstances listed in Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play

| Single line indicates new Law changes

CONTENTS

Law	Page
1 The Field of Play	6
2 The Ball	14
3 The Number of Players	16
4 The Players' Equipment	20
5 The Referee	22
6 The Assistant Referees	26
7 The Duration of the Match	27
8 The Start and Restart of Play	29
9 The Ball In and Out of Play	32
10 The Method of Scoring	33
11 Offside	34
12 Fouls and Misconduct	36
13 Free Kicks	41
14 The Penalty Kick	44
15 The Throw-In	47
16 The Goal Kick	49
17 The Corner Kick	51
Procedures to Determine the Winner of a Match or home-and-away	53
The Technical Area	56
The Fourth Official	57
Referee Signals	58
Assistant Referee Signals	59
Law 11 Illustrations 1–13	60
Additional Instructions for Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials	67
2005 FIFA Guidelines	75
Rules of the International Football Association Board	81

LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

Field surface

Matches may be played on natural or artificial surfaces, according to the rules of the competition.

Dimensions

The field of play must be rectangular. The length of the touch line must be greater than the length of the goal line.

Length:	minimum	90 m	(100 yds)
	maximum	120 m	(130 yds)
Width:	minimum	45 m	(50 yds)
	maximum	90 m	(100 yds)

International Matches

Length:	minimum	100 m	(110 yds)
	maximum	110 m	(120 yds)
Width:	minimum	64 m	(70 yds)
	maximum	75 m	(80 yds)

Field Markings

The field of play is marked with lines. These lines belong to the areas of which they are boundaries.

The two longer boundary lines are called touch lines. The two shorter lines are called goal lines.

All lines are not more than 12 cm (5 ins) wide.

The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line.

The centre mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of 9.15 m (10 yds) is marked around it.

The Goal Area

A goal area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, 5.5 m (6 yds) from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of 5.5 m (6 yds) and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the goal area.

The Penalty Area

A penalty area is defined at each end of the field as follows: Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, 16.5 m (18 yds) from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of 16.5 m (18 yds) and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the penalty area.

Within each penalty area, a penalty mark is made 11 m (12 yds) from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of 9.15 m (10 yds) from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

Flagposts

A flagpost, not less than 1.5 m (5 ft) high, with a non-pointed top and a flag is placed at each corner.

Flagposts may also be placed at each end of the halfway line, not less than 1 m (1 yd) outside the touch line.

The Corner Arc

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

Goals

Goals must be placed on the centre of each goal line.

They consist of two upright posts equidistant from the corner flagposts and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar.

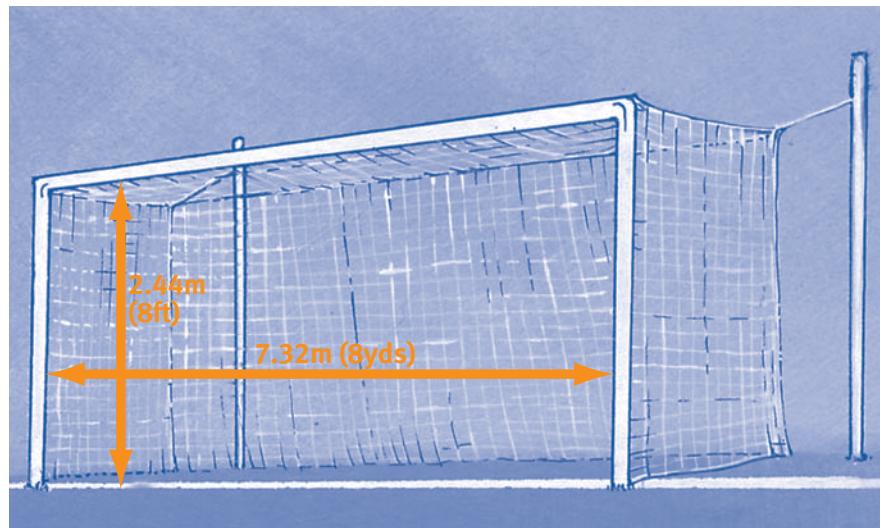
The distance between the posts is 7.32 m (8 yds) and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is 2.44 m (8 ft).

Both goalposts and the crossbar have the same width and depth, which do not exceed 12 cm (5 ins). The goal lines are the same width as that of the goalposts and the crossbar. Nets may be attached to the goals and the ground behind the goal, provided that they are properly supported and do not interfere with the goalkeeper.

The goalposts and crossbars must be white.

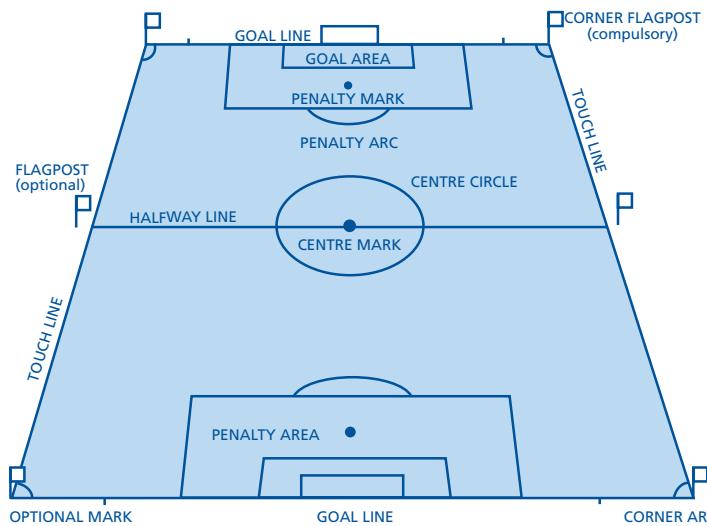
Safety

Goals must be anchored securely to the ground. Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.

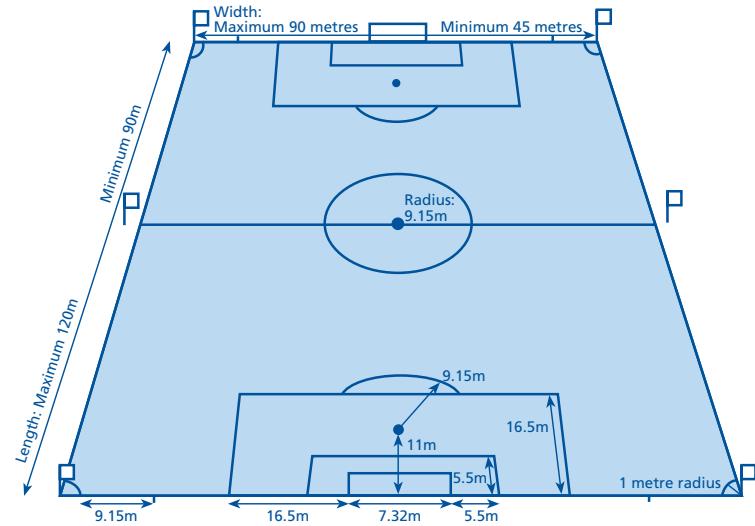


LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

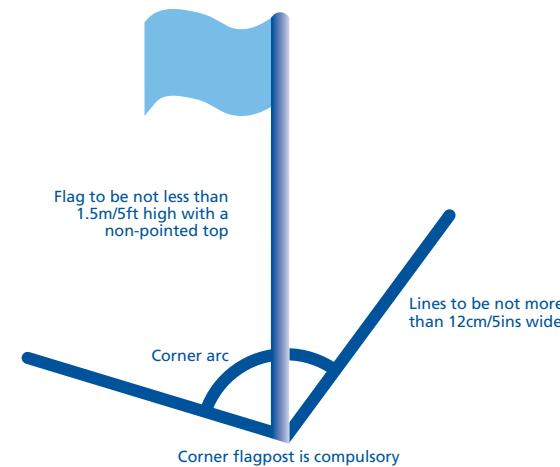
The Field of Play



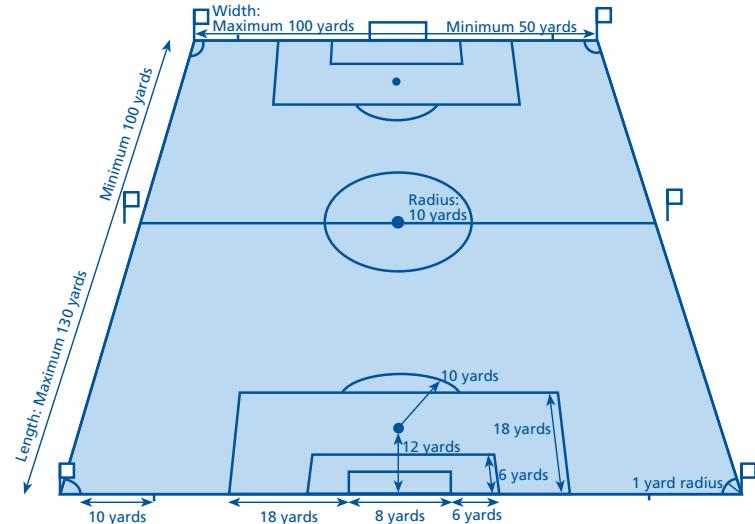
Metric Measurements



Corner Flagpost



Imperial Measurements



Decisions of the International F.A. Board

Decision 1

*If the crossbar becomes displaced or broken, play is stopped until it has been repaired or replaced in position. If a repair is not possible, the match is abandoned. The use of a rope to replace the crossbar is not permitted. If the crossbar can be repaired, the match is restarted with a dropped ball at the place where the ball was located when play was stopped. * (see page 3)*

Decision 2

Goalposts and crossbars must be made of wood, metal or other approved material. Their shape may be square, rectangular, round or elliptical and they must not be dangerous to players.

Decision 3

No kind of commercial advertising, whether real or virtual, is permitted on the field of play and field equipment (including the goal nets and the areas they enclose) from the time the teams enter the field of play until they have left it at half-time and from the time the teams re-enter the field of play until the end of the match. In particular, no advertising material of any kind may be displayed on goals, nets, flagposts or their flags. No extraneous equipment (cameras, microphones, etc.) may be attached to these items.

Decision 4

There shall be no advertising of any kind within the technical area or within one metre from the touch line and outside the field of play on the ground. Further, no advertising shall be allowed in the area between the goal line and the goal nets.

Decision 5

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 and field equipment (including the goal nets and the areas they enclose) during playing time, as described in Decision 3.

Decision 6

A mark may be made off the field of play, 9.15 metres (10 yds) from the corner arc and at right angles to the goal lines, to ensure that this distance is observed when a corner kick is being taken.

Decision 7

Where artificial surfaces are used in either competition matches between representative teams of member associations affiliated to FIFA or international club competition matches, the surface must meet the requirements of the FIFA Quality Concept for Artificial Turf or the International Artificial Turf Standard, unless special dispensation is given by FIFA.

Decision 8

Where a technical area exists, it must meet the requirements approved by the International F.A. Board, which are contained in this publication.

Qualities and Measurements

The ball is:

- spherical
- made of leather or other suitable material
- of a circumference of not more than 70 cm (28 ins) and not less than 68 cm (27 ins)
- not more than 450 g (16 oz) in weight and not less than 410 g (14 oz) at the start of the match
- of a pressure equal to 0.6 – 1.1 atmosphere (600 – 1100 g/cm²) at sea level (8.5 lbs/sq in 15.6 lbs/sq in)

Replacement of a Defective Ball

If the ball bursts or becomes defective during the course of a match:

- the match is stopped
- the match is restarted by dropping the replacement ball at the place where the first ball became defective * (see page 3)

If the ball bursts or becomes defective whilst not in play at a kick-off, goal kick, corner kick, free kick, penalty kick or throw-in:

- the match is restarted accordingly

The ball may not be changed during the match without the authority of the referee.



Decisions of the International F.A. Board

Decision 1

In competition matches, only footballs which meet the minimum technical requirements stipulated in Law 2 are permitted for use.

In FIFA competition matches, and in competition matches organised under the auspices of the confederations, acceptance of a football for use is conditional upon the football bearing one of the following three designations:

- the official "FIFA APPROVED" logo, or
- the official "FIFA INSPECTED" logo, or
- the reference "INTERNATIONAL MATCHBALL STANDARD"

Such a designation on a football indicates that it has been tested officially and found to be in compliance with specific technical requirements, different for each category and additional to the minimum specifications stipulated in Law 2. The list of the additional requirements specific to each of the respective categories must be approved by the International F.A. Board. The institutes conducting the tests are subject to the approval of FIFA.

Member association competitions may require the use of balls bearing any one of these three designations.

In all other matches, the ball used must satisfy the requirements of Law 2.

Decision 2

In FIFA competition matches and in competition matches organised under the auspices of the confederations and member associations, no kind of commercial advertising on the ball is permitted, except for the emblem of the competition, the competition organiser and the authorised trademark of the manufacturer. The competition regulations may restrict the size and number of such markings.



IMS
INTERNATIONAL
MATCHBALL
STANDARD.

LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Players

A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eleven players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than seven players.

Official Competitions

Up to a maximum of three substitutes may be used in any match played in an official competition organised under the auspices of FIFA, the confederations or the member associations.

The rules of the competition must state how many substitutes may be nominated, from three up to a maximum of seven.

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.

All Matches

In all matches, the names of the substitutes must be given to the referee prior to the start of the match. Substitutes not so named may not take part in the match.



Substitution Procedure

To replace a player by a substitute, the following conditions must be observed:

- the referee is informed before any proposed substitution is made
- a substitute only enters the field of play after the player being replaced has left and after receiving a signal from the referee
- a substitute only enters the field of play at the halfway line and during a stoppage in the match
- a substitution is completed when a substitute enters the field of play
- from that moment, the substitute becomes a player and the player he has replaced ceases to be a player
- a player who has been replaced takes no further part in the match
- all substitutes are subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the referee, whether called upon to play or not

Changing the Goalkeeper

Any of the other players may change places with the goalkeeper, provided that:

- the referee is informed before the change is made
- the change is made during a stoppage in the match

Infringements/Sanctions

If a substitute enters the field of play without the referee's permission:

- play is stopped
- the substitute is cautioned, shown the yellow card and required to leave the field of play
- play is restarted with an indirect free kick at the place the ball was located when play was stopped * (see page 3)

If a player changes places with the goalkeeper without the referee's permission before the change is made:

- play continues
- the players concerned are cautioned and shown the yellow card when the ball is next out of play

For any other infringements of this Law:

- the players concerned are cautioned and shown the yellow card

Restart of Play

If play is stopped by the referee to administer a caution:

- the match is restarted by an indirect free kick, to be taken by a player of the opposing team from the place where the ball was located when play was stopped * (see page 3)

Players and Substitutes Sent Off

A player who has been sent off before the kick-off may be replaced only by one of the named substitutes.

