

Introduction

The 130th IFAB AGM held in Cardiff on 5 March 2016 unanimously approved the IFAB Technical Subcommittee's extensive revision of the Laws of the Game.

This revision is probably the most comprehensive in The IFAB's 130 year history and has reorganised and updated the Laws of the Game book to make it far easier to read, understand and use not just for referees but for anyone interested in the Laws and in football.

The IFAB is the body responsible for the Laws of the Game worldwide and national football associations, confederations and competitions are not permitted to change the Laws without the permission of The IFAB AGM.

Referees, Assessors and Instructors

In the interests of member education and in an attempt to have all of the SGFRA referees applying the new Laws in a consistent manner, the SGFRA Coaching and Technical Sub-Committee (CTSC), has prepared and distributed a number of documents which have been sent to all 2016 members and are also available through the web site.

Highlighted and underlined text indicates a change to the text or an addition to the Laws of the Game (LOTG).

Note: In an effort to simplify the process, some of the Laws and wording may have been paraphrased to offer a guide and should not be substituted for the actual text in the LOTG book, which will always take precedence.

SGFRA would like to acknowledge the contribution and information provided by FFA and FNSW

Law 1. The Field of Play

- **Club or Association emblems/logos are now allowed on corner flags - but no advertising.**



Law2. The Ball

There are no changes to this Law

Law 3. The Players

- A match may not start **or continue** if a team has fewer than 7 players
- **Substitutes can take any restart provided they first enter the field of play.**
- **Anyone not named on the team list as a player, substitute or team official is deemed to be an outside agent.**
- **If play is stopped and the interference was by a team official, substitute, substituted or sent off player, play restarts with a direct free kick or penalty kick.**
- **If something/someone (other than a player) touches a ball going into the goal, the referee can award the goal if the ball goes in the goal and the touch had no impact on the defenders (unless in opponents' goal).**
- **If a goal is scored with an extra person on the field and referee has restarted play, the goal stands and the match continue.**
- **The captain has no special status or privileges, but has degree of responsibility for the behaviour of his team.**
- Law 5 now allows the referee to send a player off before the kick-off (from the pre-match inspection of the field of play onwards) and in terms of the player being replaced, a player sent off:
 - **Before the team list has been submitted - cannot appear on team list in any capacity.**
 - **After the team list has been submitted, but before kick-off - can be replaced by a named substitute (who cannot be replaced; team may still make full number of substitutions as is the current Law)**
 - **after the kick-off - cannot be replaced**

Law 4. Player's Equipment

- **Any tape or other material on/covering or worn externally to the sock, must be same colour as the sock** (photos below show what will no longer be permitted).



Basically, this isn't a completely new part of the Law for SGFA and, as per our current practice, the tape/sock/garter will need to be the same colour as the part of the sock that it covers.

However, in the SGFA competitions there has been some compromise with regards to commercially available items of clothing and tape. A revised and updated list will be provided closer to the start of the 2017 season.

- **Compulsory equipment**

Under shirts must be the same colour as the sleeve.

Undershorts/tights must be the same colour as the main colour of the shorts **or the lowest (hem) of the shorts.**

Players of the same team must wear the same colour.



A player losing footwear **or shinguard** accidentally can play on until next stoppage

- **Other equipment**

The National Jewellery Policy shall still be enforced in SGFA competitions. A defined list will be provided in the 2017 LOTG Book.

Non-dangerous protective equipment, for example headgear, facemasks and knee and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight padded material is permitted as are goalkeepers' caps and sports spectacles.

The use of any form of electronic communication between players **(including substitutes/substituted and sent off players)** and/or technical staff is not permitted.

This includes mobile phones, two way radios or similar equipment.

- **Infringements and sanctions**

For any infringement of this Law play need not be stopped.

A player who leaves the field of play to correct or change equipment must;

- Have the equipment check by **a match official** before being allowed to re-enter
- Only re-enter with the referee's permission **(which may be given during play)**

A player who enters without permission must be cautioned and if play is stopped to issue the caution, an indirect free kick is awarded from the position of the ball when play was stopped.

Law 5. The Referee

- **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.

