

# **B.C. Indoor Soccer League Society**



## **General League Rules & Regulations**

Revised September 2011

# **B.C. Indoor Soccer League Society**

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## **General League Rules & Regulations**

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**113-3293 Westwood Dr.**

**Prince George, B.C. V2N 1S4**

*The B.C. Indoor Soccer League Society is a  
Registered non-profit society  
with the Province of British Columbia*

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# General League Rules & Regulations

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### Management And Control:

Every affiliated team is responsible to the league for the actions of its players, officials, and spectators, and is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent spectators threatening or assaulting officials and players before, during, or at the conclusion of matches. If any player, official, or spectator uses objectionable language, or engages in objectionable behavior, they may be removed from the grounds under the jurisdiction of this league.

The Directors of this League shall have the power to deal with violations of the laws of the game, the rules, regulations and by-laws of the League and in cases of any infractions of the foregoing, or of any unfair or unsportslike conduct, or any action tending to bring into disrepute or to be against its best interests, to summon before it any team, player, official or member, for the purpose of inquiring into said offense.

It is misconduct for any team, or any player, official or member of any team, to offer, or attempt to offer, either directly or indirectly, any consideration whatever to another team, player or players of any other team, with a view to influence the result of a match. It is misconduct for any team, player or players, to accept such consideration.

In the event of any team, player, official or member being proved to the satisfaction of the Directors to have been guilty of any violation of the laws of the game, the rules and regulations of this league, or of any misconduct, the Directors shall have the power to order the offending team, player, official or member to be removed from membership, suspended for a stated period, or dealt with in such a manner as the Directors may consider proper in the circumstances. No player or member of any such team so removed or suspended shall be eligible for membership in any other team affiliated with this league without the special permission of the Directors. The Directors may also order the offending parties to pay all expenses incurred in hearing the case.

The Directors shall have the power to call any team or players thereof, to produce any books, letters or documents and other evidence the Directors may desire.

In cases of dispute between this league, teams, or players, legal proceed-

ings shall be taken only as a last resort, and then only with the consent of the Directors.

No barrister or solicitor shall represent any such league, team or player at the hearing of any protest, complaint or appeal, unless he/she is an executive officer of the league or team concerned, and has been such for a period of three months immediately preceding the lodgment of protest, claim, complaint or appeal and his/her name appears on the printed list of such league or team as an executive officer.

The competitions of this League take precedence over all other competitions.

Each affiliated team shall furnish this League with a list of its responsible officers prior to the commencement of the playing season each and every year.

### **Appeals:**

Appeals from the decision of the Disciplinary Committee under the jurisdiction of this League shall be to the Directors of this League.

Appeals from the decision of this League shall be to the Directors of this League.

Appeals to this League shall be in writing and shall state the grounds upon which the appeal is based. Triplicate copies of the appeal, together with an appeal fee of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) shall be sent to the Administrator of this League within four (4) days from the time the decision is given. The operation of such decision shall not be suspended pending the hearing of an appeal. Appeals shall not be withdrawn except by consent of this League. The Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) appeal fee shall be refunded only if the appeal is upheld.

Appeals of any league game must be made within twenty-four (24) hours of the completion of the game in dispute.

Appeals of any Play-off or Cup Competition game, including all tournament games, must be made immediately (within fifteen (15) minutes) following the completion of the game.

A decision of this League on any appeal shall be final and binding.

A decision of this League on an appeal from any Cup competition game played in the territory under the

jurisdiction of this League shall be final and binding.

In dealing with a protest, the League may take into consideration the possession by the protesting party of any knowledge which if properly used, might have obviated the protest.

Appeals disputing a referee's interpretation of the laws of the game shall not be heard. The referee's decision in all matches shall be final.

The League, Disciplinary Committees, or Tournament Committees shall not be required to offer a reason for its decisions. Only the decision shall be given.

### **Amendments Of General Rules And Regulations, And The Laws Of The Game:**

The laws of the game, and the rules and regulations of this League may be amended, altered or repealed in whole or in part at any meeting of the Board of Directors. Active members of the Board of Directors may propose changes to the laws of the game, and the rules and regulations by submitting them in writing to the Administrator of the League for consideration of the Board of Directors.

### **Regulations Regarding Players And Teams:**

Player and Team registration fees may be determined at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

All players must be registered in order to play in the B.C. Indoor Soccer League.

### **Bond Money**

A minimum performance bond of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) shall be required from each team affiliating with the league.

The league may also, at its discretion, impose an increased performance bond at any time for individual teams, whenever deemed advisable; and may also impose other conditions or requirements in addition to the performance bond.

The bond shall be returned to each team at the end of the season upon the team's satisfactory completion of the league schedule and provided the team has met all other obligations to the League. However, fines or levies applied against a team or players for violation of the laws, rules and regulations of the League may be collected from this bond. The performance bond

must be maintained at the original amount designated to that team throughout the entire season.

Fines may be levied for:

- playing an unregistered player or players,
- a team being non-cooperative or delaying of scheduled game starting time,
- default of game,
- player receiving a red card,
- a team receiving its fifth or more consecutive yellow card,
- any reason deemed appropriate by the Directors.

