

FOOTBALL LAWS OF THE GAME

Why football?

I created the laws of this game because I think that football field can be used for games other than football. The game constituted by the new laws is not bound with excessive rules, let player's abilities such as speed, skill, technique or invention flourish, and don't prefer tactics based on so called tactical fouls which give advantage to the less skilled. It is a game which endows the players and spectators with more exciting moments and beautiful goals. The game is called football. Football because it is played with the crazy ball, it is full of crazy ideas and actions, and it is a game which pleases everybody.

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CHAPTER ONE

Law One – Technical Conditions

1. Matches are played on a football field.
2. Matches are played with a football.
3. The technical area serves for the team coaches, for players' warming up and for players' replacement. The technical area is a part of the team's bench.

Law Two – Number of Players

Section One

1. Each team's line-up consists of two goalkeepers and twelve field players.
2. Matches are played by one goalkeeper and nine players in the field.
3. A substitution is allowed anytime during the play. To replace a player by a substitute, the player to be substituted crosses the boundary line within the technical area at the bench and touches the substitute with his hand. After this has been completed, the substitute may enter the field. In the case that one team is found playing with too many players, the team is punished by a direct kick from the boundary of the penalty field.

4. The number of players in the field must be minimum seven.
5. A player who has been sent off by the referee must leave the team bench.

Section Two

1. Together with the team, two coaches, one manager, one masseur and one physician may be on the bench during the play.

Law Three – The Duration of the Match

1. One period of the match lasts 30 minutes.
2. After 15 minutes, players are entitled to a 2 minute break during which the teams change their sides. Players are allowed to take refreshments at the team bench.
3. The match consists of three equal periods.
4. The intervals between the match periods must not exceed 10 minutes.

Law Four – The Players' Equipment

1. The home team must wear light colored jerseys (e.g. white, yellow, blue, green or their combinations).
2. The away team must wear dark colored jerseys (e.g. black, dark blue, dark red, brown or their combinations).
3. The players in the field must be equipped with shinguards.
4. The field players and the goalkeepers must use standard football footwear. If a player infringes the footwear rule, the player is sent off by the referee.
5. Goalkeeper must wear one-colored jersey, e.g. black, orange.

CHAPTER TWO

Law Five – The Method of Counting

1. The score is counted separately for each individual period of the match.
2. A win in one period of the match is assessed by two points, a loss by zero points and a draw by one point.
3. The goals scored in one period of the match are counted in the following way. A goal scored behind the penalty area counts for two, a goal scored from a free kick after a foul committed in the penalty area counts for two, all other goals count for one.
4. A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar. If a goal is scored by a hand of a player from the opposite team, such a goal is disallowed.

CHAPTER THREE

Law Six – The Referees

Section One

1. A match is controlled by a main referee, two assistant referees and one supplementary referee (the fourth referee).
2. The main referee stops the match by blowing a whistle, the assistant referees by raising a flag.

3. The fourth referee controls technical issues related to substitution, sending-off etc.

Section Two – The Main Referee

1. The main referee starts the match by tossing a coin to decide for a team to take each first kick-offs of the first half of match period. The first kick-offs of the second half of one period of the match are taken by the second team.
2. The match is started after the main referee's whistle, once the player moves the ball.
3. The main referee stops the play in the following cases.
 - a) the assistant referee signals that the ball passed out of the field of play
 - b) an offence was committed
 - c) other cases (infringement of the Laws, outside interference, player injury)
4. The main referee restarts the play by blowing a whistle or by a hand signal.

Section Three – The Assistant Referees

1. The assistant referees provide signals to the main referee when the ball passes out of the field of play

CHAPTER FOUR

Law Seven – Offences

Section One – Goalkeeper

1. The goalkeeper may use all parts of his body when playing within the penalty area however outside the penalty area he is not allowed to use his hands and must touch the ball prior to touching a player from the opposite team.
2. The goalkeeper is not allowed to catch the ball or overlay it by his body.

Section Two – Field Players

1. Field players may use all body parts during the play but they must touch the ball prior to touching a player from the opposite team. If a player uses his hand to hit the ball the next touch must be made by him and by leg or other body part. If the next touch is made by a player from the same team is it considered as an offence and a free kick against the team is ruled. The spot from which the free kick shall be taken depends whether the offence was committed in the defending or attacking zone (see Law Eight).
2. If a player from the defending team touches the ball within the penalty area and the ball leaves the field or player is not able to play with ball immediately, a free kick from the boundary of the penalty area is ruled.

Section Three – Offence

1. The player must not contact a player from the opposite team before hitting a ball and especially the following means are disallowed in the play.
 - a) holding opponent's jersey
 - b/ pushing
 - c/ using sliding tackle to win the ball
 - d/ hitting an opponent by the bottom of the shoe with the intent to win the ball
 - e/ playing with feet over the waist level to win the ball

f/ leaning against an opposite team's player

g/ stretching arms sideways to block an opposite team's player from playing

Section Four – Unsportsmanlike Behavior

During the match, players are not allowed to

a/ verbally insult opposite team's players, referees or other persons

b/ take the ball from the opposite team's player after the play has been interrupted

Law Eight – Penalties

Section One – Team Penalties during the Match

1. The team that committed an offence is punished by the following penalties.

a/ In the case of an offence committed in the attacking zone, a kick from any spot up to the half line is ruled.

b/ In the case of an offence committed in the defending zone, a kick from the boundary of the penalty zone is ruled during which all players except the defending team's goalkeeper must stand behind the half circle of the penalty zone. The goalkeeper must stand on the goal line until the player performing the penalty kicks the ball. If the player performing the penalty starts to run towards the ball he must not stop on the way otherwise the penalty kick must be performed by other player.

c/ if the ball leaves the field, the team that didn't cause this offence restarts the play by moving, kicking or tossing the ball from the spot where the ball left the field. If this is intentionally conducted from a different spot, the team loses the ball and opportunity to restart the play is shifted to the other team. If the ball leaves the field at the goal line, the restart must be made from the goal line wherever outside the penalty area.

Section Two – Player Penalties

1. Individual players that commit an offence are punished by the following penalties.

a/ compulsory substitution in the case of

- holding opponent's jersey
- hitting the opponent by a hand
- using sliding tackle

b/ yellow card in the case of

- verbal insult of referees, opponents, other persons involved in the game
- taking the ball after the play has been interrupted, making obstructions to the

restart of the play

c/ a player who has received three consecutive yellow cards is not allowed to play next match

Law Nine – Resumption of the Play

Section One – Free Kick

1. Free kick must be conducted by passing the ball forward while the player who conducts the free kick is allowed to pass to himself.

2. If the goalkeeper touches the ball during the penalty kick and the ball doesn't hit the goal, the play is interrupted and the defending team restarts the play.

3. Before free kick or throw, opposite team's players must keep minimum 5 meter clearance from the spot where the kick or throw is to be conducted, except for a kick in the penalty area.

4. If the players don't keep the required clearance, the referee must show the number of steps the players must step back from the ball. If the defending players don't obey and the offence was committed in the defending zone the attacking team is given a free kick from the penalty area boundary.

Section Two – Throwing

1. Throws are performed by goalkeepers or field players. Goals attained directly from throws are allowed.

2. One hand or both hands must be used for throwing the ball. In the first phase of the throw, hands holding the ball must be behind player's head.

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