- **Decisions of the referee**

Decisions will be made to the best of the referee's ability according to the Laws of the Game and the 'spirit of the game' and will be based on the opinion of the referee who has the discretion to take appropriate action within the framework of the Laws of the Game.

The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final.

The referee may not change a decision on realising that it is incorrect or on the advice of another match official if play has restarted or the referee has signalled the end of the first or second half (including extra time) and left the field of play or terminated the match.

If a referee is incapacitated, play may continue under the supervision of the other match officials until the ball is next out of play.

- **Disciplinary Action**

- Punishes the more serious offence, in terms of sanction, restart, physical severity and tactical impact, when more than one offence occurs at the same time
- Takes disciplinary action against players guilty of cautionable and sending-off offences
- Has the authority to take disciplinary action from entering the field of play **for the pre-match inspection** until leaving the field of play after the match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark). **If, before entering the field of play at the start of the match, a player commits a sending-off offence, the referee has the authority to prevent the player taking part in the match (see Law 3.6); the referee will report any other misconduct**
- Has the power to show yellow or red cards from entering the field of play at the start of the match until after the match has ended, including during the half-time interval, extra time and kicks from the penalty mark
- Takes action against team officials who fail to act in a responsible manner and may expel them from the field of play and its immediate surrounds
- Acts on the advice of other match officials regarding incidents that the referee has not seen

- **Injuries**

If a player is injured as the result of a physical offence for which the opponent is cautioned or sent off (e.g. reckless or serious foul challenge) and if the assessment/treatment is completed quickly they are not required to leave the field following the treatment

- **Outside interference**

An extra ball, other object or animal enters the field of play during the match, the referee must:

- stop play (and restart with a dropped ball) only if it interferes with play **unless the ball is going into the goal and if the interference does not prevent a defending player playing the ball, the goal is awarded if the ball enters the goal (even if contact was made with the ball) unless the ball enters the opponents' goal**
- allow play to continue if it does not interfere with play and have it removed at the earliest possible opportunity

Law 5, Law 6 and Law 7

Reference is made to the following points;

Law 5: Referee's Equipment – Referee Signals

Law 6: Forth Official – Additional Assistant Referees (AAR) – Reserve Assistant Referee

Law 7: Allowance for time lost

As these points are either not relevant to this document or will not be incorporated in the competitions that members are expected to officiate in, they have been omitted at this time. Members can refer to the complete LOTG for reference, should they wish.

Information for these points will be provided at the appropriate time.

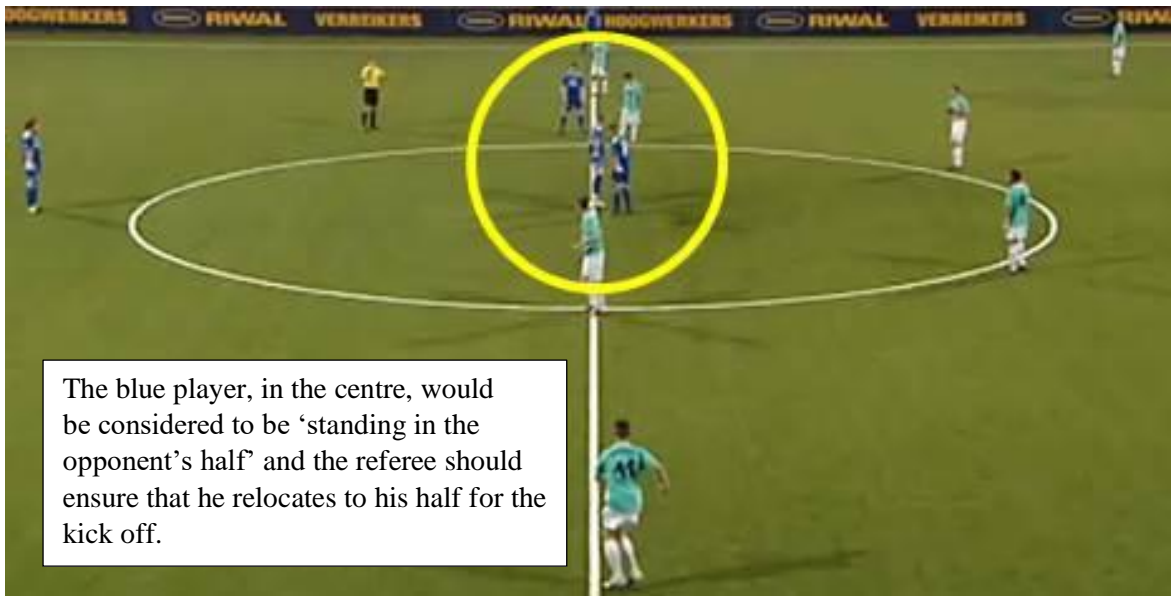
Law 8. The Start and Restart of Play

A kick-off starts both halves of a match, both halves of extra time and restarts play after a goal has been scored.