The league may also, at its discretion, impose a personal performance bond for individual players at any time and whenever deemed advisable. The league may also impose other conditions or requirements in addition to any performance bonds.

No team will be allowed to participate in league functions until all financial and other obligations to the BC Indoor Soccer League are met.

All team and player financial obligations are the responsibility of the team manager.

Any team not in good financial standing with the league shall default any scheduled games until their financial obligations have been met.

Any team that plays a game or games while not in good standing shall forfeit those points from said games and may be subject to further disciplinary action from the league.

Any team defaulting a game shall be fined \$75.00. (see Defaulted Games section below for details)

Any game abandoned during play shall first have the reason for abandonment looked at by the disciplinary committee before the final score shall be determined. It may or may not be recorded as whatever score was in effect at the time of abandonment. Any game abandoned during play shall be replayed only following approval by the League (dependant on the reasons for abandonment).

Any team deemed a youth team, that is with the majority of players between the ages of 16 and 18

years, must have an adult manager at their bench at all games.

If, in the opinion of the referee, the team uniform colors will create a problem for officiating a game, the HOME team (listed first on the schedule), MUST change to colors distinct from those of their opponents and the referee.

### **Defaulted Games:**

If a team does not have enough players on hand to start the game (i.e. 3 players + 1 goalie) then the game is defaulted and a \$75 fine will be levied without exception.

Any defaulted game shall be recorded as a 1-0 score for the non-defaulting team.

### **Discipline:**

In all cases the party complained against shall have the right to appear and offer a full answer or defense to charges against him/her when the case is heard.

Where the control of discipline has been delegated to an affiliated organization or committee, all cases of players ordered off the field of play as well as players and/or officials reported for misconduct shall be dealt with by the organization or committee within ten (10) days of the incident.

These suspension guidelines will apply to all regularly scheduled league games and league cup playoff games.

### **Punishments:**

#### **Cautions (Yellow Cards)**

Teams shall be fined Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each subsequent Yellow Card received after the fifth offense. (That is for the 6th, 7th, 8th and so on, yellow card received the team will be fined \$10.00 for each.) This fine must be paid before the team can resume playing in any league games. This fine is in addition to any and all suspensions the player may have received regarding the Yellow Card offense.

- A player receiving 3 cautions during the current season or playoffs shall be suspended for 1 game.
- A player who receives another 3 cautions (six total) during the same season or playoffs shall be suspended for 2 consecutive games.

- A player who receives a further 3 cautions (9 total) during the same season or playoffs shall be suspended for 3 consecutive games.

**Ejections (Red Cards)**

Teams shall be fined Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) for each Red Card offense. This fine must be paid before the player who received the Red Card can resume playing in any league games. This fine is in addition to any and all suspensions the player may have received regarding the Red Card offense.

**Team Fines**

Teams whose players have received a total of 6 red cards in the current season and play-offs shall be fined \$50. In addition to any suspension and fines the red carded players may have received.

Teams whose players have received a total of 7 red cards in the current season and play-offs shall be fined \$100. In addition to any suspension and fines the red carded players may have received.

Teams whose players have received a total of 8 red cards in the current season and play-offs shall be fined \$250. In addition to any suspension and fines the red carded players may have received.

Teams whose players have received a total of 9 red cards in the current season and play-offs shall be fined \$500. And shall be suspended from all league and tournament activities for a period of 1 year.

**Ejections (Red Cards) for actions against other players or team officials:**

The following suspensions represent the minimum suspension length for the type of infraction noted. Further disciplinary action may also be taken. A disciplinary hearing will only be called if further action is deemed necessary, or if a player or team appeals the disciplinary ruling.

**For persistent misconduct, or foul or abusive language:**

- First Offence - 1 game suspension
- Second Offence - 3 game suspension
- Third Offence - 6 game suspension
- Fourth Offence - 1 year suspension

**For serious foul play:**

- First Offence - 2 game suspension
- Second Offence - 6 game suspension
- Third Offence - 1 calendar year suspension

**For striking, spitting, kicking or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct against a player or team official:**

- First Offence - 6 game suspension
- Second Offence - 1 year suspension
- Third Offence - 5 year suspension.

**Ejections (Red Cards) for actions against game officials (referees):**

**Persistent criticism or disputing of decisions:**

- First Offence - 1 game suspension
- Second Offence - 3 game suspension
- Third Offence - 6 game suspension
- Fourth Offence - 1 year suspension

**Use of foul, abusive or insulting remarks:**

- First Offence - 2 game suspension
- Second Offence - 5 game suspension
- Third Offence - 1 year suspension

**Deliberate physical contact (i.e. pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening:**

- First Offence - 1 year suspension
- Second Offence - 5 year suspension

**Striking, spitting, kicking, or any forms of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct:**

- First Offence - 5 year suspension
- Second Offence - lifetime suspension.

Red card suspensions received during BCISL hosted or sanctioned tournaments may be carried over to the league if deemed appropriate, and vice versa.