A named substitute who has been sent off, either before the kick-off or after play has started, may not be replaced.

Decisions of the International F.A. Board

Decision 1

Subject to the overriding conditions of Law 3, the minimum number of players in a team is left to the discretion of member associations. The Board is of the opinion, however, that a match should not continue if there are fewer than seven players in either team.

Decision 2

A team official may convey tactical instructions to the players during the match and he must return to his position after giving these instructions. All officials must remain within the confines of the technical area, where such an area is provided, and they must behave in a responsible manner.

Safety

A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewellery).

Basic Equipment

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

Shinguards

- are covered entirely by the stockings
- are made of a suitable material (rubber, plastic, or similar substances)
- provide a reasonable degree of protection

Goalkeepers

- each goalkeeper wears colours that distinguish him from the other players, the referee and the assistant referees



Infringements/ Sanctions

For any infringement of this Law:

- play need not be stopped
- the player at fault is instructed by the referee to leave the field of play to correct his equipment
- the player leaves the field of play when the ball next ceases to be in play, unless he has already corrected his equipment
- any player required to leave the field of play to correct his equipment does not re-enter without the referee's permission
- the referee checks that the player's equipment is correct before allowing him to re-enter the field of play
- the player is only allowed to re-enter the field of play when the ball is out of play

A player who has been required to leave the field of play because of an infringement of this Law and who enters (or re-enters) the field of play without the referee's permission is cautioned and shown the yellow card.

Restart of Play

If play is stopped by the referee to administer a caution:

- the match is restarted by an indirect free kick taken by a player of the opposing side, from the place where the ball was located when the referee stopped the match * (see page 3)

Decisions of the International F.A. Board

Decision 1

- *Players must not reveal undershirts that contain slogans or advertising.*

A player removing his jersey to reveal slogans or advertising will be sanctioned by the competition organiser.

- *Jerseys must have sleeves.*

The Authority of the Referee

Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the match to which he has been appointed.

Powers and Duties

The Referee:

- enforces the Laws of the Game
- controls the match in co-operation with the assistant referees and, where applicable, with the fourth official
- ensures that any ball used meets the requirements of Law 2
- ensures that the players' equipment meets the requirements of Law 4
- acts as timekeeper and keeps a record of the match
- stops, suspends or terminates the match, at his discretion, for any infringements of the Laws
- stops, suspends or terminates the match because of outside interference of any kind
- stops the match if, in his opinion, a player is seriously injured and ensures that he is removed from the field of play. An injured player may only return to the field of play after the match has restarted
- allows play to continue until the ball is out of play if a player is, in his opinion, only slightly injured
- ensures that any player bleeding from a wound leaves the field of play. The player may only return on receiving a signal from the referee, who must be satisfied that the bleeding has stopped
- allows play to continue when the team against which an offence has been committed will benefit from such an advantage and penalises the original offence if the anticipated advantage does not ensue at that time
- punishes the more serious offence when a player commits more than one offence at the same time
- takes disciplinary action against players guilty of cautionable and sending-off offences. He is not obliged to take this action immediately but must do so when the ball next goes out of play

- takes action against team officials who fail to conduct themselves in a responsible manner and may, at his discretion, expel them from the field of play and its immediate surrounds
- acts on the advice of assistant referees regarding incidents that he has not seen
- ensures that no unauthorised persons enter the field of play
- restarts the match after it has been stopped
- provides the appropriate authorities with a match report, which includes information on any disciplinary action taken against players, and/or team officials and any other incidents that occurred before, during or after the match

Decisions of the Referee

The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play are final.

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 or terminated the match.

Decisions of the International F.A. Board

Decision 1

A referee (or where applicable, an assistant referee or fourth official) is not held liable for:

any kind of injury suffered by a player, official or spectator
any damage to property of any kind
any other loss suffered by any individual, club, company, association or other body, which is due or which may be due to any decision that he may take under the terms of the Laws of the Game or in respect of the normal procedures required to hold, play and control a match.

This may include:

- a decision that the condition of the field of play or its surrounds or that the weather conditions are such as to allow or not to allow a match to take place
- a decision to abandon a match for whatever reason
- a decision as to the condition of the fixtures or equipment used during a match including the goalposts, crossbar, flagposts and the ball
- a decision to stop or not to stop a match due to spectator interference or any problem in the spectator area
- a decision to stop or not to stop play to allow an injured player to be removed from the field of play for treatment
- a decision to request or insist that an injured player be removed from the field of play for treatment
- a decision to allow or not to allow a player to wear certain apparel or equipment
- a decision (in so far as this may be his responsibility) to allow or not to allow any persons (including team or stadium officials, security officers, photographers or other media representatives) to be present in the vicinity of the field of play
- any other decision that he may take in accordance with the Laws of the Game or in conformity with his duties under the terms of FIFA, confederation, member association or league rules or regulations under which the match is played

Decision 2

In tournaments or competitions where a fourth official is appointed, his role and duties must be in accordance with the guidelines approved by the International F.A. Board, which are contained in this publication.

Decision 3

Facts connected with play shall include whether a goal is scored or not and the result of the match.

Duties

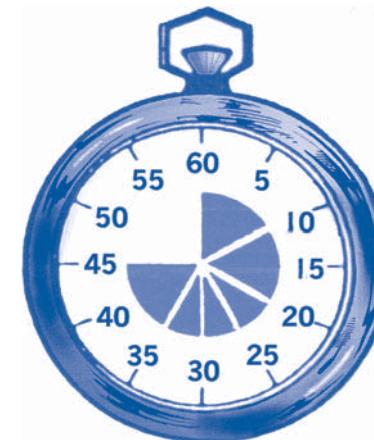
Two assistant referees are appointed whose duties, subject to the decision of the referee, are to indicate:

- when the whole of the ball has passed out of the field of play
- which side is entitled to a corner kick, goal kick or throw-in
- when a player may be penalised for being in an offside position
- when a substitution is requested
- when misconduct or any other incident has occurred out of the view of the referee
- when offences have been committed whenever the assistants are closer to the action than the referee (this includes, in particular circumstances, offences committed in the penalty area)
- whether, at penalty kicks, the goalkeeper has moved forward before the ball has been kicked and if the ball has crossed the line

Assistance

The assistant referees also assist the referee to control the match in accordance with the Laws of the Game. In particular, they may enter the field of play to help control the 9.15m distance.

In the event of undue interference or improper conduct, the referee will relieve an assistant referee of his duties and make a report to the appropriate authorities.

**Periods of Play**

The match lasts two equal periods of 45 minutes, unless otherwise mutually agreed between the referee and the two participating teams. Any agreement to alter the periods of play (for example to reduce each half to 40 minutes because of insufficient light) must be made before the start of play and must comply with competition rules.

Half-Time Interval

Players are entitled to an interval at half-time.
The half-time interval must not exceed 15 minutes.
Competition rules must state the duration of the half-time interval.
The duration of the half-time interval may be altered only with the consent of the referee.

Allowance for Time Lost

Allowance is made in either period for all time lost through:

- substitution(s)
- assessment of injury to players
- removal of injured players from the field of play for treatment
- wasting time
- any other cause

The allowance for time lost is at the discretion of the referee.

Penalty Kick

If a penalty kick has to be taken or retaken, the duration of either half is extended until the penalty kick is completed.

Abandoned Match

An abandoned match is replayed unless the competition rules provide otherwise.

Preliminaries

A coin is tossed and the team that wins the toss decides which goal it will attack in the first half of the match.

The other team takes the kick-off to start the match.

The team that wins the toss takes the kick-off to start the second half of the match.

In the second half of the match, the teams change ends and attack the opposite goals.

Kick-off

A kick-off is a way of starting or restarting play:

- at the start of the match
- after a goal has been scored
- at the start of the second half of the match
- at the start of each period of extra time, where applicable

A goal may be scored directly from the kick-off.

Procedure

- all players are in their own half of the field
- the opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball until it is in play
- the ball is stationary on the centre mark
- the referee gives a signal
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward
- the kicker does not touch the ball a second time until it has touched another player

After a team scores a goal, the kick-off is taken by the other team.

Infringements/Sanctions

If the kicker touches the ball a second time before it has touched another player:

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

For any other infringement of the kick-off procedure:

- the kick-off is retaken

Dropped Ball

A dropped ball is a way of restarting the match after a temporary stoppage that becomes necessary, while the ball is in play, for any reason not mentioned elsewhere in the Laws of the Game.



Procedure

The referee drops the ball at the place where it was located when play was stopped. * (see page 3)

Play restarts when the ball touches the ground.

Infringements/Sanctions

The ball is dropped again:

- if it is touched by a player before it makes contact with the ground
- if the ball leaves the field of play after it makes contact with the ground, without a player touching it

Special Circumstances

A free kick awarded to the defending team inside its own goal area is taken from any point within the goal area.

An indirect free kick awarded to the attacking team in its opponents' goal area is taken from the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred.

A dropped ball to restart the match after play has been temporarily stopped inside the goal area takes place on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when play was stopped.

LAW 9 – THE BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

Ball Out of Play

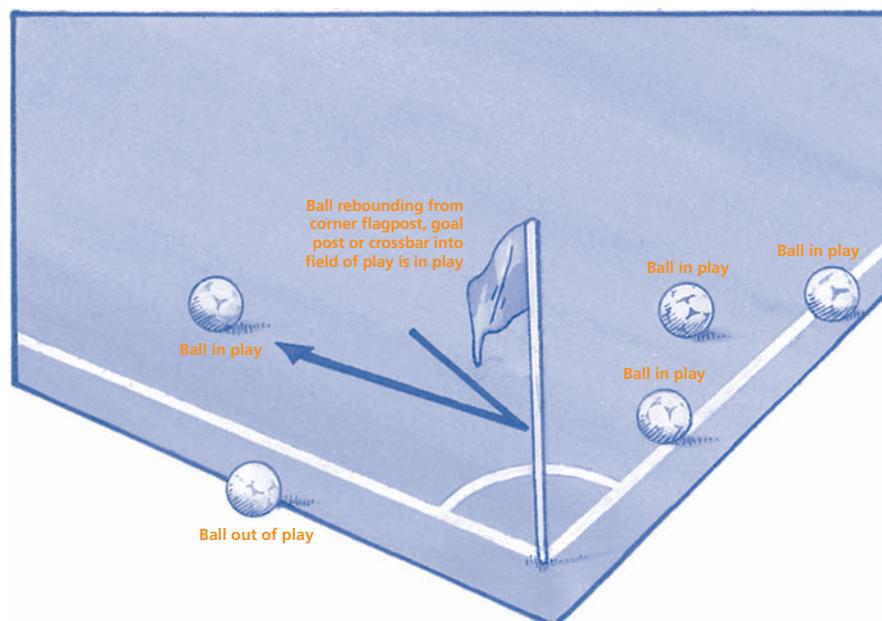
The ball is out of play when:

- it has wholly crossed the goal line or touch line whether on the ground or in the air
- play has been stopped by the referee

Ball In Play

The ball is in play at all other times, including when:

- it rebounds from a goalpost, crossbar or corner flagpost and remains in the field of play
- it rebounds from either the referee or an assistant referee when they are on the field of play



LAW 10 – THE METHOD OF SCORING

Goal Scored

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, provided that no infringement of the Laws of the Game has been committed previously by the team scoring the goal.

Winning Team

The team scoring the greater number of goals during a match is the winner. If both teams score an equal number of goals, or if no goals are scored, the match is drawn.

Competition Rules

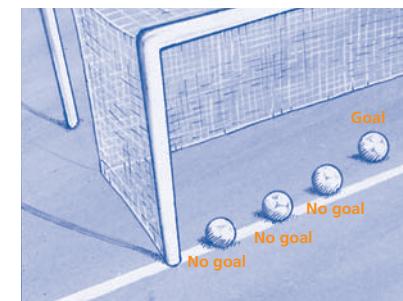
When competition rules require there to be a winning team after a match or home-and-away tie, only the following procedures, which have been approved by the International F.A. Board, are permitted

- Away goals rule
- Extra time
- Kicks from the penalty mark

Decisions of the International F.A. Board

Decision 1

Only procedures to determine the winner of a match, which are approved by the International F.A. Board and contained in this publication, are permitted in competition rules.



Offside Position

It is not an offence in itself to be in an offside position.

A player is in an offside position if:

- he is nearer to his opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second last opponent

A player is not in an offside position if:

- he is in his own half of the field of play or
- he is level with the second last opponent or
- he is level with the last two opponents

Offence

A player in an offside position is only penalised if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in active play by:

- interfering with play or
- interfering with an opponent or
- gaining an advantage by being in that position

No Offence

There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:

- a goal kick or
- a throw-in or
- a corner kick

Infringements/Sanctions

For any offside offence, the referee awards an indirect free kick to the opposing team to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred. * (see page 3)

Decisions of the International F.A. 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.

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.*

Fouls and misconduct are penalised as follows:

Direct Free Kick

A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following six offences in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- jumps at an opponent
- charges an opponent
- strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- pushes an opponent

A direct free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following four offences:

- tackles an opponent to gain possession of the ball, making contact with the opponent before touching the ball
- holds an opponent
- spits at an opponent
- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within his own penalty area)

A direct free kick is taken from where the offence occurred. * (see page 3)

Penalty Kick

A penalty kick is awarded if any of the above ten offences is committed by a player inside his own penalty area, irrespective of the position of the ball, provided it is in play.

Indirect Free Kick

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside his own penalty area, commits any of the following four offences:

- takes more than six seconds while controlling the ball with his hands before releasing it from his possession
- touches the ball again with his hands after it has been released from his possession and has not touched any other player
- touches the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate
- touches the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate

An indirect free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player, in the opinion of the referee:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of an opponent
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands
- commits any other offence, not previously mentioned in Law 12, for which play is stopped to caution or dismiss a player

The indirect free kick is taken from where the offence occurred.* (see page 3)

Disciplinary Sanctions

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.

Cautionable Offences

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

Sending-Off Offences

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.

Decisions of the International F.A. Board

Decision 1

A player who commits a cautionable or sending-off offence, either on or off the field of play, whether directed towards an opponent, a team-mate, the referee, an assistant referee or any other person, is disciplined according to the nature of the offence committed.