Free kicks (direct or indirect), penalty kicks, throw-ins, goal kicks and corner kicks are other restarts (see Laws 13 to 17).

A dropped ball is the restart when the referee stops play and the Law does not require one of the above restarts. *(When no offence has been committed)*

If an infringement occurs when the ball is not in play this does not change how play is restarted.



• Kick-off

- The team that wins the toss of a coin decides which goal it will attack in the first half
- Their opponents take the kick-off
- The team that wins the toss takes the kick-off to start the second half
- For the second half, the teams change ends and attack the opposite goals
- After a team scores a goal, the kick-off is taken by their opponents



For every kick off

- All players must be in their own half of the field of play
- The opponents of the team taking the kick-off must be at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball until it is in play
- The ball must be stationary on the centre mar
the referee gives a signal
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves
- A goal may be scored directly against the opponents from the kick-off

• Dropped ball

If the referee stops play and no infringement has occurred e.g. injured player, outside agent on the field, the referee drops the ball at the position where it was when play was stopped, unless play was stopped inside the goal area in which case the ball is dropped on the goal area line which is parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was when play was stopped.

- The ball is in play when it touches the ground.
- Any number of players may contest a dropped ball (including the goalkeepers).
- The referee cannot decide who may contest a dropped ball or its outcome.

Infringements and sanctions

The ball is dropped again if it;

- Touches a player before it touches the ground
- Leaves the field of play after it touches the ground, without touching a player

If a dropped ball enters the goal without touching at least two players play is restarted with:

- a goal kick if it enters the opponents' goal
- a corner kick if it enters the team's goal

Law 9. Ball In and Out of Play

• Ball in play

The ball is in play at all other times, including when it rebounds off a match official, goalpost, crossbar or corner flagpost and remains in the field of play.

Law 10. Determining the Outcome of a Match

Apart from a change to the title, this Law now contains the conditions for 'Kicks from the Penalty Mark to Determine the Winner of a Game' or Penalty Shoot-out, as it is loosely called in the football fraternity.

The CTSC feels that members are best to focus on the parts of the Laws that will be used during normal competitions and later on in the season we can work on this aspect of the LOTG.



Law 11. Offside

• Offside Position

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

A player is in an offside position if:

- Any part of the head, body or feet is in the opponents' half (excluding the halfway line) and (this text has also replaced the condition stating that a 'player is not in an offside position if he is own half of the field')
- Any part of the head, body or feet is nearer to the opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second-last opponent
- The hands and arms of all players, including the goalkeepers, are not considered.

A player is not in an offside position if they are level with the:

- second-last opponent or
- last two opponents

• Offside Offence

A player in an offside position at the moment the ball is played or touched by a team-mate is only penalised on becoming involved in active play by:

- interfering with play by playing or touching a ball passed or touched by a team-mate or
- interfering with an opponent by:
- preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent's line of vision or
- challenging an opponent for the ball or
- clearly attempting to play a ball which is close to him when this action impacts on an opponent or
- making an obvious action which clearly impacts on the ability of an opponent to play the ballor
- gaining an advantage by playing the ball or interfering with an opponent when it has:
- rebounded or been deflected off the goalpost, crossbar or an opponent
- been deliberately saved by any opponent

A player, in an offside position receiving the ball from an opponent who deliberately plays the ball (except from a deliberate save by any opponent) is not considered to have gained an advantage.

A 'save' is when a player stops a ball which is going into or very close to the goal with any part of the body except the hands (unless the goalkeeper within the penalty area).