**Registration Of Players And Teams:  
Age Limits:**

All players in the "Adult" divisions shall be at least 16

years of age on or before December 31st of the year registering.

The league may make exceptions to the age limit rules from time to time or for special circumstances, at its discretion and when deemed appropriate.

Players in the "Master's" division shall be at least 40 years of age on or before December 31st of the year registering.

**Registration:**

Team registration deadline dates will be determined by the Board of Directors, and may change from year to year.

Team rosters will have a maximum of eighteen (18) players registered at any one time. Additional players will be allowed to be signed if:

- a player transfers to another team (provided the rules of transfer are met),
- a player quits,
- a player is suspended by the BCISL for the duration of the season, or,
- the BCISL Board of Directors allows special cases.

All changes to a teams roster must be registered with the league Administrator, in writing, before they become official.

All forms can be obtained from the League Administrator.

It is the responsibility of the team manager to submit all changes to the League Administrator.

Players must sign a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours before a game before they will be eligible to play.

Players must play a minimum of three (3) league games with a team to be eligible to play for that team in the playoffs.

A team list, with correct names and numbers, of each player playing in that game ONLY, must be presented to the referee or the designated official before the start of each game, or at halftime if agreed to by the referee or official.

**Team Registration Fees:**

Team registration fees will be determined by the Board of Directors and may change from year to year. For the 2011/2012 season the per Team registration fee is \$210.00. Except for the Men's Division 1, which shall be \$375.00

**Player Registration Fees:**

Player registration fees will be determined by the Board of Directors and may change from year to year. For the 2011/2012 season the per player registration fee is \$165.00, and for the Men's Division 1 the per player registration fee is \$170.00. Each team must pay for a minimum of 12 players but may register fewer players if desired.

After January 15th, 2012 the player registration fee for the remainder of the season shall be \$82.50 for new players registering on or after that date.

For players registering in a second division (such as Master's, etc.) in addition to their primary division, the registration fee shall be the full \$165.00, with the exception of those players also playing in the coed division for which registration shall be an additional \$125.00 per player.

**Refunds of Registration Fees**

All refunds regarding team or player registration fees, or performance bonds, will be handled by the BCISL Board of Directors.

Managers or players requesting a refund shall submit such requests to the League Administrator in writing.

Refunds will only be considered for medical reasons or such other special circumstances that the BCISL Board of Directors deems appropriate. Requests for refunds may or may not be approved. The BCISL Board of Directors reserves the right to refuse a refund request for any reason.

Approved refunds will be pro-rated based on the number of games remaining unplayed in the season, less a non-refundable \$25 administration fee, and a \$5 insurance fee. No refunds shall be considered after January 15th of the current season.

**Transfer of Players:**

Transfer of players may occur during the season if both team managers agree, however, if both managers do not agree, a mandatory three (3) game waiting

period will be implemented before that player is eligible to play for his/her new team.

Transfers must be registered with the League Administrator.

Transfer forms are available from the League Administrator.

A transfer fee of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) will apply.

Official notification to teams involved will be given by the League Administrator.

A player is permitted only one (1) transfer per season.

A player may only transfer to a team whose roster is not already full.

It is the responsibility of the manager of the team who the player is transferring to, to complete the appropriate forms and submit them to the League Administrator.

### **Postponement Of Games/Rescheduling:**

The league reserves the right to postpone or reschedule a game for any reason it deems necessary and will provide the teams and the referees involved with a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours notice.

A team wishing to postpone a scheduled game must give the league seven (7) days notice, in writing and must pay an \$85.00 rescheduling fee per game.

If, in the opinion of the League, the reason given for the postponement by the team is satisfactory (i.e. the entire team going on a tournament, or some other team function that would result in all of the players not being able to attend the game), and the \$85.00 rescheduling fee is paid, the League will inform all parties concerned and make the appropriate arrangements to reschedule the game if time is available.

If a suitable time is not available to reschedule the game before the end of the current season, the request to reschedule may be denied. In such instances the league will refund the rescheduling fee.

### **Game Points, Standings & Tie Breakers**

A team shall receive three (3) points for each game won and (1) point for each game that results in a draw. No points will be awarded for a loss.

If a teams' position in the league standing is not clearly decided by points the tie-breaker rules shall follow in this order:

1. The team's total Goal Difference (Total Goals For minus Total Goals Against).
2. The team's total number of Games Won (not including games that resulted in a draw).
3. The team's Total Goals For in all head-to-head competitions between the teams involved in the tie.
4. The team's Total Goals Against in all head-to-head competitions between the teams involved in the tie.
5. If a team's position is still not decided there will be a coin toss.

### **Referees:**

All referees shall be under the control and jurisdiction of this League.

No person shall officiate as a referee in any competition under the sanction or jurisdiction of this League who is not on the official list of referees of this League, but if from unforeseen circumstances a referee on the official list is unable to act, teams or combinations shall agree on some other person in the emergency.

