



FIFA®



126th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
International Football Association Board

126th Annual General Meeting

of the

International Football Association Board

Pennyhill Park Hotel, Surrey, England

Saturday 3rd March 2012



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Laws of the Game and decisions of the Board



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Law 1 – The Field of Play, Commercial advertising

(submitted by FIFA)

Law 1 – The Field of Play,

Commercial advertising (p.59)

Present text	Proposed text
Commercial advertising shall be at least 1m (1yd) from the boundary lines of the field of play.	Advertising on the ground shall be at least 1m (1 yd) from the boundary lines of the field of play. Upright advertising shall be at least: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 1m (1yd) from the touch lines of the field of play;2. the same distance from the goal line as the depth of the goal net; and3. 1m (1yd) from the goal net. 

Law 1 – The Field of Play,

Commercial advertising (p.59)

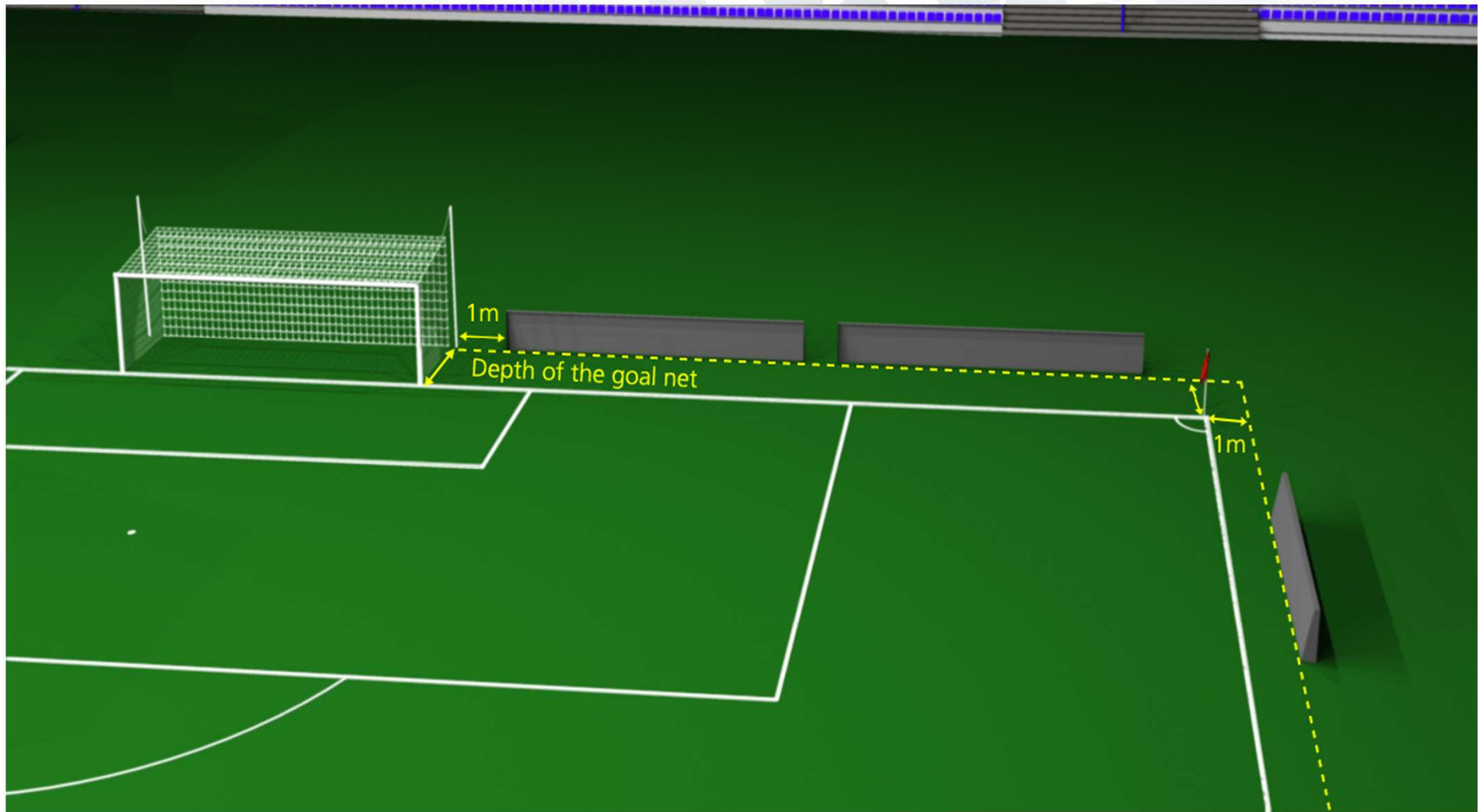


Reason

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

Law 1 – The Field of Play,

Commercial advertising (p.59)