- **No Offside Offence**

- There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:
 - a goal kick
 - a throw-in
 - a corner kick

- **Infringements and sanctions**

If an offside offence occurs, the referee awards an indirect free kick **where the offence occurred, including if it is in the player's own half of the field of play.**

A defending player who leaves the field of play without the referee's permission shall be considered to be on the goal line or touchline for the purposes of offside until the next stoppage in play **or until the defending team has played the ball towards the halfway line and it is outside their penalty area. If the player left the field of play deliberately, the player must be cautioned when the ball is next out of play.**

An attacking player may step or stay off the field of play not to be involved in active play. If the player re-enters from the goal line and becomes involved in play before the next stoppage in play, **or the defending team has played the ball towards the halfway line and it is outside their penalty area, the player shall be considered to be positioned on the goal line for the purposes of offside. A player who deliberately leaves the field of play and re-enters without the referee's permission and is not penalised for offside and gains an advantage must be cautioned.**

If an attacking player remains stationary between the goalposts and inside the goal as the ball enters the goal, a goal must be awarded unless the player commits an offside offence or Law 12 offence in which case play is restarted with an indirect or direct free kick.

Law 12. Fouls and Misconduct

Direct and indirect free kicks and penalty kicks can only be awarded for offences and infringements committed when the ball is in play.

- **Direct free kick**

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

- Charges
- Jumps at
- Kicks or attempts to kick
- Pushes
- Strikes or attempts to strike **(including head-butt)**
- Tackles **or challenges**
- Trips or attempts to trip

If an offence involves contact it is penalised by a direct free kick or penalty kick.



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

- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- holds an opponent
- impedes an opponent **with contact**
- spits at an opponent

- **Definitions**

- Careless is when a player shows a lack of attention or consideration when making a challenge or acts without precaution. No disciplinary sanction is needed.
- Reckless is when a player acts **with disregard** to the danger to, or consequences for, an opponent and must be cautioned.
- Using excessive force is when **a player exceeds** the necessary use of force and endangers the safety of an opponent and must be sent off.

- **Handling the ball**

Handling the ball involves a deliberate act of a player making contact with the ball with the hand or arm.

The following must be considered:

- The movement of the hand towards the ball (not the ball towards the hand)
- The distance between the opponent and the ball (unexpected ball)
- The position of the hand does not necessarily mean that there is an infringement
- Touching the ball with an object held in the hand (clothing, shinguard etc.) is an infringement
- Hitting the ball with a thrown object (boot, shinguard etc.) is an infringement

The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area. Inside their penalty area, the goalkeeper cannot be guilty of a handling offence incurring a direct free kick or any related sanction but can be guilty of handling offences that incur an indirect free kick.

- **Charging an opponent**

The act of charging is a challenge for space using physical contact within playing distance without using arms or elbows.

- **Holding an opponent**

Holding an opponent includes the act of preventing them from moving past or around using the hands, the arms or body.

If a defender starts holding an attacker outside the penalty area and continues holding him inside the penalty area, the referee must award a penalty kick.

- **Advantage**

If the referee plays the advantage for an offence for which a caution/send off would have been issued had play been stopped, this caution/send off must be issued when the ball is next out of play, except when the denial of an obvious goal-scoring opportunity results in a goal, the player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

Advantage should not be applied in situations involving serious foul play, violent conduct or a second cautionable offence **unless there is a clear opportunity to score a goal. The referee must send off the player when the ball is next out of play but if the player plays the ball or challenges/interferes with an opponent, the referee will stop play, send off the player and restart with an indirect free kick.**

- **Playing in a dangerous manner**

Playing in a dangerous manner is any action that, while trying to play the ball, threatens injury to someone (including the player themselves) and includes preventing a nearby opponent from playing the ball for fear of injury.

A scissors or bicycle kick is permissible provided that it is not dangerous to an opponent.

- **Impeding the progress of an opponent without contact**

Impeding the progress of an opponent means moving into the opponent's path to obstruct, block, slow down or force a change of direction when the ball is not within playing distance of either player.

All players have a right to their position on the field of play; being in the way of an opponent is not the same as moving into the way of an opponent.

A player may shield the ball by taking a position between an opponent and the ball if the ball is within playing distance and the opponent is not held off with the arms or body. If the ball is within playing distance, the player may be fairly charged by an opponent.