In order to be considered for placement on the Official List of Referees for the B.C. Indoor Soccer League all persons must meet the following requirements:

1. Must be at least 17 (seventeen) years of age.
2. Must have at least a valid "Class 4" level BCISA referee certification.
3. Must attend the BCISL indoor soccer refereeing clinic, and must perform satisfactorily on exams.
4. Must be committed to the development of the B.C. Indoor Soccer League, and must be one or more of the following:
  - a. A player on a team in the league.
  - b. A manager of a team in the league.
  - c. A coach of a team in the league.
  - d. An Executive Board Member of the league.

- e. Agree to volunteer in some capacity at one or more league functions.
5. Must show competency in refereeing indoor soccer.
6. Must be willing to officiate for an apprenticeship period to establish competency.

All referees must apply to the league at the commencement of each season.

All persons wishing to be placed on the official list of referees shall, in the first instance, make application to this League's administrator, and if successful in passing the examinations provided for, and if otherwise approved of, shall be recommended for inclusion in the official list.

This League shall reserve the right to refuse application to be placed on the official list of referees to any person whom, in the opinion of the Board of Directors of this League, does not meet with the requirements of the league or is otherwise unsuitable for duty as a referee in any and all games sanctioned by or under the jurisdiction of this league.

This League has the power to remove from its official list, or require to be re-examined, any referee when deemed advisable.

Complaints by or against referees shall be made in writing to the Administrator of this League.

All candidates for referees may be examined as to their suitability for duty by this League. Such examinations may include oral, written, and field tests.

Referees shall be paid \$25 per league or playoff game for the 2010/2011 season. Payments for tournament or other games may be less and will be announced prior to the tournament or other event.

The referee shall have the power to decide the fitness of the playing area or pitch in all matches, and his/her decision shall be final.

Referees are required within twenty-four (24) hours of conclusions of a match at which they officiate, to forward to the Administrator of this League a report in writing with the result of the game and team lists, on a form provided for this purpose.

Referees shall, within twenty-four (24) hours of the conclusion of the match at which they officiate, forward to the Administrator of the league or Disci-

plinary Committee, as the case may be, the names of players charged with misconduct, on a form provided for this purpose. Any referee not conforming with this rule is liable to suspension.

Referees shall be fined the equivalent of the refereeing fee for all games that they do not show up to and for which adequate notice was not given to the league scheduler.

If a referee cannot attend an assigned game he/she must inform the league scheduler with as much advance notice as possible, at least 24 hours prior to the game/s in question. The league scheduler shall be responsible for reassigning all games.

If a referee must trade a game with another referee for whatever reason, they may do so, but only after getting approval from the league scheduler.

### **Honorary Life Membership**

From time to time the league may award Honorary Life Memberships to persons who have rendered valuable service to the BCISL for over 15 years.

Nominations for Honorary Life Membership may be made by any member of the League. The Board of Directors upon reviewing the credentials of each candidate, will vote and approve this honorary position. The final award will be given at the BCISL Annual Awards ceremony.

A Honorary Life Member shall have a voice but no vote at General Meetings of the League.

A Honorary Life Member shall be entitled to receive all information as is received by any other member of the League.

### **Associate Memberships**

Any individual over the age of 16 may apply for Associate Membership in the league by filling out the appropriate forms and paying the twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) Associate Membership fee and, if approved by the Board of Directors shall be deemed Associate Members of the league.

Associate members will have a vote at the Annual General Meeting and, if over the age of 19, may stand for election to the Board of Directors.

Please see the Constitution and Bylaws of the BC Indoor Soccer League Society for more information regarding memberships.

# The Laws Of The Game

*Please note that in instances not expressly described herein, the FIFA Laws of the Game shall be used.*

## 1 - THE REFEREE:

A referee shall be appointed to officiate at each game. His/her authority and the exercise of the powers granted to him/her by the Laws of the Game shall commence as soon as he/she enters the locality where the pitch is situated and shall cease as soon as he/she leaves it.

During the match, his/her powers of penalizing shall extend to offenses committed when play has been temporarily suspended and when the ball is out of play. His/her decision on points of fact connected with the game shall be final, as far as the result of the game is concerned.

The referee shall:

enforce the Laws;

refrain from penalizing in cases where he/she is satisfied that, by doing so, he/she would be giving an advantage to the offending team;

keep a record of all violations and incidents which occur before, during or after the game;

keep a record of all goals scored and the number or name of the players who score;

act as timekeeper;

have discretionary powers to stop the game for any infringement of the Laws and to suspend or terminate the game whenever, by reason of the elements, interference by spectators, or other cause, he/she deems it necessary. In such a case he/she shall submit a detailed report to the authority responsible, within the stipulated time and in accordance with the provisions set up by the association under whose jurisdiction the match was played;

from the time he/she enters the pitch, caution any player guilty of misconduct or unsporting behavior and, if he/she persists, suspend him/her from further participation in the game. In such cases the referee shall communicate the name of the offender to the authority responsible within the stipulated time, and in accordance with the provisions laid down by the association under whose jurisdiction the match was played;

allow no person other than the players to enter the pitch without his/her

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permission;

stop the game if, in his/her opinion, a player has been seriously injured; have the player removed as soon as possible from the pitch and immediately resume the game. If a player is slightly injured, the game shall not be stopped until the ball has ceased to be in play.

send off the pitch any player who, in his/her opinion, is guilty of violent conduct, serious foul play or the use of foul or abusive language;

signal for the game to be restarted after every stoppage;

decide that the ball provided for a match meets with the requirements of the game;

shall complete a written report following the game detailing the violations, the goals scored, and all other items as required on the game report forms.