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Law 3 – The Number of Players

(submitted by FIFA,
with amendments by the Scottish FA)

Law 3 – The Number of Players

Infringements and sanctions (p.19)

Present text	Proposed text
	<p data-bbox="1153 422 2004 702">If a named substitute enters the field of play instead of a named player at the start of the match and the referee is not informed of this change:</p> <ul data-bbox="1153 766 2004 1276" style="list-style-type: none">• the referee allows the named substitute to continue the match• no disciplinary sanction is taken against the named substitute• the number of permitted substitutes allowed by the offending team is not reduced• the referee reports the incident to the appropriate authorities.

Law 3 – The Number of Players

Infringements and sanctions (p.19)

Reason

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



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Law 4 – The Players' Equipment

(submitted by The FA)

Law 4 – The Players' Equipment

Basic Equipment

Present text	Proposed text
stockings	stockings - if tape or similar material is applied externally it must be the same colour as that part of the stocking it is applied to.

REASON

An increasing number of players are using excessive amounts of tape externally on their socks. This can be a multitude of colours and, as can be seen from the following slide, it completely changes the look of the sock. This can cause confusion particularly for assistant referees who may need to look at the sock to determine who last played the ball before it has gone out of play.

Law 4 – The Players' Equipment

Basic Equipment





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Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play

(submitted by The FA)

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play

Present text	Proposed text
<p>Infringements and sanctions The ball is dropped again: ...</p>	<p>Infringements and sanctions The ball is dropped again: ...</p> <p>If the ball enters the goal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• if a dropped ball is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded• if a dropped ball is kicked directly into the teams' own goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team

Approved

Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play

Reason

There have been a number of occasions where goals have been scored from ‘uncontested’ dropped balls. This has put a great deal of pressure on the referee as he has to allow the goal to stand. We then have the unseemly situation where the opposition allow the team to score from the kick off without any players trying to stop them in order to rebalance the game.



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Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct, The use of the word “blatant” (submitted by FIFA)

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

The use of the word 'blatant' (p.113)

Present text	Proposed text
<p>Disciplinary sanctions</p> <p>There are circumstances when a caution for unsporting behaviour is required when a player deliberately handles the ball, e.g. when a player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">deliberately and blatantly handles the ball to prevent an opponent gaining possession	<p>Disciplinary sanctions</p> <p>There are circumstances when a caution for unsporting behaviour is required when a player deliberately handles the ball, e.g. when a player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">deliberately and blatantly handles the ball to prevent an opponent gaining possession

Approved

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

The use of the word 'blatant' (p.113)

Reason

It is more important to punish the consequence that the hand ball created rather than the fact that it was blatant. In fact, a hand ball could be inconspicuous but certainly very important. Furthermore, it is difficult to define what is meant by “blatantly” (p.113) and therefore to have a uniform interpretation, especially by referees from different countries or continents, with very different experiences. Deleting the word “blatantly”, and providing that if the hand ball prevented the opponent from gaining possession the player must be cautioned, makes the interpretation easier (p.117).



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Items for Discussion and Decision



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Additional Assistant Referees (AAR) experiment

- Presentation to IFAB special meeting 2nd July 2012



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Goal-Line Technology (GLT)

- Presentation to IFAB special meeting 2nd July 2012



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**Other equipment:
usage of radio communication**

Law 4 – The Players' Equipment (p.65)

Other equipment: usage of radio communication

Present text	Proposed text
Other Equipment (...) The use of radio communication systems between players and/or technical staff is not permitted	Other Equipment (...) The use of electronic communication systems between players and/or technical staff is not permitted

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Reason

The current wording does not reflect technological advances



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V. Any other business



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12. Vanishing Spray

(submitted by FIFA)

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2014 FIFA World Cup™ Regulations – Preliminary Competition (submitted by FIFA)

14. Law 3 – The Number of Players

Number of Substitutions (p. 23)

Present text	Proposed text
Official Competitions Up to a maximum of three substitutes may be used in any match played in an official competition organised under the auspices of FIFA, the confederations or member associations. The rules of the competition must state how many substitutes may be nominated, from three up to a maximum of seven.	Official Competitions Up to a maximum of three substitutes may be used in any match played in an official competition organised under the auspices of FIFA, the confederations or member associations. The rules of the competition must state how many substitutes may be nominated, from three up to a maximum of twelve .

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