- **Indirect free kick**

An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:

- Plays in a dangerous manner.
- **Impedes the progress of an opponent without any contact being made.**
- Prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from the hands or kicks or attempts to kick the ball when the goalkeeper is in the process of releasing it
- Commits any other offence, not mentioned in the Laws, for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player.

An indirect free kick is awarded if a goalkeeper, inside their penalty area, commits any of the following offences:

- Controls the ball with the hands for more than six seconds before releasing it.
- Touches the ball with the hands after:
 - **Releasing it and before it has touched another player, or**
 - It has been deliberately kicked to the goalkeeper by a team-mate, or
 - Receiving it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate.

A goalkeeper is considered to be in control of the ball when:

- The ball is between the hands or between the hand and any surface (e.g. ground, own body) or by touching it with any part of the hands or arms except if the ball rebounds accidentally from the goalkeeper or the goalkeeper has made a save.
- Holding the ball in the outstretched open hand.
- Bouncing it on the ground or throwing it in the air.

A goalkeeper cannot be challenged by an opponent when in control of the ball with the hands.

- **Disciplinary action**

The referee has the authority to take disciplinary action from entering the field of play for the pre-match inspection until leaving the field of play after the match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark).

If, before entering the field of play at the start of the match, a player commits a sending-off offence, the referee has the authority to prevent the player taking part in the match (see Law 3.6); the referee will report any other misconduct.

A player who commits a cautionable or sending-off offence, either on or off the field of play, against an opponent, a team-mate, a match official or any other person or the Laws of the Game, is disciplined according to the offence.

The yellow card communicates a caution and the red card communicates a sending-off.

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

- **Delaying the restart of play to show a card**

Once the referee has decided to caution or send off a player, play must not be restarted until the sanction has been administered.

- **Cautionable offences**

Please note that the 'offence (Y) codes' have been revised.

A player is cautioned if guilty of:

- (Y1) Delaying the restart of play
- (Y2) Dissent by word or action
- (Y3) Entering, re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission
- (Y4) Failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in
- (Y5) Persistent infringement of the Laws of the Game (no specific number or pattern of infringements constitutes "persistent")
- (Y6) Unsporting behaviour

A substitute or substituted player is cautioned if guilty of:

- Delaying the restart of play
- Dissent by word or action
- Entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission
- Unsporting behaviour

- **Cautions for unsporting behaviour**

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour including if a player:

- Attempts to deceive the referee e.g. by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled (simulation)
- Changes places with the goalkeeper during play or without the referee's permission
- Commits in a reckless manner a direct free kick offence
- Commits a foul or handles the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack
- Handles the ball in an attempt to score a goal (whether or not the attempt is successful) or in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent a goal
- Makes unauthorised marks on the field of play
- Plays the ball when leaving the field of play after being given permission to leave
- Shows a lack of respect for the game



- Uses a deliberate trick to pass the ball (including from a free kick) to the goalkeeper with the head, chest, knee etc. to circumvent the Law, whether or not the goalkeeper touches the ball with the hands
- Verbally distracts an opponent during play or at a restart

- **Celebration of a goal**

Players can celebrate when a goal is scored, but the celebration must not be excessive; choreographed celebrations are not encouraged and must not cause excessive time-wasting.

Leaving the field of play to celebrate a goal is not a cautionable offence but players should return as soon as possible.

A player must be cautioned for:

- Climbing onto a perimeter fence
 - Gesturing in a provocative, derisory or inflammatory way
 - Covering the head or face with a mask or other similar item
 - Removing the shirt or covering the head with the shirt
- **Delaying the restart of play**
- Referees must caution players who delay the restart of play by:
- Appearing to take a throw-in but suddenly leaving it to a team-mate to take
 - Delaying leaving the field of play when being substituted
 - Excessively delaying a restart
 - Kicking or carrying the ball away, or provoking a confrontation by deliberately touching the ball after the referee has stopped play
 - Taking a free kick from the wrong position to force a retake

- **Sending-off offences**

Please note that the 'offence (R) codes' have been revised

A **player, substitute or substituted player** who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- **(R1)** Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- **(R2)** Denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opponents' goal by an offence punishable by a free kick (unless as outlined below)
- **(R3)** Serious foul play
- **(R4)** Spitting at an opponent or any other person
- **(R5)** Violent conduct
- **(R6)** Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
- **(R7)** Receiving a second caution in the same match

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

- **Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity (DOGSO)**

This part of the new Laws may cause some angst until players/coaches/spectators become accustomed to the new definition and its application.