## **2 - THE PITCH OR PLAYING AREA:**

All areas of the playing floor are accessible to all players.

In the vicinity of both players benches, there will be a Substitution Zone. All substitutes must enter and leave the field of play at or within 1 meter of their own players bench.

\*\*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

*Please see the sections Ball In and Out of Play, Kick-In, Goal Kick, and Corner Kick for additional details regarding the above.*

## **3 - THE BALL:**

The ball shall be spherical. The outer casing shall be of leather, or other suitable material. No material shall be used in its construction which might prove dangerous to the players.

The referee shall decide that the ball provided for a match meets with the requirements of the game.

The ball shall not be changed during the game without the permission of the referee.

## **4 - PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT:**

A player shall not wear anything which the referee deems is dangerous to other players.

The usual equipment of a player shall consist of a numbered shirt, shorts, socks, and footwear.

Jewelry, rings, watches, necklaces, etc. or any other

item that might be deemed dangerous are not permitted to be worn during a game.

Eye glasses are permitted.

The only footwear permitted shall be canvas or soft-leather training or gymnastic shoes with rubber soles or some similar material. Outdoor soccer shoes are also permitted, provided the studs meet with FIFA approved safety standards. The use of footwear is required.

Long trousers are not permitted except for the goalkeeper.

The players shirts shall be numbered, each player of the same team having a different number. Each player of the same team shall wear like colored shirts, easily distinguishable from the opposing teams shirts and the referee. At the start of each game the players shirts shall be tucked in to their shorts.

If, in the opinion of the referee, the team uniform colors will create a problem for officiating a game, the HOME team (listed first on the schedule), MUST change to colors distinct from those of their opponents and the referee.

The goalkeeper shall be permitted to wear long trousers. The goalkeeper shall wear colors which are easily distinguishable from the other players and the referee.

### **Punishment:**

For any infringement of this Law, the player at fault shall be instructed to leave the pitch to adjust the equipment or to obtain any missing item of equipment and shall not return without first reporting to the referee, who shall ensure that the player's equipment is in order. The player may only re-enter the game at a moment when the ball has ceased to be in play and at the referee's approval.

## **5 - NUMBER OF PLAYERS:**

A team shall consist of not more than eighteen players.

A match shall be played by two teams, each consisting of not more than six players on the playing area at one time, one of whom shall be designated as the goalkeeper.

To start a match the minimum number of players per team shall be four, one of whom shall be designated as the goalkeeper.

If at any time during a match a team has fewer than four players remaining the match shall be abandoned.

## **6 - DURATION OF THE GAME:**

The duration of the game shall be two equal periods of 25 minutes.

The timekeeping shall be undertaken by the referee.

The duration of either half shall be prolonged to enable a penalty kick to be taken.

There will be no overtime during regular season games.

During play-off games, or games in which a winner must be decided, and a winning result has not been decided at the end of regular time then extra time will be played.

Extra time shall always consist of two periods of five minutes each, with an interval of two minutes at the end of normal playing time, but not between the two periods of extra time.

Should one of the teams score a goal in overtime (golden goal), the match shall immediately be terminated and the team that scores the goal declared the winner.

If no winner is decided after extra time a penalty kick shoot-out will commence. (See the section titled Penalty Kick Shoot-out at the end of this document.)

The half-time interval in regular season games shall not exceed five minutes.

## **7 - THE START OF PLAY:**

A goal may be scored directly from the kickoff.

At the beginning of the game, the choice of ends shall be decided by the toss of a coin. The team winning the toss shall have the option of choice of ends.

The referee having given a signal, the game shall be started by a player taking a place kick (i.e. a kick at the ball while it is stationary on the ground in the center of the pitch) into his/her opponents' half of the pitch. All players shall be in their own half and the players of the team opposing that of the player taking the kick shall remain at a distance of not less than 3 m from the ball until it is kicked off. The ball is in play when it has been kicked and moved forward. The kicker shall not play the ball a second time until it has

been touched or played by another player.

After a goal has been scored, the game shall be restarted in the same manner as mentioned above, the kickoff being taken by a player of the opposite team to the one which scored.

After the half-time interval, the teams shall change ends and the kickoff shall be taken by a player of the opposite team to that which started the game.

## **PUNISHMENT:**

For any infringements of the above points of this Law, the kickoff shall be retaken. However, if the player taking the kickoff plays the ball again before it has been touched or played by another player, an indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred. If this offense is committed by a player in his/her opponents' penalty area, the indirect free kick shall be taken from the penalty area line at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred.