Decision 2

The goalkeeper is considered to be in control of the ball by touching it with any part of his hand or arms. Possession of the ball includes the goalkeeper deliberately parrying the ball, but does not include the circumstances where, in the opinion of the referee, the ball rebounds accidentally from the goalkeeper, for example after he has made a save.

Decision 3

*Subject to the terms of Law 12, a player may pass the ball to his own goalkeeper using his head or chest or knee, etc. If, however, in the opinion of the referee, a player uses a deliberate trick while the ball is in play in order to circumvent the Law, the player is guilty of unsporting behaviour. He is cautioned, shown the yellow card and an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred. * (see page 3)*

A player using a deliberate trick to circumvent the Law while he is taking a free kick is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and shown the yellow card. The free kick is retaken.

In such circumstances, it is irrelevant whether the goalkeeper subsequently touches the ball with his hands or not. The offence is committed by the player in attempting to circumvent both the letter and the spirit of Law 12.

Decision 4

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

Decision 5

Any simulating action anywhere on the field, which is intended to deceive the referee, must be sanctioned as unsporting behaviour.

Decision 6

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

Types of Free Kicks

Free kicks are either direct or indirect.

For both direct and indirect free kicks, the ball must be stationary when the kick is taken and the kicker does not touch the ball a second time until it has touched another player.

The Direct Free Kick

- if a direct free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal is awarded
- if a direct free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team

The Indirect Free Kick*Signal*

The referee indicates an indirect free kick by raising his arm above his head. He maintains his arm in that position until the kick has been taken and the ball has touched another player or goes out of play.

Ball Enters the Goal

A goal can be scored only if the ball subsequently touches another player before it enters the goal.

- if an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded
- if an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team



Position of Free Kick

Free Kick Inside the Penalty Area

Direct or indirect free kick to the defending team:

- all opponents are at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball
- all opponents remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play
- the ball is in play when it is kicked directly beyond the penalty area
- a free kick awarded in the goal area is taken from any point inside that area

Indirect free kick to the attacking team:

- all opponents are at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball until it is in play, unless they are on their own goal line between the goal-posts
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves
- an indirect free kick awarded inside the goal area is taken from that part of the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal line, at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred

Free Kick Outside the Penalty Area

- all opponents are at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball until it is in play
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves
- the free kick is taken from the place where the infringement occurred

Infringements/Sanctions

If, when a free kick is taken, an opponent is closer to the ball than the required distance:

- the kick is retaken

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team from inside its own penalty area, the ball is not kicked directly into play:

- the kick is retaken

Free kick taken by a player other than the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, 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)

If, after the ball is in play, 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)
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area

Free kick taken by the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper 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)

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred outside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred * (see page 3)
- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred * (see page 3)

A penalty kick is awarded against a team that commits one of the ten offences for which a direct free kick is awarded, inside its own penalty area and while the ball is in play.

A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.

Additional time is allowed for a penalty kick to be taken at the end of each half or at the end of periods of extra time.

Position of the Ball and the Players

The ball:

- is placed on the penalty mark

The player taking the penalty kick:

- is properly identified

The defending goalkeeper:

- remains on his goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts until the ball has been kicked

The players other than the kicker are located:

- inside the field of play
- outside the penalty area
- behind the penalty mark
- at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the penalty mark

The Referee

- does not signal for a penalty kick to be taken until the players have taken up position in accordance with the Law
- decides when a penalty kick has been completed

Procedure

- the player taking the penalty kicks the ball forward
- he does not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward

When a penalty kick is taken during the normal course of play, or time has been extended at half-time or full time to allow a penalty kick to be taken or retaken, a goal is awarded if, before passing between the goalposts and under the crossbar:

- the ball touches either or both of the goalposts and/or the cross-bar, and/or the goalkeeper

Infringements / Sanctions

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:

- 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 cross-bar 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)

A throw-in is a method of restarting play.

A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in.

A throw-in is awarded:

- when the whole of the ball passes over the touch line, either on the ground or in the air
- from the point where it crossed the touch line
- to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball

Procedure

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 outside 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 2 meters from the point at which the throw-in is taken.

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



Infringements/ Sanctions*Throw-in taken by a player other than the goalkeeper*

If, after the ball is in play, the thrower 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)

If, after the ball is in play, the thrower 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)
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the thrower's penalty area

Throw-in taken by the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper 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)

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred outside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred
* (see page 3)
- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred
* (see page 3)

If an opponent unfairly distracts or impedes the thrower:

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

For any other infringement of this Law:

- the throw-in is taken by a player of the opposing team

A goal kick is a method of restarting play.

A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick, but only against the opposing team.

A goal kick is awarded when:

- the whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the attacking team, passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, and a goal is not scored in accordance with Law 10

Procedure

- the ball is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team
- opponents remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play
- the kicker does not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player
- the ball is in play when it is kicked directly beyond the penalty area

Infringements/ Sanctions

If the ball is not kicked directly into play beyond the penalty area:

- the kick is retaken

Goal kick taken by a player other than the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, 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)

If, after the ball is in play, 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)
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area

Goal kick taken by the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper 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)

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred outside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred * (see page 3)
- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred * (see page 3)

For any other infringement of this Law:

- the kick is retaken

A corner kick is a method of restarting play.

A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team.

A corner kick is awarded when:

- the whole of the ball, having last touched a player of the defending team, passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, and a goal is not scored in accordance with Law 10

Procedure

- the ball is placed inside the corner arc at the nearest corner flag-post
- the corner flagpost is not moved
- opponents remain at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the corner arc until the ball is in play
- the ball is kicked by a player of the attacking team
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves
- the kicker does not play the ball a second time until it has touched another player



Infringements/Sanctions*Corner kick taken by a player other than the goalkeeper*

If, after the ball is in play, 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)

If, after the ball is in play, 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)
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area

Corner kick taken by the goalkeeper

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper 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)

If, after the ball is in play, the goalkeeper deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player:

- a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred outside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred* (see page 3)
- an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if the infringement occurred inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the kick to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred
* (see page 3)

For any other infringement:

- the kick is retaken

Away goals, extra time and taking kicks from the penalty mark are methods of determining the winning team where competition rules require there to be a winning team after a match has been drawn or home-and-away.

Away Goals

Competition rules may provide that where teams play each other home and away, if the scores are equal after the second match, any goals scored at the ground of the opposing team will count double.

Extra Time

Competition rules may provide for two further equal periods, not exceeding 15 minutes each, to be played. The conditions of Law 8 will apply.

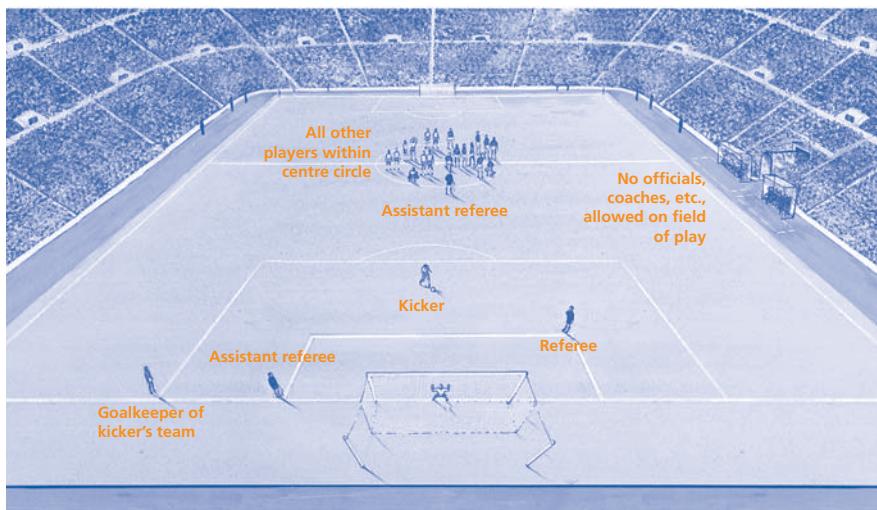
Kicks from the penalty mark**Procedure**

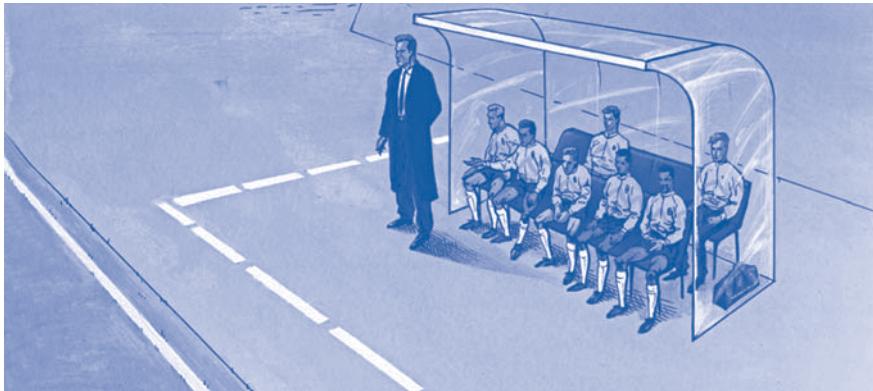
- The referee chooses the goal at which the kicks will be taken
- The referee tosses a coin and the team whose captain wins the toss decides whether to take the first or the second kick
- The referee keeps a record of the kicks being taken
- Subject to the conditions explained below, both teams take five kicks
- The kicks are taken alternately by the teams
- If, before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken
- If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks
- A goalkeeper who is injured while kicks are being taken from the penalty mark and is unable to continue as goalkeeper may be replaced by a named substitute provided his team has not used the maximum number of substitutes permitted under the competition rules

- With the exception of the foregoing case, only players who are on the field of play at the end of the match, which includes extra time where appropriate, are allowed to take kicks from the penalty mark
- Each kick is taken by a different player and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick
- An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper at any time when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken
- Only the eligible players and match officials are permitted to remain on the field of play when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken
- All players, except the player taking the kick and the two goalkeepers, must remain within the centre circle
- The goalkeeper who is the team-mate of the kicker must remain on the field of play, outside the penalty area in which the kicks are being taken, on the goal line where it meets the penalty area boundary line
- Unless otherwise stated, the relevant Laws of the Game and International F.A. Board Decisions apply when kicks from the penalty mark are being taken

- When a team finishes the match with a greater number of players than their opponents, they shall reduce their numbers to equate with that of their opponents and inform the referee of the name and number of each player excluded. The team captain has this responsibility.
- Before the start of kicks from the penalty mark the referee shall ensure that only an equal number of players from each team remain within the centre circle and they shall take the kicks.

TAKING KICKS FROM THE PENALTY MARK





The technical area described in Law 3, International F.A. Board Decision no. 2, relates particularly to matches played in stadia with a designated seated area for technical staff and substitutes as shown below.

Technical areas may vary between stadia, for example in size or location, and the following notes are issued for general guidance.

- The technical area extends 1 m (1 yd) on either side of the designated seated area and extends forward up to a distance of 1 m (1 yd) from the touch line
- It is recommended that markings are used to define this area
- The number of persons permitted to occupy the technical area is defined by the competition rules
- The occupants of the technical area are identified before the beginning of the match in accordance with the competition rules
- Only one person at a time is authorised to convey tactical instructions and he must return to his position after giving these instructions
- The coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the technical area except in special circumstances, for example, a physiotherapist or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee's permission, to assess an injured player
- The coach and other occupants of the technical area must behave in a responsible manner

- The fourth official may be appointed under the competition rules and officiates if any of the three match officials is unable to continue. He assists the referee at all times
- Prior to the start of the competition, the organiser states clearly whether, if the referee is unable to continue, the fourth official takes over as the match referee or whether the senior assistant referee takes over as referee with the fourth official becoming an assistant referee
- The fourth official assists with any administrative duties before, during and after the match, as required by the referee
- He is responsible for assisting with substitution procedures during the match
- He supervises the replacement footballs, where required. If the match ball has to be replaced during a match, he provides another ball, on the instruction of the referee, thus keeping the delay to a minimum
- He has the authority to check the equipment of substitutes before they enter the field of play. If their equipment does not comply with the Laws of the Game, he informs the referee
- He 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
- After the match, the fourth official must submit a report to the appropriate authorities on any misconduct or other incident that has occurred out of the view of the referee and the assistant referees. The fourth official must advise the referee and his assistants of any report being made
- He has the authority to inform the referee of irresponsible behaviour by any occupant of the technical area