Members must attend one of the information seminars so this Law can be explained in depth using video and situation footage.

The history behind the revision here was to eliminate what was perceived as a triple penalty – player sent off, penalty kick and mandatory suspension. If this occurred in the early stages of a game then the team was penalised further by having to play short for the remainder of the game.

Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by a deliberate handball offence the player is sent off wherever the offence occurs. *This offence does not necessarily have to occur inside the penalty area but the offence must satisfy the conditions for DOGSO*

*****Where a player commits an offence against an opponent within their own penalty area which denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick, the offending player is cautioned unless:**

- o The offence is **holding, pulling or pushing** or
- o The offending player does not attempt to play the ball or there is no possibility for the player making the challenge to play the ball or
- o The offence is one which is punishable by a red card wherever it occurs on the field of play (e.g. serious foul play, violent conduct etc.)

In all the above circumstances the player is sent off.

****By way of explanation, if a defender commits a 'football' type challenge (i.e. attempting to challenge with the feet or use of the hands/arms by a goalkeeper) and the offence occurs inside their own penalty area, then a penalty kick is awarded, but the defender is only cautioned. Please remember if the challenge involves an element of excessive force, is serious foul play or an act of violent conduct, then the player is to be sent off according to the more serious offence.*

- **DOGSO Consideration**

There are no changes to the consideration for determining a DOGSO situation and members can revise these in the 2016 (Australian) LOTG Book, Additional Information for Australian Officials, prior to receiving their 2017 books.

These considerations are DDDC and all four conditions must be met for a DOGSO to be applied

- o (D) **Distance** between the offence and the goal
- o (D) General **direction** of the play
- o (D) Location and number of **defenders**
- o (C) Likelihood of keeping or gaining **control** of the ball

- **Serious foul play**

A tackle **or challenge** that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul 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 or endangers the safety of an opponent is guilty of serious foul play.

- **Violent conduct**

Violent conduct is when a player uses **or attempts to use** excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a team-mate, team official, match official, spectator or any other person, **regardless of whether contact is made.**

In addition, a player who, when not challenging for the ball, deliberately strikes an opponent or any other person on the head or face with the hand or arm, is guilty of violent conduct unless the force used was negligible.

Members must make sure they have a full understanding of the terms of violent conduct including the intention of the new text and considerations. They are urged not to overreact in minor skirmishes but take the correct course of action where there is some 'grey' area.

Always remember that the punishment must fit the crime. The finer points and the expected application of this section of the Laws will be explained further at the information seminars

- **Offences where an object (or the ball) is thrown**

If, while the ball is in play, a player, substitute or substituted player throws an object (including the ball) at an opponent or any other person the referee must stop play and if the offence was:

- Reckless - caution the offender for unsporting behaviour

- **Restart of play after fouls and misconduct**

If the ball is out of play, play is restarted according to the previous decision.

If the ball is in play and a player commits an offence inside the field of play against:

- An opponent - indirect or direct free kick or penalty kick
- **A team-mate substitute, substituted player, team official or a match official - a direct free kick or penalty kick** other person - a dropped ball
- Distance between the offence and the goal
- Any other person - a dropped ball

If the ball is in play and a player commits an offence outside the field of play:

- If the player is already off the field of play, play is restarted with a dropped ball
- If the player leaves the field of play to commit the offence, play is restarted with an indirect free kick from the position of the ball when play was stopped. **However, if a player leaves the field of play as part of play and commits an offence against another player, play is restarted with a free kick taken on the boundary line nearest to where the offence occurred; for direct free kick offences a penalty kick is awarded if this is within the offender's penalty area.** *This will require referees and assistant referees to be extra vigilant when two or more players leave the field as part of a challenge and where the actual challenge took place.*

If a player standing on or off the field of play throws an object at an opponent on the field of play, play is restarted with a direct free kick or penalty kick from the position where the object struck or would have struck the opponent

Play is restarted with an indirect free kick if a:

- player standing inside the field of play throws an object at any person outside the field of play
- substitute or substituted player throws an object at an opponent standing inside the field of play

The amendments to this part of Law 12 will have an impact with regards to substitutes/substituted players/team officials entering the field and interfering with play.