After temporary suspensions. When restarting the game after a temporary suspension of play from any other cause not mentioned elsewhere in these Laws, provided that immediately preceding the suspension the ball has not passed over the touch or goal lines, the referee shall drop the ball at the place where it was situated when play was suspended, except if it was in the penalty area, in which case it shall be dropped on the penalty area line, at the place nearest to the position of the ball when the game was stopped.

The ball shall be deemed to be in play the moment it has touched the ground. If, however, it crosses over the touch or goal lines after it has been dropped by the referee, but before it is touched by a player, the referee shall drop it again. No player shall play the ball until it has touched the ground. If this last provision is not complied with, the referee shall again drop the ball.

## **8 - PLAYER SUBSTITUTIONS:**

In all games, on-the-fly substitutions are permitted. An on-the-fly substitution is a substitution that is made when the ball is still in play.

The number of substitutions made during a match is unlimited except when, in the referee's opinion, a team is attempting to delay the game by making an abounding number of substitutions.

Single or multiple players may be substituted at one

time.

#### ON-THE-FLY SUBSTITUTION PROCEDURE:

An on-the fly substitution can be made when the ball is in play;

all players shall enter and leave the playing area by using the substitution zone;

The player leaving the field must be within his/her own substitution zone, or off the field of play within his/her own bench area before any substitution is made;

No player leaving the playing area, or any substitute entering the playing area may participate in play and/or gain an advantage during the period when the player and the substitute are simultaneously within the substitution zone, and the ball is in play. A violation of this rule will result in:

- the play being stopped;
- the player being replaced is instructed to leave the playing area,
- the substitute is cautioned and shown the yellow card;
- play is restarted with an indirect free kick to be taken by the opposing team from the place where the ball was situated when the game was stopped. However, if the ball was within the offending teams penalty area, the indirect free kick shall be taken from the penalty area line, at the place nearest to the position of the ball when the play was stopped.

If, while a substitution is being made, a substitute enters the playing area before a player has left the playing area or has entered the substitution zone, or a substitute enters the playing area from a place other than his/her own substitution zone:

- the play is stopped;
- the substitute is cautioned and shown the yellow card;
- play is restarted with a dropped ball at the place where the ball was situated when the play was stopped. However, if the ball was inside the penalty area, the

drop-ball shall be taken from the line marking the penalty area at the spot nearest to the position of the ball when the game was stopped.

If a player leaves the playing area from a place other than from his/her own substitution zone, the player shall be cautioned and shown the yellow card at the next stoppage in play.

Substitutions may also be made under the following conditions. (Substitutions under these conditions must first be called for and approved by the referee before they can take place):

1. On a stoppage in play when your team has possession.
2. When the goalkeeper has possession of the ball.
3. When a player is injured.
4. When the opposing team makes a substitution under the above conditions.
5. When a goal is scored.
6. At the referees discretion.

A substitute shall be subject to the authority and jurisdiction of the referees whether on the playing area or not.

A substitution is completed when the substitute enters the playing area, from which moment the substitute becomes a player and the player being replaced leaves the playing area and ceases to be a player.

A goalkeeper may be substituted at any time provided the substitution follows the above conditions.

A goalkeeper may change positions with any other player, provided that authorization from the referee is previously requested and that the change is made during a stoppage in play.

#### **Punishment:**

For any infringement of this law the substituting player (that is, the player coming onto the field of play) shall receive a yellow card and play shall be resumed with a drop-ball to be taken from the spot where the ball was situated when the game was stopped. However, if the ball was inside the penalty area, the drop-ball shall be taken from the line marking the penalty

area at the spot nearest to the position of the ball when the game was stopped.

### 9 - BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY:

The ball is out of play when:

The game has been stopped by the referee.

It has wholly crossed the goal line or the side touch lines.

It hits the roof or other obstruction. The game shall be restarted by an indirect free kick to the team opposite the team who last touched the ball before it hit the ceiling or other obstruction. The indirect free kick shall be taken from the spot below where the ball hit the obstruction, unless it hit at a spot above the penalty area, in which case the ball shall be played from the line marking the penalty area nearest to that spot.

The ball is in play at all other times from the start of the match to the finish, including:

If it rebounds from a goal post or the crossbar onto the playing area;

If it rebounds off the referee

In the event of a supposed infringement of the Laws, until a decision is made.

### 10 - METHOD OF SCORING:

Except as otherwise provided by these Laws, a goal is scored when the whole of the ball has passed over the goal line, between the goal posts and under the crossbar, provided it has not been thrown, carried or intentionally propelled by the hand or arm by a player of the attacking side.

The team scoring the greater number of goals during a game shall be the winner; if no goals or an equal number of goals are scored, the game shall be termed a “draw”.

### 11 - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT:

#### Direct Free Kick

A player who intentionally commits any of the following ten offenses shall be penalized by the award of a direct free kick to be taken by the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred.

Should a player of the defending team intentionally commit one of the following ten offenses within the penalty area, they shall be penalized by a penalty

kick, regardless of the position of the ball, as long as it is in play.