REFEREE SIGNALS



Indirect free kick



Advantage



Caution



Sending off

ASSISTANT REFEREE SIGNALS



Substitution



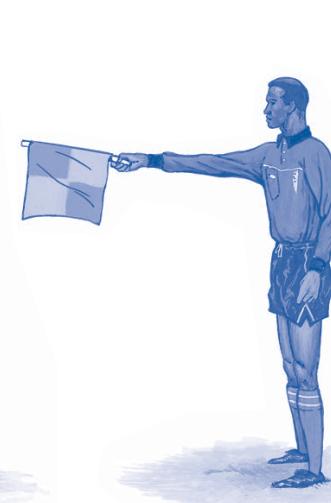
Offside



Throw-in



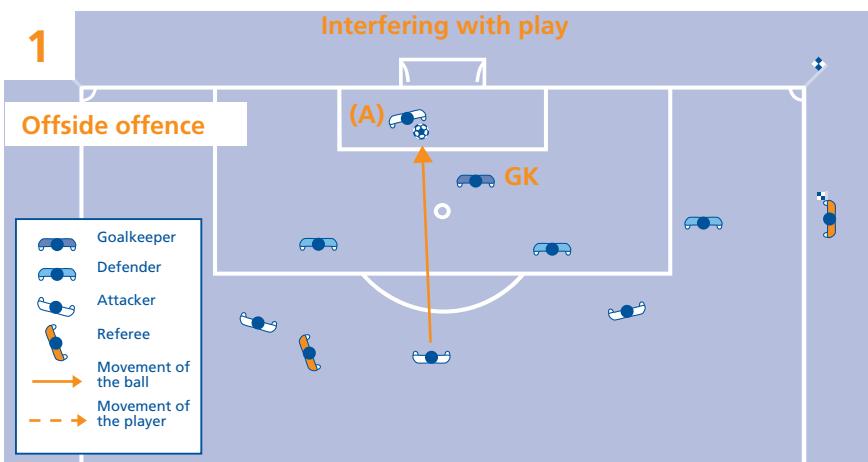
Offside on the near
side of the field



Offside on the centre
of the field

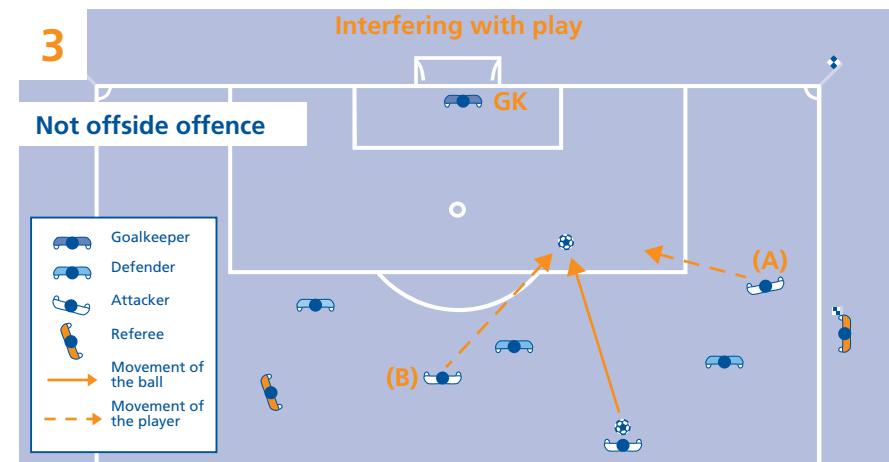


Offside on the far
side of the field



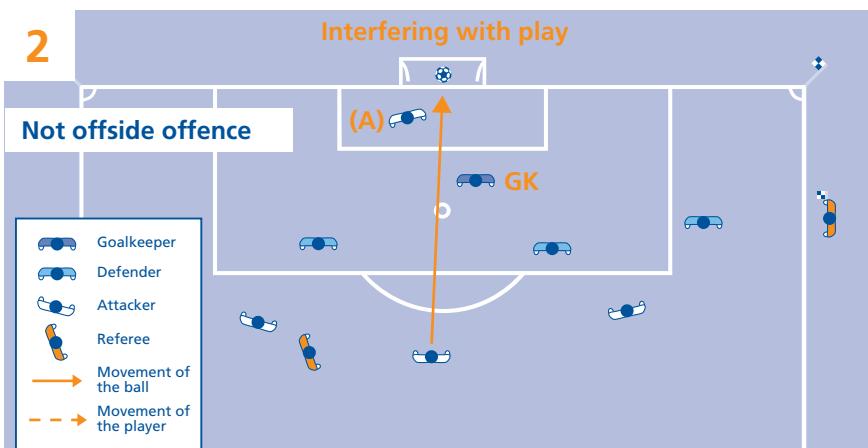
An attacker **in an offside position** (A), not interfering with an opponent, **touches the ball**.

The assistant referee should raise the flag when the player **touches the ball**.



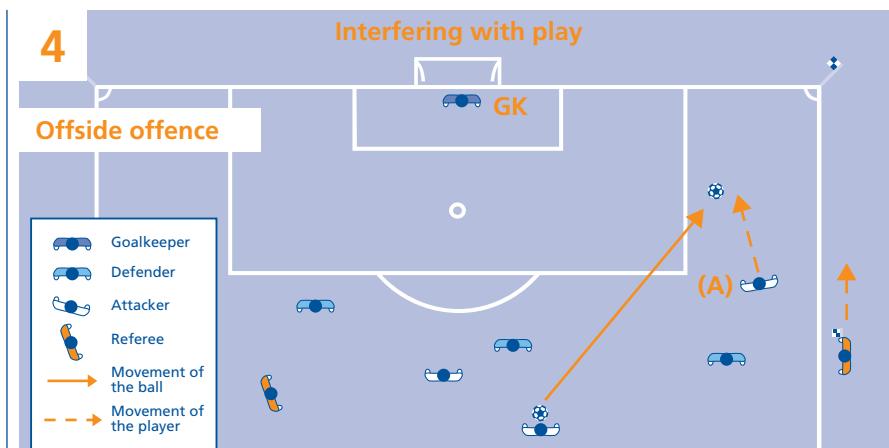
An attacker **in an offside position** (A) runs towards the ball and a teammate in **onside** position (B) runs also towards the ball and plays it.

Player (A) cannot be penalised because he did not touch the ball.

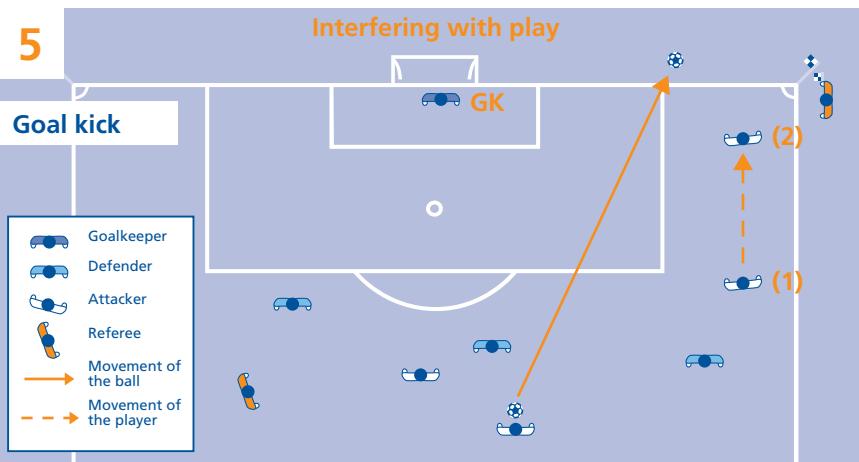


An attacker **in an offside position** (A), not interfering with an opponent, **does not touch** the ball.

The player cannot be penalised because he did not touch the ball.

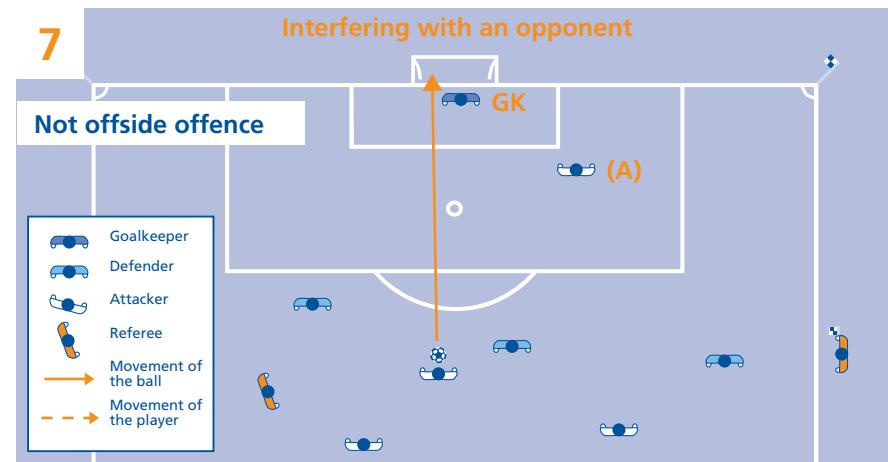


A player in an **offside position** (A) may be penalised before playing or touching the ball if, in the opinion of the referee, no other team-mate in an **onside** position has the opportunity to play the ball.

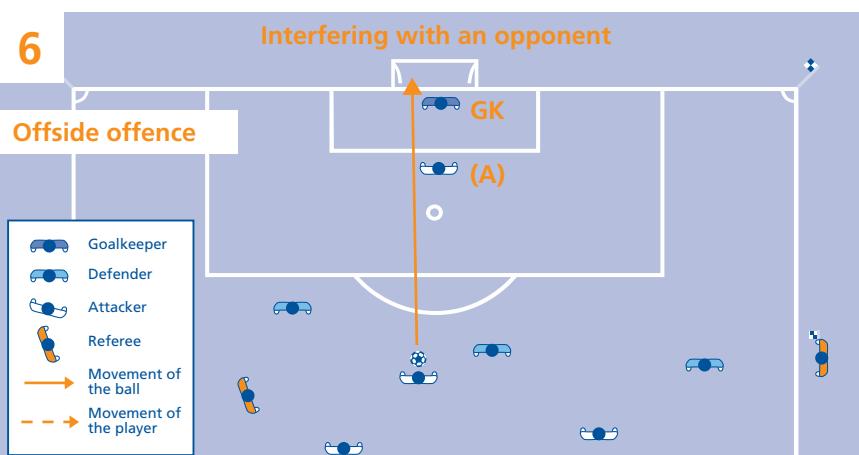


An attacker **in an offside position** (1) runs towards the ball and **does not touch the ball**.

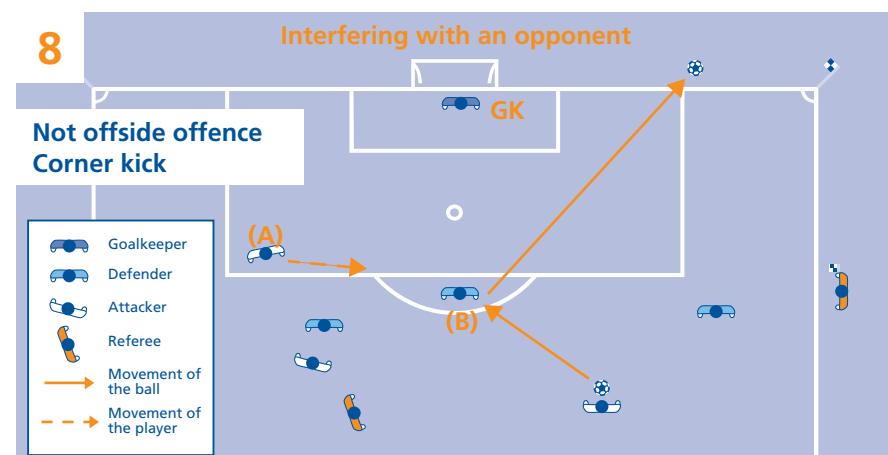
The assistant referee should signal "**goal kick**".



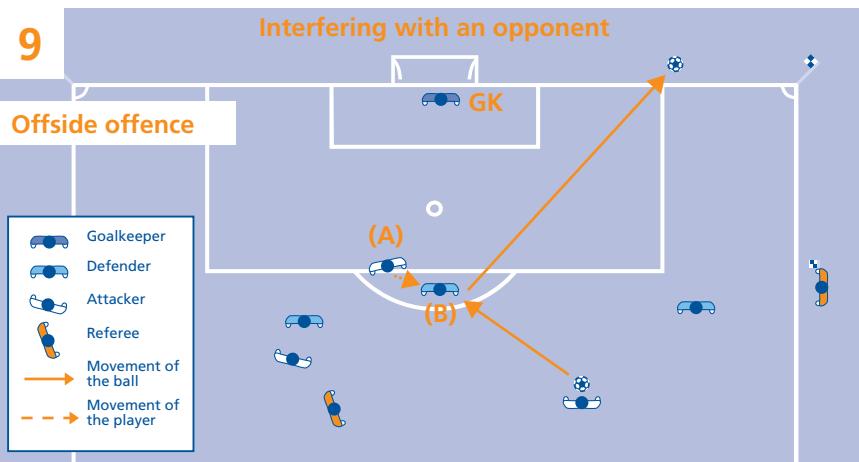
An attacker **in an offside position** (A) is **not** obstructing the goalkeeper's line of vision or making a gesture or movement which deceives or distracts him.



An attacker **in an offside position** (A) is obstructing the goalkeeper's line of vision. He should be penalised because he prevents an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball.

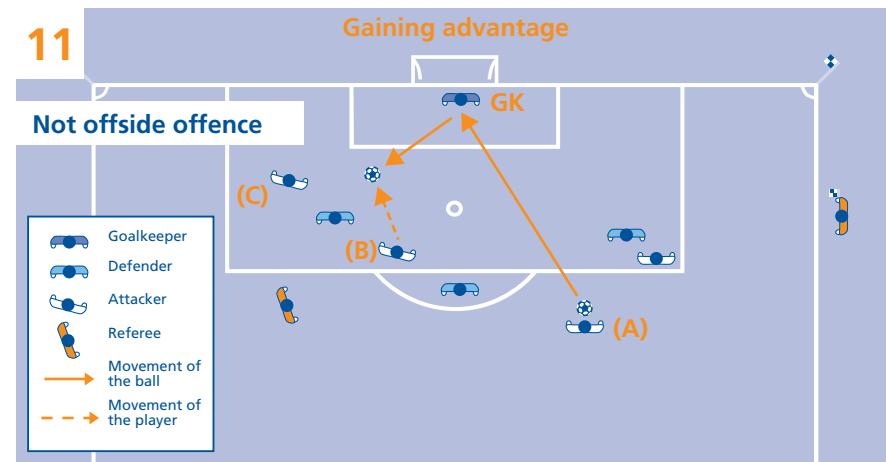


An attacker **in an offside position** (A) runs towards the ball but he does not prevent the opponent from playing or being able to play the ball. (A) is **not** making any gesture or movement which deceives or distracts (B).



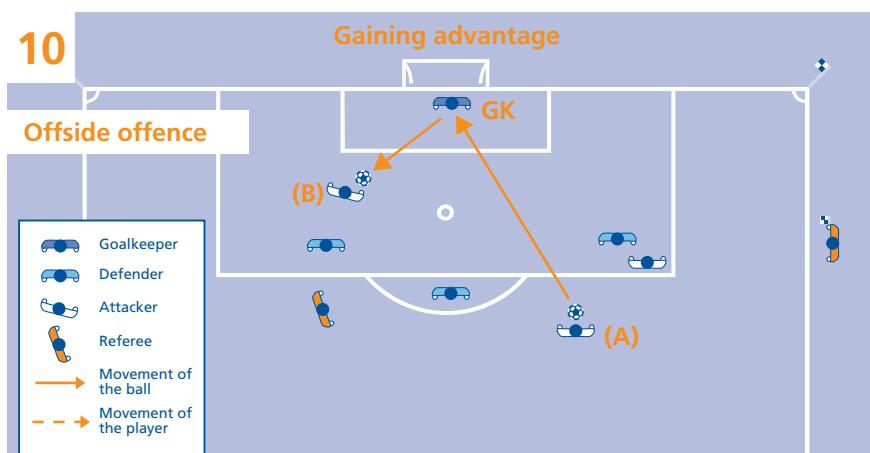
An attacker **in an offside position** (A) runs towards the ball preventing the opponent (B) from playing or being able to play the ball.

Player (A) is making any gesture or movement which deceives or distracts player (B).