Law 13. Free Kicks

- **Types of free kicks**

Direct and indirect free kicks are awarded to the opposing team of a player guilty of an offence or infringement.

Indirect free kick signal

The referee indicates an indirect free kick by raising the arm above the head; this signal is maintained until the kick has been taken and the ball touches another player or goes out of play.

An indirect free kick must be retaken if the referee fails to signal that the kick is indirect and the ball is kicked directly into the goal.



Ball enters the goal

- If a direct free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal is awarded
- If an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded
- If a direct or indirect free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded

• **Procedure**

All free kicks are taken from the place where the infringement occurred except:

- Indirect free kicks to the attacking team for an offence inside the opponents' goal area are taken from the nearest point on the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal line
- Free kicks to the defending team in their goal area may be taken from anywhere in that area
- Free kicks for offences involving a player entering, re-entering or leaving the field of play without permission are taken from the position of the ball when play was stopped. **However, if a player leaves the field of play as part of play and commits an offence against another player, play is restarted with a free kick taken on the boundary line nearest to where the offence occurred; for direct free kick offences a penalty kick is awarded if this is within the offender's penalty area**
- The Law designates another position (see Laws 3, 11, 12)

The ball:

- Must be stationary and the kicker must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player
- Is in play when it is kicked **and clearly moves** except for a free kick to the defending team in their penalty area where the ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area

Until the ball is in play all opponents must remain:

- At least 9.15 m (10yds) from the ball, unless they are on their own goal line between the goalposts
- Outside the penalty area for free kicks inside the opponents' penalty area

A free kick can be taken by lifting the ball with a foot or both feet simultaneously.

Feinting to take a free kick to confuse opponents is permitted as part of football.

If a player, while correctly taking a free kick, intentionally kicks the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but not in a careless or reckless manner or using excessive force, the referee allows play to continue.

• **Infringements and sanctions**

If, when a free kick is taken, an opponent is closer to the ball than the required distance, the kick is retaken **unless the advantage can be applied; but if a player takes a free kick quickly and an opponent who is less than 9.15 m (10yds) from the ball intercepts it, the referee allows play to continue. However, an opponent who deliberately prevents a free kick being taken must be cautioned for delaying the restart of play.** *Where the kick is taken quickly, the kicker is deemed to have 'taken the risk' that the ball maybe intercepted.*

If, when a free kick is taken quickly by the defending team from inside its penalty area, any opponents are inside the penalty area because they did not have time to leave, the referee allows play to continue.

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team inside its penalty area, the ball is not kicked directly out of the penalty area, the kick is retaken.



If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded.

If the kicker deliberately handles the ball before it has touched another player;

- A direct free kick is awarded.
- A penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded.

Law 14. The Penalty Kick

A penalty kick is awarded if a player commits a direct free kick offence inside their penalty area or off the field as part of play as outlined in Laws 12 and 13.

A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.

• Procedure

The ball must be stationary on the penalty mark.

The player taking the penalty kick must be properly identified.

The goalkeeper must remain on the goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts until the ball has been kicked.

The players other than the kicker and goalkeeper must be:

- At least 9.15 m (10yds) from the penalty mark.
- Behind the penalty mark.
- Inside the field of play.
- Outside the penalty area.

After the players have taken positions in accordance with this Law, the referee signals for the penalty kick to be taken.

The player taking the penalty kick must kick the ball forward; back heeling is permitted provided the ball moves forward.

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

The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player.

The penalty kick is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play or the referee stops play for any infringement of the Laws.