The offenses that will result in a direct free kick are when a player intentionally:

1. kicks or attempts to kick an opponent;
2. trips an opponent, i.e. throwing or attempting to throw him/her by using the legs or by stooping in front of or behind him/her;
3. jumps at an opponent;
4. charges an opponent in a violent or dangerous manner;
5. charges an opponent from behind;
6. strikes or attempts to strike an opponent or spits at him/her;
7. holds an opponent;
8. pushes an opponent;
9. slides in an attempt to play the ball, when it is being played or attempted to be played by an opponent (sliding tackle), except for the goalkeeper who may slide within his/her own penalty area to make a save.
10. handles the ball, i.e. carries, strikes or propels the ball with his/her hand or arm (this does not apply to the goalkeeper within his/her own penalty area);

#### Indirect Free Kick

A player committing any of the following four offenses shall be penalized by the award of an indirect free kick to the opposite team, to be taken from the spot where the infringement occurred. If the attacking team commits any of the following offenses within the penalty area the indirect free kick shall be taken from the line marking the penalty area at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred.

The four offenses that will result in an indirect free kick are:

1. Playing in a manner considered by the referee to be dangerous, e.g. attempting to kick the ball when it is being held by the goalkeeper;
2. when not playing the ball, intentionally obstructing an opponent, i.e. running between the opponent and the ball, or interposing the

body so as to form an obstacle to the opponent;

3. charging the goalkeeper except when he/she has passed outside the penalty area;
4. when playing as a goalkeeper:
  - a. touches or controls the ball with his/her hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him/her by a team-mate;
  - b. releases the ball in a manner other than by kicking or throwing underarm;
  - c. touches or controls the ball with his/her hands for more than six seconds;
  - d. after releasing the ball or throwing it clear, he/she receives the ball from a teammate, without it first having passed beyond the penalty area or having been played or touched by an opponent.

#### **Yellow Card Cautions:**

A player shall be cautioned if:

1. he/she attempts to make a substitution without the referees authorization;
2. he/she persistently infringes the Laws of the Game;
3. he/she shows, by word or action, dissent with any decision of the referee;
4. he/she is guilty of unsportslike conduct.

For any of these offenses, the referee shall award an indirect free kick to the opposing team, to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred (unless it was committed within the penalty area, in which case the indirect free kick shall be taken from the line marking the penalty area at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred) in addition to the relevant caution and provided that no more serious infraction of the Laws has been committed.

#### **Red Card Infractions:**

A player shall be sent off the pitch if, in the opinion of the referee, he/she:

1. is guilty of serious foul play;
2. is guilty of violent conduct;
3. uses foul or abusive language;
4. is guilty for the second time of a cautionable

offense.

If play is stopped because a player is sent off the pitch for one of the offenses 3 or 4, without having committed any additional infringement of the Laws, the game shall be restarted by an indirect free kick, awarded to the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred. However, if it is committed within the penalty area, the indirect free kick shall be taken from the line marking the penalty area at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred.

If, in the opinion of the referee, a player who is moving towards his/her opponents' goal with an obvious opportunity to score a goal is intentionally impeded by an opponent through unlawful means, i.e. an offense punishable by a free-kick (or a penalty kick), thus denying the attacking player's team the aforesaid goal-scoring opportunity, the offending player shall be red carded and sent off the pitch for serious foul play.

If, in the opinion of the referee, a player other than the goalkeeper within his/her own penalty area denies his/her opponents a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by intentionally handling the ball, he/she shall be sent off the pitch for serious foul play.

Once expelled, the player concerned may not re-enter the game in course, nor may he/she sit on the substitutes' bench.

#### **12 - FREE KICKS:**

Free kicks shall be classified under two headings: "direct" (from which a goal can be scored directly against the offending side) and "indirect" (from which a goal cannot be scored unless the ball has been played or touched by a player other than the kicker before entering the goal).

In order to distinguish between a direct and an indirect free kick, the referee, when awarding an indirect free kick, shall indicate accordingly by raising an arm above his/her head. He/she shall keep his/her arm in that position until the kick has been taken and until the ball has been played or touched by another player or goes out of play.

When a player is taking a free kick, all of the opposing players shall be at least 3 m from the ball until it is in play.

If a player of the opposing side approaches within 3 m of the ball before a free kick is taken, the referee

shall order the free kick to be retaken until the Law is complied with.

The ball must be stationary when a free kick is taken, and the kicker shall not play the ball a second time until it has been touched or played by another player.

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

**Punishment:**

If the player taking the free kick, after having kicked the ball, plays it a second time before it has been touched or played by another player, an indirect free kick shall be taken by a player of the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred. However, if it is committed within the penalty area, the indirect free kick shall be taken from the line marking the penalty area at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred.

**13 - PENALTY KICK:**

A penalty kick shall be taken from the penalty mark and, when it is being taken, all players, with the exception of the player taking the kick, properly identified, and the opposing goalkeeper, shall be on the pitch but outside the penalty area, behind the ball and behind the line indicated.