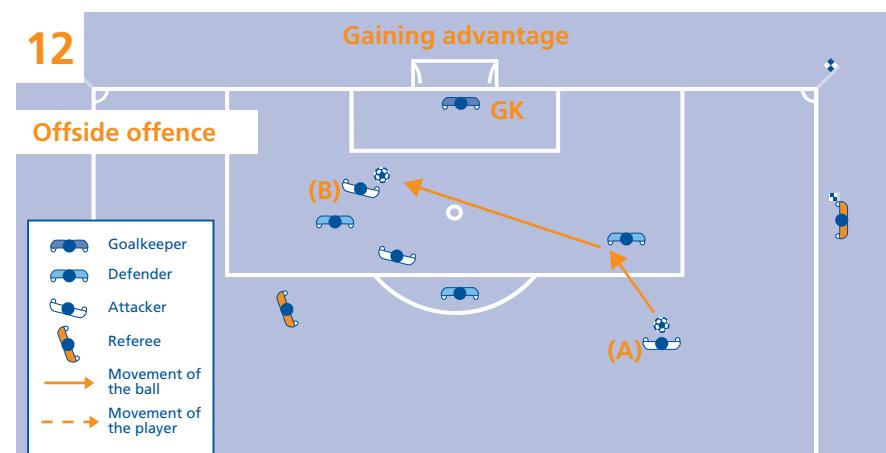


The shot by a team-mate (A) rebounds from the goalkeeper. Player (B) in an onside position plays the ball.

Player (C) **in an offside position** is not penalised because he did not gain advantage for being in that position because he did not touch the ball.

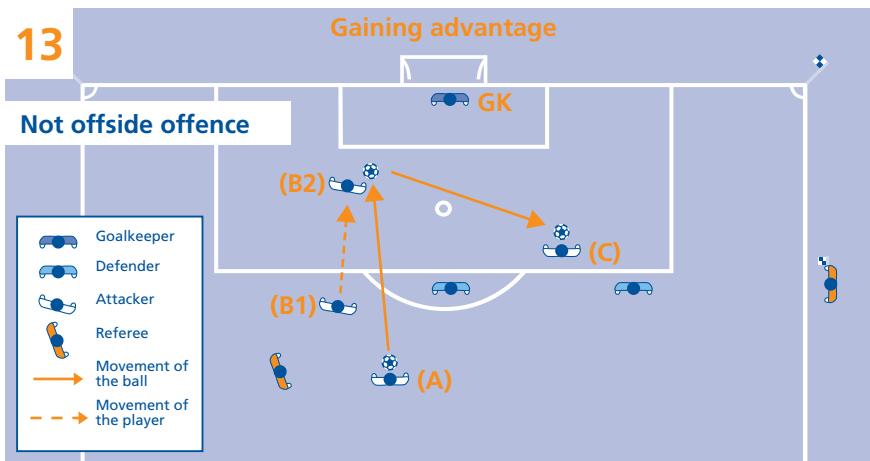


The shot by a team-mate (A) rebounds from the goalkeeper to player (B) who is penalised for **playing the ball** having been previously **in an offside position**.



The shot by a team-mate (A) rebounds off an opponent to attacker (B) who is penalised for **playing the ball** having been previously **in an offside position**.

13



An attacker (C) is an offside position, not interfering with an opponent, when a team-mate (A) passes the ball to player (B1) in an onside position who runs towards the opponent's goal and passes the ball (B2) to team-mate (C).

Attacker (C) cannot be penalised because when the ball was passed to him, he was in an onside position

The following additional instructions to referees, assistant referees and fourth officials are intended to clarify the correct application of the Laws of the Game.

Football is a competitive sport and physical contact between players is a normal and acceptable part of the game, however players must play within the Laws and respect the principles of fair play.

Serious foul play and violent conduct are two sending-off offences in Law 12 involving unacceptable levels of physical aggression.

Serious Foul Play

A player is guilty of serious foul play if he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent when challenging for the ball when it is in play.

Any player who lunges at an opponent in challenging for the ball from the front, from the side or from behind using one or both legs, with excessive force and endangering the safety of an opponent is guilty of serious foul play.

Violent Conduct

Violent conduct may occur either on the field of play or outside its boundaries, whether the ball is in play or not. A player is guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball.

He is also guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against a team-mate or any other person.

Offences against goalkeepers

Referees are reminded that:

- it is an offence for a player to prevent a goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands
- a player must be penalised for playing in a dangerous manner if he kicks or attempts to kick the ball when the goalkeeper is in the process of releasing it
- it is an offence to restrict the movement of the goalkeeper by unfairly impeding him at the taking of a corner kick

Screening the ball

It is not an offence if a player, with the ball under control within playing distance, screens the ball from an opponent without using his arms.

If, however, he prevents an opponent challenging for the ball by illegal use of the hand, arm, legs or body, he must be penalised by a direct free kick, or a penalty kick if the offence was committed inside the penalty area.

Scissors or bicycle kick

A scissors kick is permissible provided, in the opinion of the referee, it is not dangerous to an opponent.

Deliberately handling the ball

Referees are reminded that deliberately handling the ball is normally punished only by a direct free kick or penalty kick if the offence occurred inside the penalty area. A caution or dismissal is not normally required.

Preventing a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity

A player is sent off, however, if he prevents a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball. This punishment arises not from the act of the player deliberately handling the ball but from the unacceptable and unfair intervention that prevented a goal being scored.

Cautions for unsporting behaviour by deliberately handling the ball

There are circumstances when, in addition to a free kick being awarded, a player must also be cautioned for unsporting behaviour e.g. when a player:

- deliberately and blatantly handles the ball to prevent an opponent gaining possession
- attempts to score a goal by deliberately handling the ball

Holding an opponent

A common criticism of referees is their failure to correctly identify and punish the offence of holding an opponent. The failure to deal appropriately with shirt-pulling and arm-holding can result in confrontation situations developing and referees are instructed to make an early intervention and to deal firmly with the situation in accordance with Law 12.

A direct free kick or a penalty kick is normally all that is required as punishment but in certain circumstances an additional sanction is required e.g.

- a caution for unsporting behaviour is required when a player holds an opponent to prevent him gaining possession of the ball or taking up an advantageous position
- a player must be sent off if he denies an obvious goalscoring opportunity by holding an opponent

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR REFEREES, ASSISTANT REFEREES AND FOURTH OFFICIALS

The taking of free kicks

Referees are reminded that a player must be cautioned if:

- he delays the restart of play
- he fails to respect the required distance when play is being restarted

The Penalty Kick

It is an infringement to enter the penalty area before the kick has been taken. The goalkeeper also infringes the Laws if he moves from his goal line before the ball has been kicked. Referees must ensure that when players infringe this Law appropriate action is taken.

Offside signals

It is not an offence in itself to be in an offside position.

Assistant referees must only indicate for an offside position if the player has to be penalised for being in that position.

Offences by goalkeepers

Referees are reminded that goalkeepers are not permitted to keep possession of the ball in their hands for more than six seconds. A goalkeeper guilty of this offence is punished by an indirect free kick.

Persistent offenders

Referees should be alert at all times to players who persistently infringe the Laws. In particular, they must be aware that even if a player commits a number of different offences, he must still be cautioned for persistently infringing the Laws.

Attitude towards referees

The captain of a team has no special status or privileges under the Laws of the Game but he has a degree of responsibility for the behaviour of his team.

A player who is guilty of dissent by protesting at a referee's decision must be cautioned.

A player who assaults a referee or who is guilty of using offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures must be sent off.

Simulation

A player who attempts to deceive the referee by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled is guilty of simulation and must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

Delaying the restart of play

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 team-mates 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.

Celebration of a goal

While it is permissible for a player to demonstrate his joy when a goal has been scored, the celebration must not be excessive.

FIFA recognised in Circular No. 579 that such reasonable celebrations are allowed. The practice of choreographed celebrations is not to be encouraged when it results in excessive timewasting and referees are instructed to intervene in such cases.

A player must be cautioned when:

- in the opinion of the referee, he makes gestures which are provocative, derisory or inflammatory
- he climbs on to a perimeter fence to celebrate a goal being scored
- he removes his shirt over his head or covers his head with his shirt

Leaving the field to celebrate a goal is not a cautionable offence in itself but it is essential that players return to the field as soon as possible.

Referees are expected to act in a preventative mode and to exercise common-sense in dealing with the celebration of a goal.

Liquid refreshments

Players are entitled to take liquid refreshments during a stoppage in the match but only on the touch line. It is not permitted to throw plastic water bags or any other water containers onto the field.

Jewellery

Referees are reminded that, in accordance with Law 4, players may not wear any kind of jewellery, which is dangerous for himself or another player. If it is dangerous must be removed. It cannot be taped.

Indication of additional time allowed

Fourth officials are reminded that when, on the instruction of the referee, the minimum additional time to be allowed at the end of each half is being indicated, this indication should only be made at the end of the final minute in each period of play.

Dealing with injured players

Referees must follow the instructions below when dealing with injured players:

- play is allowed to continue until the ball is out of play if a player is, in his opinion, only slightly injured
- play is stopped if, in his opinion, a player is seriously injured
- after questioning the injured player, the referee authorises one, or at most two doctors, to enter the field to ascertain the type of injury and to arrange the player's safe and swift removal from the field
- the stretcher-bearers should enter the field with a stretcher at the same time as the doctors to allow the player to be removed as soon as possible
- the referee ensures an injured player is safely removed from the field of play
- a player is not allowed to be treated on the field
- any player bleeding from a wound must leave the field of play. He may not return until the referee is satisfied that the bleeding has stopped. A player cannot wear clothing with blood on it
- 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
- an injured player may only return to the field of play after the match has restarted
- an injured player may only re-enter the field from the touch line when the ball is in play. When the ball is out of play, the injured player may re-enter from any of the boundary lines
- the referee alone is authorised to allow an injured player to re-enter the field whether the ball is in play or not

- if play has not otherwise been stopped for another reason, or if an injury suffered by a player is not the result of a breach of the Laws of the Game, the referee restarts play with a dropped ball
- the referee allows for the full amount of time lost through injury to be played at the end of each period of play

Exceptions

Exceptions to this ruling are made only for:

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

The Technical Area

Fourth officials are expected to control the technical area in a preventative rather than a confrontational manner.

However, if the occupants of the technical area indulge in serious misconduct, the fourth official must inform the referee immediately.

These guidelines are designed to clarify some common situations and to help the participants involved in football matches to interpret the Laws of the Game correctly.

The aim is to support fair play and to have a uniform and consistent interpretation of the Laws of the Game in order to avoid misunderstandings, injuries and controversial situations.

All these clarifications are based on the Laws of the Game and the decisions of the International Football Association Board.

Basic Players' Equipment

Goalkeepers:

- Each goalkeeper wears colours that distinguish him from the other players, *the referee and the assistant referees*

Non-Basic Equipment

- A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself/herself or another player
- Modern protective equipment such as *headgear, facemasks, knee and arm protectors* made of soft, lightweight, padded material are not considered to be dangerous and are therefore permitted
- New technology has made sports spectacles much safer, both for the players themselves and for other players



Safety

A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself/herself or another player (including any kind of jewellery).

Jewellery

All items of jewellery are potentially dangerous. The term "dangerous" can sometimes be ambiguous and controversial, therefore in order to be uniform and consistent *any kind of jewellery* has to be forbidden.

Players are not allowed to use tape to cover jewellery. Taping jewellery is not adequate protection.

Rings, earrings, leather or rubber bands are not necessary to play and the only thing they can bring about is injury.

In order to avoid "last minute" problems, teams should inform their players in advance.



Please avoid injuries!

Necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather or rubber bands etc. are not allowed

Removing a jersey

- A player who removes his jersey when celebrating a goal must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour.
- Removing a jersey after a goal has been scored is unnecessary and players must avoid such excessive displays of celebration.
- Removing a jersey is defined as *removing the jersey over the head or covering the head with the jersey*.



It is an infringement to enter the penalty area before the kick has been taken.

The goalkeeper also infringes the Laws if he moves from his goal line before the ball has been kicked.

Referees must ensure that when players infringe this Law, appropriate action is taken.



The Technical Area

Only one person at a time is authorised to convey tactical instructions and he must return to his position after giving these instructions.



Liquid Refreshments

Players are entitled to take liquid refreshments during a stoppage in the match but only on the touch line. It is not permitted to throw plastic water bags or any water containers onto the field.



(Approved by the International Football Association Board – February 1993)

Name and Constitution

The title of the Board shall be the International Football Association Board. The Football Association (England), The Scottish Football Association, The Football Association of Wales, The Irish Football Association and the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), hereafter called associations, shall constitute the Board and each shall be entitled to be represented by four delegates.

Objects

The objects of the Board shall be to discuss and decide proposed alterations to the Laws of the Game and such other matters affecting association football as required to be referred to the Board after consideration by the Annual General Meetings or other appropriate meetings of the associations forming the Board or confederations or member associations.

Meetings of the Board

The Board shall meet bi-annually. The Annual General Meeting shall take place in the month of February or March as agreed. The Annual Business Meeting shall take place in the month of September or October, as agreed. The date and venue of both the Annual General Meeting and the Annual Business Meeting shall be decided at the previous Annual General Meeting of the Board. In each current year, both the Annual General Meeting and the Annual Business Meeting shall be hosted by the same member association. A representative of the host association shall preside. The responsibility for hosting both meetings shall be passed in rotation to each association.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is authorised to discuss and decide on proposed alterations to the Laws of the Game and other relevant matters affecting association football that fall within the remit of the Board.

Annual Business Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting shall take place in the month of September or October, as agreed. The meeting shall have the authority to consider general business submitted to the Board. It may provide decisions on such items but the Annual Business Meeting shall not have the authority to alter the Laws of the Game.

Procedures

Annual General Meeting

Each association shall forward in writing, not later than 1 December, to the secretary of the association hosting the meeting, suggestions or proposed alterations to the Laws of the Game, requests for experimentation to the Laws of the Game and other items for discussion, which shall be printed and distributed not later than 14 December. Any amendments to such proposed alterations must be submitted in writing to the secretary of the host association not later than 14 January, and such proposals and amendments shall be printed and distributed to member associations for consideration not later than 1 February.

Annual Business Meeting

Each association shall forward in writing to the secretary of the host association, at least four weeks before the date of the meeting, any proposals, requests for experimentation regarding the Laws of the Game and other items for discussion.

The agenda and relevant papers shall be distributed to all member associations of the Board two weeks before the meeting.