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

• Infringements and sanctions

Once the referee has signalled for a penalty kick to be taken, the kick must be taken. If, before the ball is in play, one of the following occurs:

The player taking the penalty kick or a team-mate infringes the Laws of the Game:

- If the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken.
- If the ball does not enter the goal, the referee stops play and restarts with an indirect free kick;



Except for the following when play will be stopped and restarted with an indirect free kick, regardless of whether or not a goal is scored:

- a penalty kick is kicked backwards;
- a team-mate of the identified kicker takes the kick; the referee cautions the player who took the kick
- feinting to kick the ball once the kicker has completed the run-up (feinting in the run-up is permitted); the referee cautions the kicker

The goalkeeper or a team-mate infringes the Laws of the Game:

- If the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
- If the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken; the goalkeeper is cautioned if responsible for the infringement

A player of both teams infringes the Laws of the Game, the kick is retaken unless a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. illegal feinting)

If, after the penalty kick has been taken:

The kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player:

- an indirect free kick (or direct free kick for deliberate hand ball) is awarded

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

- the kick is retaken

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

- the referee stops play
- play is restarted with a dropped ball at the position where it touched the outside agent

Penalty Kick Table

	Goal	No Goal
Encroachment by attacking player	Penalty is retaken	Indirect free kick
Encroachment by defending player	Goal	Penalty is retaken
Offence by goalkeeper	Goal	Penalty is retaken and a caution for the goalkeeper
Ball kicked backwards	Indirect free kick	Indirect free kick
Illegal feinting	Indirect free kick and caution for kicker	Indirect free kick and caution for kicker
Wrong kicker	Indirect free kick and caution for wrong kicker	Indirect free kick and caution for wrong kicker

Law 15. The Throw-in

A throw-in is awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball passes over the touchline, on the ground or in the air.

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

- If the ball enters the opponents' goal - a goal kick is awarded
- If the ball enters the thrower's goal - a corner kick is awarded

• Procedure

At the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower must:

- Face the field of play
- Have part of each foot on the touchline or on the ground outside the touchline
- **Throw the ball with both hands** from behind and over the head from the point where it left the field of play

All opponents must stand at least 2 m (2yds) from the point at which the throw-in is taken.

The ball is in play when it enters the field of play. If the ball touches the ground before entering, the throw-in is retaken by the same team from the same position. If the throw-in is not taken correctly it is retaken by the opposing team.

If a player, while correctly taking a throw-in, intentionally throws the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but neither in a careless nor a reckless manner nor using excessive force, the referee allows play to continue.

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

• Infringements and sanctions

If, after the ball is in play, the thrower touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the thrower deliberately handles the ball:

- A direct free kick is awarded
- A penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the thrower's penalty area unless the ball was handled by the defending team's goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

An opponent who unfairly distracts or impedes the thrower (including moving closer than 2m (2yds) to the place where the throw-in is to be taken) is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and if the throw-in has been taken an indirect free kick is awarded.

For any other infringement of this Law the throw-in is taken by a player of the opposing team.

Law 16. The Goal Kick

A goal kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the attacking team, and a goal is not scored.

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

- **If the ball directly enters the kickers goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents, if the ball left the penalty area**



- **Procedure**

- The ball **must be stationary and** is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team
- The ball is in play when it leaves the penalty area
- Opponents must be outside the penalty area until the ball is in play

- **Infringements and sanctions**

If the ball does not leave the penalty area or is touched by a player before it leaves the penalty area the kick is retaken.

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the kicker deliberately handles the ball:

- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the goal kick is taken touches or challenges for the ball before it has touched another player, the goal kick is retaken.

If a player enters the penalty area before the ball is in play and fouls or is fouled by an opponent, the goal kick is retaken and the offender may be cautioned or sent off depending on the offence.

For any other infringement of this Law the kick is retaken.

Law 17. The Corner Kick

A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the defending team, and a goal is not scored.

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

If the ball directly enters the kicker's goal a corner kick is awarded to the opponents.

- **Procedure**

- The ball must be placed in the corner area nearest to the point where the ball passed over the goal line
- The ball **must be stationary and** is kicked by a player of the attacking team
- The ball is in play when it is kicked **and clearly moves**; it does not need to leave the corner area
- The corner flagpost must not be moved
- Opponents must remain at least 9.15 m (10yds) from the corner arc until the ball is in play

- **Infringements and sanctions**

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the kicker deliberately handles the ball:

- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the infringement occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

If a player, while correctly taking a corner kick, intentionally kicks the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but not in a careless or reckless manner or using excessive force, the referee allows play to continue.

For any other infringement of this Law the kick is retaken.