The opposing goalkeeper must remain on his/her goal own goal line facing the kicker, between the goal posts, until the ball has been kicked. Movement by the goalkeeper along the goal line (laterally) is allowed.

The player taking the kick must be not farther than 3 m from the ball (within the line indicated); he/she must kick the ball forward; he/she shall not play the ball a second time until it has been touched or played by another player. The ball shall be deemed in play when it has traveled the distance of its circumference. A goal may be scored directly from such a penalty kick.

When a penalty kick is being taken during the normal course of play, or when time has been extended at half-time or full time to allow a penalty kick to be taken or retaken, a goal shall not be nullified if, before passing between the posts and under the crossbar, the ball touches either or both of the goal posts, or the crossbar, or the goalkeeper, or any combination of these, providing that no other infringement has occurred.

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

**Punishment:**

For any infringement of this Law:

by the defending team, the kick shall be retaken if a goal has not resulted.

by the attacking team, other than by the player taking the kick, if a goal is scored it shall be disallowed and the kick retaken.

by the player taking the penalty kick after the ball is in play, a player of the opposing team shall take an indirect free kick from the penalty mark.

**14 - KICK-IN:**

When the whole of the ball passes over the side touch lines or goes out of play it shall be kicked back into the game, in any direction, from the place where it crossed over the line by a player of the opposing team to that of the player who last touched it.

The ball must be stationary and must be placed behind the side touch line and not more than 1 m away from where it was played out of bounds. It shall be deemed in play as soon as it is kicked and moves wholly over the line into the field of play, but the player taking the kick-in shall not play the ball a second time until it has been touched or played by another player. The players of the opposing team shall be at least 3 m away from the spot where the kick-in is being taken.

A goal shall not be scored directly from a kick-in.

**Punishment:**

If the ball is improperly kicked in, the kick shall be retaken by a player of the opposing team.

If the kick-in is taken from any position other than the point where the ball passed over the boards, it shall be retaken by a player of the opposing team.

If the player taking the kick-in plays the ball a second time before it has been touched or played by another player, an indirect free kick shall be taken by a player of the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred, unless it was committed within the penalty area, in which case the indirect free kick shall be taken from the line marking the penalty area at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred.

**15 - GOAL KICK:**

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

When the whole of the ball passes over the goal line,

having last been played by a player of the attacking team, the goalkeeper, or any other player shall kick it back into play beyond his/her own penalty. The ball must be stationary before being kicked. The ball shall be deemed in play as soon as it has passed outside the penalty area.

The goal kick is deemed to be correct when the ball has been touched or played by another player outside the penalty area. The players of the opposing team shall remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play.

**Punishment:**

If the ball is touched or played by a player of the same team as the player who is making the goal clearance or by a player of the opposing team, inside the goalkeeper's penalty area, the goal clearance shall be retaken.

If, after having kicked the ball, the player touches it again before it has been touched or played by another player, an indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred, provided it has left the penalty area.

If, after having kicked the ball, the goalkeeper receives it back from a player of the same team and touches or controls it with his/her hands, an indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team.

The indirect free kick shall be taken from the line marking the penalty area at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred.

**16 - CORNER KICK:**

When the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, having last been played by one of the defending team, a corner kick shall be awarded to the attacking team.

The corner kick shall be taken by kicking the ball, which is placed within 1 m of the intersection of the goal line and the touch line, or on the spot indicated if one exists.

Players of the team opposing that of the player taking the corner kick shall not approach within 3 m of the ball until it is in play, i.e. it has traveled the distance of its own circumference.

The player taking the corner kick shall not play the ball a second time until it has been touched or played by another player.

A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.

**Punishment:**

If a corner kick is not taken correctly, it shall be retaken.

If the player taking the corner kick plays the ball a second time before it has been played by another player, the referee shall award an indirect free kick to the opposing team, to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred.

**17 - PENALTY KICK SHOOT-OUT:  
(IN KNOCK-OUT COMPETITIONS TO DECIDE THE WINNER)**

In the event that kicks from the penalty-mark have to be taken to determine which team is the winner of a match, the following conditions shall be applied:

- a) The referee shall choose the goal at which the kicks shall be taken.
  - b) He/she shall toss a coin to decide which team shall take the first kick.
  - c) Five kicks shall be taken alternately by each team by five different players. These five players shall be announced to the referee by the captains of each team before the penalty kicks are taken and shall be among those included on the list of players submitted before the match.
  - d) If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals or have not scored any goals, kicks shall continue to be taken in the same order, until such time as both have taken an equal number of kicks (not necessarily five more kicks) and one has scored one goal more than the other.
  - e) These additional kicks shall be taken by the players who did not attempt any of the first five kicks. After these have each taken a kick, the players mentioned in paragraph c shall continue the penalty kicks in the same order.
  - f) Any player who has been sent off shall not take part in the penalty kicks.
  - g) Any eligible player may change places with his/her goalkeeper.
  - h) Whilst the penalty shoot-out is in progress, all players shall remain on the pitch, in the opposite half to that where the kicks are being taken.
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