Any confederation or other member association may forward in writing to the General Secretary of FIFA, proposals, requests or items for discussion in good time to ensure that they may be considered by FIFA and, if acceptable, forwarded to the secretary of the host association at least four weeks before the meeting.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting shall be recorded by the secretary of the host association and shall be reported in the official Minute Book, which shall be forwarded to the association next in rotation before the first day of February ensuing.

Quorum and Voting Powers

The business of a meeting shall not be proceeded unless four associations, one of which shall be FIFA, are represented. FIFA shall have four votes on behalf of all affiliated member associations in membership. The other member associations shall each have one vote. For a proposal to succeed, it must receive the support of at least three-quarters of those present and entitled to vote.

Alterations to the Laws of the Game

No alterations shall be made to the Laws of the Game except in the Annual General Meeting of the Board and then only if agreed by at least three-quarters of those present and entitled to vote.

Special Meetings

The association hosting the Board meetings for the current year* shall, on receiving a written requisition signed by FIFA or by any two of the other member associations, accompanied by a copy of the proposals to be submitted, call a special meeting of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held within twenty-eight days of the requisition and the associations forming the Board shall receive twenty-one days' notice together with a copy of the proposals.

Decisions of the Board

The decisions of the Annual Business Meeting of the Board shall be effective from the date of the meeting, unless agreed otherwise. The decisions of the Annual General Meeting of the Board regarding changes to the Laws of the Game shall be binding on confederations and member associations as from 1 July following each Annual General Meeting of the Board but confederations or member associations whose current season has not ended by 1 July may delay the introduction of the adopted alterations to the Laws of the Game for their competitions until the beginning of their next season. No alteration to the Laws of the Game shall be made by any confederation or member association unless they have been passed by the Board.**

* The current year shall be understood to commence on the day following the previous Annual General Meeting.

** It was agreed that for international matches any such decisions would be effective from 1 July following the Annual General Meeting of the Board at which they were reached.

**The Laws of the Game
Questions and Answers
2006**

CONTENTS**Questions and Answer 2006 – Laws of the Game**

Law	Answers	Page
1 The Field of Play		4
	1 – 7	
2 The Ball		6
	1 – 3	
3 The Number of Players		7
	1 – 29	
4 The Players' Equipment		15
	1 – 11	
5 The Referee		17
	1 – 15	
6 The Assistant Referees	No questions	
7 The Duration of the Match		20
	1 – 4	
8 The Start and Restart of Play		21
	1 – 4	
9 The Ball In and out of Play	No questions	
10 Method of Scoring		22
	1	
11 Offside		23
	1 – 8	
12 Fouls and Misconduct		25
	1 – 37	
13 Free Kicks		33
	1 – 9	

CONTENTS

Law	Answers	Page
14 The Penalty Kick		35
	1 – 13	
	Kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner of a match	
	a – m	38
15 The Throw-In		41
	1 – 8	
16 The Goal Kick		43
	1 – 4	
17 The Corner Kick		44
	1 – 2	

Key

Throughout the Laws of the Game the following symbols are used:

* Unless covered by the Special Circumstances listed in Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play

| Single line indicates changes in the Question and Answers

LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

1. *If the crossbar breaks during a match played under the rules of a competition and there are no available means of repairing or replacing it, should the match be abandoned?*
Yes. The crossbar is a part of the goal and must always be in place
2. *Is it permissible to mark the field of play with broken lines or furrows?*
No.
3. *A goalkeeper or another player draws unauthorised marks on the field of play with his foot. What action does the referee take?*
If the referee notices this before the match starts, the offending player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour. If the referee notices this being done during the match, he cautions the offending player for unsporting behaviour when the ball next goes out of play.
4. *Can additional lines not approved in Law 1 be marked on the field of play?*
No. Only lines approved in Law 1 can be marked on the field of play.
5. *When a corner kick is about to be taken, can the players of the defending team be closer than the marks painted off the field of play 9.15 m. (10 yds) from the corner arc and at right angles to the goal line?*
No. These marks are optional and are used to assist the referee. All players of the defending team must be at least 9.15 metres (10 yards) from the corner arc until the ball is in play.
6. *Are the goal nets compulsory?*
No. They are recommended whenever possible and may be required under competitions rules.
7. *Law 1 International F.A. Board Decision 4 states that it is not permitted for any kind of commercial advertising to be nearer than 1m. from the touch line. Is this measurement compulsory for commercial advertising placed off the goal line?*
Yes. Commercial advertising must be at least 1m. from the boundary lines of the field of play.

LAW 2 – THE BALL

1. *May additional balls be placed around the field of play for use during a match?*

Yes. Provided they meet the requirements of Law 2 and their use is under the control of the referee.

2. *Is the ball considered as an object when it is used to strike an opponent?*

Yes.

3. *During the match, another ball enters the field of play. Should the referee stop play immediately?*

The additional ball should be treated as an outside agent and the referee will stop the match if the additional ball interferes with play. Play is restarted by a dropped ball at the place where the ball was at the time the match was stopped. * Otherwise the referee will have the extra ball removed at the earliest possible opportunity.

LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS

1. *A player accidentally passes over one of the boundary lines of the field of play. Is he considered to have left the field of play without the permission of the referee?*

No.

2. *A player in possession of the ball passes over the touch line or the goal line without the ball in order to beat an opponent. What action does the referee take?*

Play continues. Going outside the field of play may be considered as part of a playing movement, but players are expected, as a general rule, to remain within the playing area.

3. *When does a substitute become a player?*

Immediately after he enters the field of play in accordance with the substitution procedure.

4. *If, before the start of a match played under the rules of a competition, a player is replaced by a named substitute without the referee having been notified, may this substitute be permitted to continue to participate in the game?*

Yes. The player will be cautioned for unsporting behaviour. The referee will apply the advantage or stop play. If play is stopped to administer a caution, it will be restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team from the place where the ball was when play was stopped*.

5. *A substitute, who is not participating in the match, runs onto the field of play and violently kicks an opponent. What action does the referee take? p*

The referee stops the match, sends off the substitute for violent conduct, shows him the red card and restarts the match with an indirect free kick to the opposing team where the ball was when play was stopped *.

LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS

6. A player who is about to be replaced refuses to leave the field of play. What action does the referee take?

He allows play to continue as this does not come under his jurisdiction.

7. The referee allows a substitute who has not been nominated to enter the field of play and the latter scores a goal. What action does the referee take?

- 7.1. If he realises his mistake before the match is restarted:

The goal is not awarded. He should instruct the player to leave the field of play. The player who has been substituted may return to the field of play or be replaced by another nominated substitute. Play will be restarted with a dropped ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball passed into the goal.

- 7.2. If he realises his mistake after the match has restarted

The goal is allowed. He should instruct the player to leave the field of play. The player who has been substituted may return to the field of play or be replaced by another nominated substitute. He continues the match and reports the situation to the appropriate authorities. If the play was stopped to do so, it will be restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team where the ball was when play was stopped*.

- 7.3. If he only realises his mistake after the match

The goal is allowed. He should report the situation to the appropriate authorities.

8. A substitute enters the field of play without having obtained the permission of the referee, and his team plays with an extra player. While the ball is in play, an opponent violently punches him. What action should the referee take?

The referee stops play, sends off the player guilty of violent conduct, cautions the substitute for unsporting behaviour and instructs him to leave the field of play. The match is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team where the ball was when play was stopped *.

9. Player no. 8 is to be replaced by player no. 12. Player no. 8 leaves the field of play. Before entering the field of play, player no. 12 violently strikes an opponent who is standing on the touch line. What action does the referee take?

Substitute no. 12 is sent off for violent conduct and shown the red card. Player no. 8 may be replaced by another eligible substitute or may continue as a player since the substitution has not been completed.

- 10.1. A player changes his position with the goalkeeper without informing the referee, when he notices it, what action does the referee take?

- 10.2. The new goalkeeper then touches the ball with his hand in his own penalty area. What action does the referee take?

In both cases he allows play to continue and cautions both players for unsporting behaviour when the ball next goes out of play.

11. A player being substituted leaves the field of play and the referee signals to the substitute to enter the field. Before entering, however, he takes a throw-in ignoring the substitution procedure stated in Law 3, regarding entering the field of play. Is this procedure permitted?

No, the substitution procedure stated in Law 3 must first be completed. The player must enter the field of play at the halfway line during a stoppage in play.

12. During the half-time interval, a player is replaced by a named substitute. What conditions must be observed?

The referee will be informed and the player will enter the field of play at the halfway line.

LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS

13. A substitute, warming up behind his own goal, enters the field of play and prevents the ball entering the goal with his foot. What action does the referee take?
The referee stops play, cautions the substitute for unsporting behaviour and the match is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team where the ball was when play was stopped *.
- 13.1. If the player prevents the goal with his hand, what action does the referee take?
The referee stops play and sends-off the substitute for denying the opposing team a goal by deliberately handling the ball and the match is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team where the ball was when play was stopped *.
14. A substitute, who is not the goalkeeper, plays from the beginning of the match replacing a team-mate. The referee is not informed. This player plays the ball deliberately with his hand. What action will the referee take?
The referee stops play and cautions the substitute for unsporting behaviour. The player is instructed to leave the field of play for the substitution procedure to be completed correctly. The match is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team from where the ball was when the play was stopped*.
15. A substitute plays from the beginning of the match, replacing a team-mate. The referee is not informed. An opponent commits a foul against the substitute. What action will the referee take?
The referee stops play and cautions the substitute for unsporting behaviour. The player is instructed to leave the field of play for the substitution procedure to be completed correctly and depending on the foul caution or send off the player, or takes no disciplinary action. The match is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team from where the ball was when play was stopped *.
16. A player, who has been substituted, enters the field of play without the permission of the referee. What action will the referee take?
If the advantage clause is not applicable, the referee will stop play. He will caution the player for unsporting behaviour and will instruct the player to leave the field of play. Play will be restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team from where the ball was when play was stopped *.
17. A substitute who has joined the game without the permission of the referee scores a goal. The referee realises this before restarting play. What action will the referee take?
The goal is not awarded. The player will be cautioned for unsporting behaviour and instructed to leave the field of play for the substitution procedure to be completed correctly. The match is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team in the goal area*.
- 17.1. What action will the referee take if the opposing team scores the goal?
The goal will be awarded. The offending player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and is instructed to leave the field of play for the substitution to be completed correctly. The match will be restarted with a kick-off.
18. Must a player, who is being substituted, leave the field of play at the halfway line?
No.
19. Is it permissible for a goalkeeper to take a throw-in, corner-kick, penalty kick, etc.?
Yes. He is a player of his team.

LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS

20. During a match, the goalkeeper sprints from the goal to stop an opponent. He kicks the ball out of the field of play and a throw-in is awarded to the opposing team. The momentum of the goalkeeper takes him off the field of play and before he can return, the throw-in is taken and a goal is scored. What action, if any, should the referee take?

A goal is awarded since no offence has been committed.

21. A competition rule states that all players must be named before kick-off. A team lists only nine players and the match begins. May two other players who arrive after play has started take part?

No.

22. If no substitutes have been named and a player is sent off before play has begun, may the affected team complete the side with a player who subsequently arrives?

| Yes.

23. A team reports the substitutes' names to the referee before the start of the match, but they arrive after the kick-off. Should the referee admit them?

Yes.

24. A team with only seven players is penalised by the award of a penalty kick and as a result, one of their players is sent off, leaving only six in the team. Should the referee allow the penalty kick to be taken or should he abandon the match before the kick is taken?

The match must be abandoned without allowing the penalty kick to be taken unless the member association has decided otherwise with regard to the minimum number of players. In the opinion of the International F.A. Board, a match should not be considered valid if there are fewer than seven players in either team.

25. A player, from a team with only seven players, leaves the field of play to receive medical attention. What action does the referee take?

The match will stop until this player has received treatment and returns to the field of play. If he is unable to return, the match is abandoned, unless the member association has decided otherwise with regard to the minimum number of players.

26. The Board is of the opinion that a match should not continue if one of the teams is playing with fewer than 7 players. In a competition where such a limitation applies, a team consisting of 11 players is playing against a team with only 7. When the team consisting of 11 players is about to take a shot at goal, one of the players of the team of 7 deliberately leaves the field of play.

26.1. Does the referee have to stop play immediately?

No. The advantage clause should be considered.

26.2. If a goal is scored must he allow it?

Yes.

26.3. What further action should the referee take?

If the player who has left the field of play fails to return for the kick-off after the goal is scored, the player is cautioned, the match is abandoned and a report is sent to the appropriate authorities. If the player re-enters the field of play, the referee will caution him for deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.

27. A team playing with twelve players scores a goal and the referee notices it before the restart of play. What action does he take?

The goal is not awarded. Play is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team in the goal area*. The twelfth player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and is instructed to leave the field of play.

LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS

28. *A team playing against a team with twelve players scores a goal and the referee notices it before the restart of play. What action will the referee take?*

| The goal will be awarded. The offending player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and is instructed to leave the field of play.

29. *Can a player deliberately leave the field of play to take liquid refreshment?*

Players are entitled to take liquid refreshments during a stoppage in the match but only at the touch line.

LAW 4 – THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

1. *If the colour of the shirts of the two goalkeepers is the same, what should the referee do if neither has another shirt to change into?*

The referee allows play to begin.

2. *According to Law 4, the players of each team and their goalkeepers must wear jerseys or shirts of different colours to distinguish them from the other players. Must the goalkeepers wear jerseys or shirts with different colours to the referee and the assistant referees?*

Yes. The players and goalkeepers must wear jerseys or shirts that distinguishes them from the referee and assistant referees.

3. *What action should the referee take if a player removes his shirt to reveal a similar shirt underneath?*

The referee must caution the player for unsporting behaviour.

4. *Could the goalkeeper wear track suit bottoms as part of his basic equipment?*

Yes.

5. *May a player wear equipment designed to protect him against injury during a match?*

Players may wear protective equipment such as knee or arm pads, face masks or padded headbands provided the equipment meets the requirements of Law 4 – The Players' Equipment (i.e. it is not dangerous to either the player himself or to other players).

6. *May a player wear spectacles during a match?*

Modern sports spectacles, made of plastic or similar material, are not normally considered to be dangerous and referees would in such circumstances be expected to allow them to be worn.

LAW 4 – THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

7. *The referee requests a player to remove jewellery. After a number of minutes, the referee realises that the player is still wearing the jewellery. What actions should the referee take?*

| The player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour. The player is instructed by the referee to leave the field of play to remove the jewellery. If the referee stops play, he restarts with an indirect free kick to the opposing team from where the ball was when play was stopped *.

8. *Are players allowed to use tape to cover jewellery that is considered to be dangerous?*

No.

9. *A player accidentally loses his footwear and immediately scores a goal. Is this permitted?*

Yes. The player did not intentionally play barefoot, because he lost his footwear by accident.

10. *Is radio communication between player and/or technical staff permitted?*

No.

11. *Are member associations allowed to introduce modifications to Law 4?*

No. Law 4 is not included in the permitted modifications described in the Notes on the Laws of the Game.

LAW 5 – THE REFEREE

1. *If a referee is struck in the face by the ball, which then enters the goal while he is temporarily incapacitated, should a goal be allowed although he has not seen it scored?*

| Yes, but only if, in the opinion of the assistant referees or the fourth official, the goal was properly scored.

2. *During a match, an object thrown by a spectator hits the referee or one of the assistant referees or a player. Play is stopped for this person to receive medical attention. May the referee continue the match?*

Depending on the severity of the incident, the referee may allow the match to continue, suspend play or abandon the match. He must report the incident(s) to the appropriate authorities.

3. *Is the referee authorised to stop play if, in his opinion, the floodlights are inadequate?*

Yes.

4. *Can a captain send off one of his team-mates for serious misconduct?*

No. Only the referee can send off a player from the field of play.

5. *Does a team captain have the right to question a decision of the referee?*

No. Neither the captain nor any other player has the right to show disagreement with a decision taken by the referee.

6. *A player is guilty of a cautionable or sending off offence, but the referee allows play to continue to give an advantage to the opposing team. When should the player be cautioned or sent off?*

He should be cautioned or sent off whenever the ball next goes out of play.

7. A referee allows the match to continue when a player is guilty of a cautionable offence. Play is then stopped to award a free kick in favour of the team against whom the initial offence was committed. A player takes the free kick quickly to gain an advantage. Is this permitted?
- No. The referee does not allow the kick to be taken quickly. A caution is administered to the initial offending player before play is restarted.
8. Can the referee show yellow or red cards during the half-time interval or after the match is finished?
- Yes. He continues to take this action until he leaves the field of play.
9. What should a referee do if the two captains agree to forego the half-time interval but one of the players insists on his right to take an interval?
- Players have a right to an interval and the referee must grant it.
10. Is the referee empowered to order team officials away from the boundary lines of the field of play?
- Yes. The referee has the right to take such measures even if the match is being played on public ground.
11. A team official is guilty of misconduct. What action does the referee take?
- He will send the official from the technical area and its vicinity, behind the boundary fences (where such a fence exists). The referee will report his conduct to the appropriate authorities.
12. An assistant referee signals that the ball has passed over the touch line. A defending player inside the penalty area violently strikes an attacking player. What action should the referee take?
- The defending player is sent off for violent conduct and shown the red card. The referee restarts the match with a throw-in since the ball was out of play when the offence occurred.
13. How should a referee react if, during the course of a match, he realises that one of the teams is deliberately trying to lose? Should he draw the attention of the team in question to the fact that if they continue to play in that way, he will terminate the game in accordance with the provisions of Law 5?
- The referee has no right to stop the match in this case.
14. While the ball is in play, two opposing players commit offences at the same time. What action does the referee take?
- He stops the play, and depending on the offences, cautions or sends off the players, or takes no disciplinary action. The match will be restarted by a dropped ball, from the place where the ball was when the offences were committed.
15. A spectator blows a whistle and a defender inside his own penalty area picks up the ball with his hands, assuming that play has been stopped. What action does the referee take?
- If the referee considers the whistle to be outside interference, he should stop the match and restart it with a dropped ball *.

1. *Is it left to the referee's discretion to decide whether time lost through injuries or other causes is to be added or not?*

No, the referee must add time in each half of the game for all time lost. However, the amount of such time is at the discretion of the referee.

2. *Extra time is to be played to determine the winner of a match or home-and-away tie. Are players entitled to an interval at half-time of extra time?*

It is generally accepted that players are entitled to an interval between the end of normal play and the start of extra time. It is not normal for there to be another interval between the two periods of extra time unless the competition rules provide otherwise.

3. *Does the announcement of the minutes of time allowed at the end of a period of play express the exact time left in the match?*

No. It is only an indication of the minimum time to be added at the end of each half of the match and at the end of each half of the extra time, but it can be increased if the referee considers it appropriate.

4. *Can the referee compensate an error in the timekeeping during the first half, adding or subtracting time in the second half?*

No.

1. *May the kick-off be taken by a person other than one of the players taking part in the match?*

No. If, in certain matches (e.g. charity or exhibition matches) a ceremony is arranged for a person not taking part in the game to kick the ball, it must be brought back to the centre of the field and kicked off in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

2. *May a goalkeeper join other players at a dropped ball situation?*

Yes. Any player may take part.

3. *When play is about to be started with a dropped ball, the players of one team refuse to take part. What action does the referee take?*

He restarts play by dropping the ball. It is not necessary for each team to be present for the restart with a dropped ball.

4. *When the ball is dropped to restart play, it bounces out of play without having been touched by a player. What action does the referee take?*

He restarts play with a dropped ball at the same position as before.

LAW 10 – METHOD OF SCORING

1. If a referee signals a goal before the ball has passed wholly over the goal line and immediately realises his error, what action should he take?

Play is restarted with a dropped ball*.

LAW 11 – OFFSIDE

1. A player moving quickly towards his opponent's goal is penalised for an offside offence. From what position is the resulting indirect free kick taken?

The kick is taken from his position when the ball was last played to him by one of his team-mates *.

2. Does a referee penalise a player who is in an offside position and moves off the field of play to show the referee that he is not involved in active play?

No. It is not an offence in itself to be in an offside position and there is no need for the player to leave the field of play. However, if the referee considers that he has left the field for tactical reasons and has gained an unfair advantage by re-entering the field of play, the player should be cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

3. A defending player moves beyond his own goal line in order to place an opponent in an offside position. What action does the referee take?

The referee allows play to continue and cautions the defender for deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission, when the ball is next out of play.

4. An attacking player's movement takes him between the goal posts into the goal net and at the same time, a team-mate kicks the ball into the goal. What action does the referee take if

- a) The player who is between the goal posts remains stationary as the ball enters?

No action should be taken. A goal is awarded.

- b) The actions of the player distract an opponent?

The goal is disallowed and the player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

Since the offence was committed off the field of play, play is restarted with a dropped ball at the place where it was located when play was stopped*.

LAW 11 – OFFSIDE

5. *Is a team-mate allowed to stand in an offside position when a penalty kick is being taken?*

No. Players must be behind the penalty mark.

6. *Player A plays the ball to a team-mate B in an onside position, although there is another attacker C in an offside position. Play continues, and afterwards, in the next phase of play, player B sends the ball to player C, who now is in an onside position. He scores a goal. What action does the referee take?*

The referee awards the goal; because when player C received the ball he was in an onside position. He would not be penalised for being in an offside position in the first phase since he was not involved in active play.

7. *The ball is played to a player in an offside position by a team-mate, but a defending player touches it deliberately with his hand. What action does the referee take?*

If, in the opinion of the referee, the player in the offside position should be penalised for being involved in active play, he will penalise the offside and restart the match with an indirect free kick *.

However, if in the referee's opinion, the player should not be penalised for being involved in active play, a direct free kick, or a penalty kick, will be awarded against the player who handled the ball.

8. *A player in an offside position but not interfering with any opponent runs towards the ball played by a team-mate. Must the referee wait until he touches the ball to penalise him?*

Yes. The referee must wait and see if the player in an offside position finally interferes with play by touching the ball.

LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

1. *When the ball is about to be dropped within the penalty area, a defending player violently strikes an opponent before the ball touches the ground. What action does the referee take?*

The player is sent off for violent conduct and play restarts with a dropped ball.

2. *While the ball is in play, two players of the same team commit unsporting behaviour or violent conduct towards each other on the field of play. What action does the referee take?*

The referee cautions them or sends them off and restarts play with an indirect free kick to the opposing team from the place where the offence occurred *.

3. *While the ball is in play, the goalkeeper violently strikes an opponent in the area enclosed by the goal line and the goal nets. What action does the referee take?*

The referee stops play, sends off the goalkeeper and restarts play with a dropped ball at the place where it was located when play was stopped. *

A penalty kick is not awarded, as the area in which the incident occurred is not part of the field of play.

4. *An attacker goes past the goalkeeper and kicks the ball towards the open goal. A defender throws a boot or similar object, which strikes the ball and prevents it entering the goal. What action does the referee take?*

The boot or similar object is considered as an extension of the player's arm. Play would be stopped, a penalty kick would be awarded and the offending player would be sent off for preventing a goal by deliberately handling the ball.

5. *An attacker goes past the goalkeeper and kicks the ball towards the open goal. A goalkeeper then throws a boot or similar object, which strikes the ball and prevents it entering the goal. What action does the referee take?*

The goalkeeper is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and the match is restarted by an indirect free kick to be taken from the place where the ball was when it was struck by the boot or similar object*.

6. *A player, other than the goalkeeper, standing in his own penalty area holding a shinguard, hits the ball with his shinguard to prevent it entering the goal. What action does the referee take?*
The referee awards a penalty kick and the player is sent off for preventing a goal. The shinguard is regarded as an extension of the player's hand.
7. *What happens if, in a similar situation, the player in question is the goalkeeper?*
The referee stops play, cautions the goalkeeper for unsporting behaviour and play is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team*.
8. *A player who has left the field of play to receive treatment trips an opponent inside the field of play. What action does the referee take?*
The player is cautioned for re-entering the field of play. If the trip is deserving of a caution the player will be sent off for receiving a second caution in the same match and play is restarted with a direct free kick * or penalty kick.
9. *A player enters the field of play without receiving a signal from the referee and then deliberately handles the ball. What action does the referee take?*
The player is cautioned for entering the field of play without the permission of the referee. Play is restarted with a direct free kick or penalty kick to punish the more serious offence *.
If, in the opinion of the referee, the player is also guilty of unsporting behaviour, by deliberately handling the ball, he is sent off for receiving a second caution in the same match.
If, in the opinion of the referee, the player is also guilty of denying a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity, the player is sent off.
10. *A player running with the ball sees a defender immediately in front of him and runs off the field of play to continue playing the ball. The opponent holds him beyond the touch line to prevent him continuing his run. What action does the referee take?*
Play is stopped and the opponent is cautioned for unsporting behaviour. Play is restarted with a dropped ball at the place where the ball was located when play was stopped*.
11. *While the ball is in play, a player standing inside his own penalty area throws an object at an opponent standing outside the penalty area. What action does the referee take?*
He stops play and sends off the player who threw the object for violent conduct. Play is restarted with a direct free kick to the opponents' team taken from the place where the offence occurred, e.g. where the object struck or would have struck the opponent.
12. *A player throws an object e.g. footwear at a person seated in the technical area. What action does the referee take?*
Play is stopped, the player is sent off for violent conduct and play is restarted with an indirect free kick taken from where the object was thrown*.
13. *While the ball is in play, a substitute throws an object e.g. footwear at a player of the opposing team. What action does the referee take?*
Play is stopped and the substitute is sent off for violent conduct. Play is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team at the place where the ball was located when play was stopped*.
14. *A player standing in his own penalty area strikes the referee. What action does the referee take?*
Play is stopped and the player is sent off for violent conduct. Play is restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team to be taken from the place where the offence occurred*.

15. *The goalkeeper in his penalty area holds the ball in his hands then places it on the ground and takes it outside the penalty area. He then decides to re-enter the penalty area and touches the ball again with his hands. What action does the referee take?*
An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team*.
16. *A goalkeeper holding the ball bounces it before he kicks it upfield. Is it an offence to bounce the ball?*
No. In the spirit of the Law he would not be regarded as having released the ball from his possession.
17. *If a goalkeeper is bouncing the ball, may an opponent play the ball as it touches the ground?*
No.
18. *After taking possession of the ball, a goalkeeper allows it to lie on his open hand. An opponent comes from behind him and heads the ball from his hand. Is this permitted?*
No.
19. *As a goalkeeper releases the ball to kick it into play, an opponent intercepts it before it touches the ground. Is this permitted?*
No. It is an offence to prevent a goalkeeper releasing the ball from his hands. The releasing of the ball from his hands and the kicking of the ball is considered to be a single action.
20. *A player other than the goalkeeper deliberately plays the ball with his arm in his own penalty area. What action does the referee take?*
The referee awards a penalty kick. The offence of deliberate handball includes the illegal use of either hand or arm.
21. *A throw-in is taken by the attacking team and the ball goes to the defending goalkeeper. The goalkeeper misses the ball and a teammate punches the ball over the bar. What decision would the referee give?*
A penalty kick would be awarded. The referee would normally caution the player for unsporting behaviour. The player does not prevent a goal or an obvious goalscoring opportunity since a goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in.
22. *A player tries to prevent the ball entering the goal by deliberately handling it. The ball, however, enters the goal. What action does the referee take?*
He awards the goal and cautions the player for unsporting behaviour.
23. *A player handles the ball deliberately, trying to prevent it reaching an opponent. Although he touches the ball, he fails to prevent his opponent receiving it. What action does the referee take?*
If advantage was allowed, the offending player will be cautioned for unsporting behaviour in the next stoppage in play.
24. *A player is charged when the ball is not within playing distance. What action should the referee take?*
If the referee considers the charge on the opponent to be careless, a direct free kick * or a penalty kick will be awarded.
25. *A player stops the progress of an opponent by physical contact. What action does the referee take?*
The offending player is punished with a direct free kick for holding an opponent * or penalty kick.

26. *Is it permitted for a referee to show a red card to a substitute to indicate he must leave the technical area and go to the changing room, whether or not he has taken part in the match, for his use of offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures?*
Yes. All players, substitutes and substituted players come under the jurisdiction of the referee whether they are on the field of play or not. The use of the red card is to give a clear indication that a sanction is being issued.
27. *A player intentionally lies on the ball for an unreasonable length of time. What action does the referee take?*
He stops play, cautions the player for unsporting behaviour and restarts play with an indirect free kick.
28. *A referee cautions a player who then apologises for his misconduct. Can the referee decide not to report the incident?*
No. All cautions must be reported.
29. *A player challenging for the ball makes contact with the opposing goalkeeper, who is within his own goal area.*
Challenging for the ball is permitted. A player would be only penalised if the challenge was a jump at the goalkeeper, a charge or a push on the goalkeeper, which was careless, reckless or using excessive force.
30. *Is it permitted for two or more players to challenge an opponent at the same time?*
Yes, provided the challenges were legal.
31. *A defender starts holding an attacker outside the penalty area but finishes inside the penalty area. What action should the referee take?*
He would award a penalty kick.
32. *A player plays in a dangerous manner raising his leg when the opponent tries to head the ball and makes contact with the opponent's head. What action should the referee take?*
He would award a direct free kick * or penalty kick.
33. *A player is in an offside position and an assistant referee raises his flag. The referee does not see the signal and a defending player denies an opponent an obvious goalscoring opportunity. The referee stops play and only then sees the signal of the assistant referee. What action does the referee take?*
a) If he accepts the signal for offside from the assistant referee, he does not send off the defender, since no obvious goalscoring opportunity has occurred. Play is restarted with an indirect free kick to the defending team *.
The player may be sanctioned however if, in the opinion of the referee, his action on its own was a cautionable or sending-off offence.
b) If he does not accept that an offside offence has occurred, the defending player is sent off for denying an obvious goalscoring opportunity and play is restarted with a direct free kick * or penalty kick to the attacking team.
34. *A player is in an offside position and an assistant referee raises his flag. The referee does not see the signal and a defending player violently punches an opponent. The referee stops play and only then sees the signal of the assistant referee. What action does the referee take?*
a. If he accepts the signal for offside from the assistant referee, he sends off the defender for violent conduct and restarts play with an indirect free kick for the defending team *.
b. If he does not accept that an offside offence has occurred, the defending player is sent off for violent conduct and play is restarted with a penalty kick or a direct free kick for the attacking team.

LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

35. *A player asks to leave the field of play and, as he is walking off, the ball comes towards him and he kicks the ball into the goal. What action does the referee take?*

The player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour. The game is restarted by an indirect free kick, taken by a player of the opposing team, from the place where the infringement occurred.*

36. *An assistant referee signals that a player is guilty of violent conduct. The referee sees neither the offence nor the signal and the offending player's team scores a goal. He then sees the assistant referee's signal. What action does the referee take?*

As long as play has not restarted, the goal is disallowed, the guilty player is sent off and the match is restarted with a free kick * or penalty kick.

37. *After a goal is scored, the referee notices a signal from his assistant referee. The assistant referee tells the referee that before the ball entered the goal, the goalkeeper of the team that scored the goal violently punched an opponent inside his own penalty area. What action does the referee take?*

The goal is disallowed, the goalkeeper is sent off for violent conduct and a penalty kick is awarded to the opposing team.

LAW 13 – FREE KICKS

1. *A player takes a free kick from outside his own penalty area and then touches the ball again by deliberately handling the ball before another player has played it. What action does the referee take?*

He punishes the more serious offence, by awarding a direct free kick or penalty kick if the offence took place inside the penalty area.

2. *A team is awarded a free kick in its own penalty area. The player taking the kick hits the ball against a team-mate who is inside the penalty area and the ball enters the goal.. What action does the referee take?*

The kick is retaken since the ball is not in play until it has passed outside the penalty area.

3. *When a goal kick or a free kick is taken from within a player's own penalty area, when may opposing players enter the penalty area?*

The players may not enter until the ball has passed outside the penalty area.

4. *May a free kick be taken by lifting the ball with a foot or both feet simultaneously?*

Yes. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.

5. *When taking a free kick awarded to their team, may players use feinting tactics to confuse opponents?*

Yes. It is permitted and is part of football. However, if any opponents move nearer than 9.15m (10 yards) from the ball before it is in play, they are cautioned for failing to respect the required distance.

6. *An indirect free kick is awarded to the attacking team outside the opponents' penalty area. The referee fails to raise his arm to indicate that the kick is indirect and the ball is kicked directly into the goal. What action does the referee take?*

He has the free kick retaken because of the referee's mistake. The initial indirect free kick, is not nullified by the referee's mistake.

LAW 13 – FREE KICKS

7. A player takes a quick free kick and the ball goes into goal. The referee has not had the opportunity to indicate that the free kick was indirect. What action should the referee take?

Order the kick to be retaken as the original offence only merited an indirect free kick but the referee did not have the opportunity to give the recognised signal.

8. A free kick is awarded and the player decides to take the kick quickly. An opponent who is less than 9.15 m. from the ball intercepts it. What action does the referee take?

He allows play to continue.

9. A free kick is awarded and the player decides to take the kick quickly. An opponent who is near the ball deliberately prevents him taking the kick. What action does the referee take?

The player is cautioned and shown a yellow card for delaying the restart of play.

LAW 14 – THE PENALTY KICK

1. The referee orders a penalty kick to be retaken because the goalkeeper moves forward from his goal line. May a different player take the retaken penalty kick?

Yes.

2. When a penalty kick is being taken, the goalkeeper advances before the ball is kicked and intercepts it in front of the goal line. What action does the referee take?

The penalty kick is retaken.

3. A player takes a penalty kick before the referee has signalled. What action does the referee take?

He orders the kick to be retaken.

4. When a penalty kick is being taken, and after the referee has given the necessary signal, a team-mate of the player identified to take the kick suddenly rushes forward and takes it instead. What action does the referee take?

The referee stops play and restarts the match with an indirect free kick to the defending team where the infringement occurred i.e. where the player advanced closer than 9.15m. The player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

5. When a penalty kick is taken, the ball strikes the goalpost and/or crossbar and bursts. What action does the referee take?

If the ball enters the goal directly after hitting the goal post or crossbar the goal is allowed.
If the ball rebounds into play the referee stops play, obtains a replacement ball and restarts play with a dropped ball.* If this second situation occurs during additional time, the match ends.

LAW 14 – THE PENALTY KICK

6. After additional time has been allowed to enable a penalty kick to be taken or retaken at half-time or full time, or during "kicks from the penalty mark", the ball bursts or becomes defective before touching the posts, the crossbar or the goalkeeper, without having crossed the goal line. What decision will the referee take?

The penalty kick must be retaken with a new ball.

7. The referee signals for a penalty kick to be taken. An attacking player then violently punches an opponent outside the penalty area. The referee notices the incident. What action does the referee take?

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 and sends off the player for violent conduct.

8. A player taking a penalty kick back heels the ball to a team-mate who kicks the ball into the goal. What action does the referee take?

The referee stops play and restarts the match with an indirect free kick to the defending team at the penalty mark. This would be considered to be an infringement of the procedure in Law 14.

9. A player taking a penalty kick plays the ball forward for a team-mate to run on to it and score. Is this permitted?

Yes, provided the correct penalty kick procedures have been followed.

10. A defender standing in his own penalty area violently strikes an opponent while the ball is in play in his opponent's penalty area. What action does the referee take?

Play is stopped. A penalty kick is awarded against the defender and he is sent off for violent conduct.

11. On a waterlogged pitch, a player places the ball for a penalty kick to the side of the penalty mark. Is this permitted?

No.

12. A match is extended to allow a penalty kick to be taken. May the goalkeeper be replaced before the kick is taken?

Yes. He may be replaced by another eligible player on the field or by a substitute, provided the permitted number of substitutions is not exceeded.

13. A player taking a penalty kick feints before kicking the ball. Is this permitted?

Yes.

KICKS FROM THE PENALTY MARK TO DETERMINE THE WINNER OF A MATCH

- a) Does taking kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner of a match form part of the match?

No.

- b) The captains of both teams mutually agree to refuse to take kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner of a match or home-and-away tie, despite the fact this is stipulated in the regulations of the competition. What action does the referee take?

The referee reports the situation to the appropriate competition authorities.

- c) Who is responsible for selecting which players will take the kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner of a match?

Each team is responsible for selecting the players from those on the field of play at the end of the match and the order in which they will take the kicks.

- d) When kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner of a match or home-and-away tie are being taken, the ball bursts after touching the posts or the crossbar, without having crossed the goal line. Should this kick be retaken?

No.

- e) May an injured player be excused from taking part in kicks from the penalty mark to determine the result of the match or home-and-away tie?

Yes, but he cannot be replaced by another player.

- f) At the end of a match or extra time, some players leave the field of play and fail to return for kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner of a match or home-and-away tie. What action does the referee take?

All players who are not injured must participate in the taking of kicks from the penalty mark. If they do not return to the field of play, the kicks will not be taken and the referee will report the incident to the appropriate authorities.

- g) May a player be cautioned or sent off during the taking of kicks from the penalty mark to determine the winner of a match or home-and-away tie?

Yes.

- h) Kicks from the penalty mark are about to be taken to decide the winner of a match or home-and-away tie. May one of the teams, which has not used a substitute, replace one or more of its players with the substitute(s) prior to the kicks being taken?

No. Only those players who are on the field of play at the end of the match may take part.

- i) The floodlights fail in the stadium after extra time but before or during the taking of kicks from the penalty mark. What action does the referee take?

The referee allows a reasonable amount of time for the lights to be repaired but if matters do not improve, the result is decided according to competition rules.

- j) During the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, a goalkeeper is sent off. May he be replaced by a nominated substitute?

No.

- k) During the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, a goalkeeper is injured and is unable to continue. May he be replaced by any named substitute?

Yes. Provided that the number of eligible substitutes has not already been used.

- l) During the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, a team has fewer than seven players. Should the referee abandon the kicks from the penalty mark?*

No. Kicks from the penalty mark are not part of the match.

- m) During the kicks from the penalty mark, one or several players are injured or sent off. Must a referee ensure that an equal number of players from each team remain within the centre circle and that they shall take the kicks?*

No. The equal number in each team applies only to the start of taking kicks from the penalty mark.

1. *The ball is out of play over the touch line, but before it is thrown in, a player deliberately kicks an opponent. What action does the referee take?*

He sends him off for violent conduct and restarts play with a throw in.

2. *A player takes a throw-in correctly. The ball does not enter the field of play but remains outside the touch line. What action does the referee take?*

The throw-in is retaken.

3. *A player, while correctly taking a throw-in, intentionally throws the ball at an opponent's head. What action does the referee take?*

Play is stopped if in the opinion of the referee, the player is guilty of unsporting behaviour or violent conduct. Depending on the action, he is cautioned or sent off. Play is restarted with a direct free kick * or penalty kick to the opposing team, from the place where the offence occurred, i.e. the place where the ball struck the opponent.

4. *Is there a maximum distance away from the touch line from which a throw-in may be taken?*

No. A throw-in should be taken from the place where the ball left the field of play.

5. *A player takes a throw-in with part of each foot on or behind the touch line or with part of his feet inside the line and his heels on the touch line. Is this permitted?*

Yes, provided that part of each foot is on or behind the touch line and on the ground.

6. *After an incorrectly taken throw-in, the ball goes directly to an opponent. Is play allowed to continue by applying the advantage clause?*

No. A player of the opposing team retakes the throw-in.

LAW 15 – THE THROW-IN

7. *Is a player allowed to take a throw-in kneeling or sitting down?*
No. A throw-in is only permitted if the correct procedures in the Laws of the Game are followed.
8. *A player takes a throw-in. He throws the ball directly to his goalkeeper who touches the ball in attempting to stop it entering the goal. The ball enters the goal, however. What action does the referee take?*
The advantage is allowed and a goal is awarded.

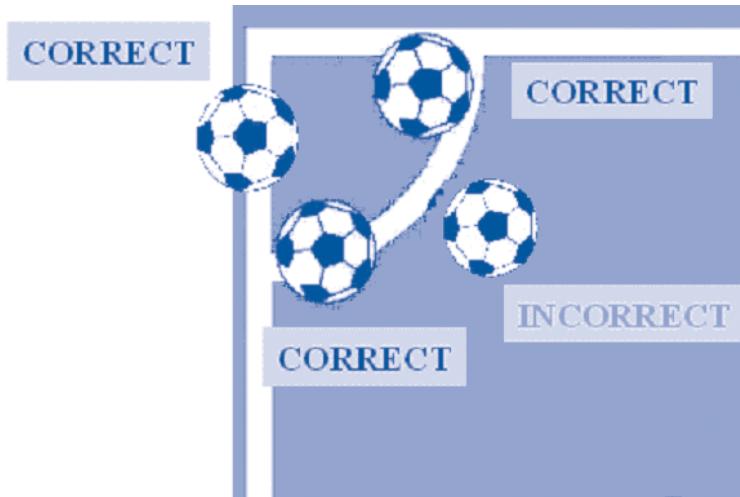
LAW 16 – THE GOAL KICK

1. *A player, who has taken a goal kick correctly, deliberately plays the ball with his hand when the ball has left the penalty area but before another player has touched it. What decision does the referee give?*
A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team. The player could also be punished by a disciplinary sanction according to the Laws of the Game.
2. *After a goal kick has been taken, but before the ball has left the penalty area, an opponent enters the penalty area and is fouled by a defending player. What action does the referee take?*
The offending player may be cautioned or sent off according to the nature of the offence and the goal kick is retaken.
3. *When a player takes a goal kick, the ball strikes the referee inside the penalty area and continues in play. What action does the referee take?*
No action is necessary. The ball remains in play after it rebounds from the referee in the field of play.
4. *A player takes a goal kick and the ball passes over the goal line without having passed out of the penalty area. What action does the referee take?*
The goal kick is retaken.

LAW 17 – THE CORNER KICK

- When a corner kick is taken, what is the correct way to place the ball in the quarter circle?

The diagram illustrates some correct and incorrect positions.



- Does the ball need to leave the corner arc before it is in play.

No. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.

Fédération Internationale de Football Association
President: Joseph S. Blatter (Switzerland)
General Secretary: Urs Linsi (Switzerland)
Address: FIFA
 FIFA-Strasse 20
 P.O. Box
 8044 Zurich
 Switzerland
Telephone: +41-(0)43-222 7777
Telefax: +41-(0)43-222 7878
Internet: www.FIFA.com
 www.FIFAworlcup.com

Ineternet:
Telefax:
Telephone:
Address:
General Secretary:
President:

Fédération Internationale de Football Association
President: Joseph S. Blatter (Switzerland)
General Secretary: Urs Linsi (Switzerland)
Address: FIFA
 FIFA-Strasse 20
 P.O. Box
 8044 Zurich
 Switzerland
Telephone: +41-(0)43-222 7777
Telefax: +41-(0)43-222 7878
Internet: www.FIFA.com
 www.FIFAworlcup.com