

25 MAY 2010

FIFA®

For the Game. For the World.

TO THE MEMBERS OF FIFA

Circular no. 1224

Zurich, 19 May 2010

SG/jot-est

Amendments to the Laws of the Game – 2010/2011

Dear Sir or Madam,

The 124th Annual General Meeting of the International Football Association Board (IFAB) took place in Zurich on 6 March 2010. The amendments to the Laws of the Game approved at this meeting and the various instructions and directives issued are listed below.

Amendments to the Laws of the Game and Decisions of the Board

1. Law 1 – The Field of Play

(Submitted by FIFA)

Goals

Present Text	Proposed Text
The goalposts and crossbar must be made of wood, metal or other approved material. They may be square, rectangular, round or elliptical in shape and must not be dangerous to players.	The goalposts and crossbar must be made of wood, metal or other approved material. They must be square, rectangular, round or elliptical in shape and must not be dangerous to players.

Reason

The current definition has been clarified in order to indicate that goalposts of any other shape are not permitted.

2. Law 5 – The Referee

(Submitted by The Scottish Football Association)

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

Injured Players

Present Text	Proposed Text
<p>Exceptions to this ruling are to be made only when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a goalkeeper is injured • a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need immediate attention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a severe injury has occurred, e.g. swallowed tongue, concussion, broken leg 	<p>Exceptions to this ruling are to be made only when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a goalkeeper is injured • a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need immediate attention • players from the same team have collided and need immediate attention • a severe injury has occurred, e.g. swallowed tongue, concussion, broken leg

Reason

It was considered unfair that players of the same team who collided were required to leave the field of play to receive treatment, leaving the team concerned at a numerical disadvantage.

3. Law 5 – The Referee

(Submitted by The Scottish Football Association)

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

Injured Players

Present Text	Proposed Text
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the stretcher-bearers should enter the field of play with a stretcher at the same time as the doctors to allow the player to be removed as quickly as possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stretcher-bearers should only enter the field of play with a stretcher following a signal from the referee

Reason

Stretcher-bearers' mandatory entry onto the field of play for all injuries where a doctor is requested frequently caused unnecessary disruption to the game.

Other decisions of the IFAB**1. Law 1 – The Field of Play****Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees****Logos and emblems**

The IFAB reiterated that the reproduction, whether real or virtual, of representative logos or emblems of FIFA, confederations, member associations, leagues, clubs or other bodies is forbidden on the field of play, the goal nets and the areas they enclose, the goals, the flagposts and their flags during playing time.

Particular emphasis was placed on the fact that such logos may not be reproduced on corner flags.

2. Goal-line technology

(continuation of discussions at the 122nd Annual General Meeting)

The use of goal-line technology and indeed technology in general within the game was rejected by majority decision.

3. Authoritative language for the Laws of the Game

It was confirmed that in the event of any divergence between translations of the Laws of the Game, the English text is authoritative.

4. Additional instructions to match officials

It has been noted that certain associations and confederations are unilaterally issuing their own instructions and recommendations to referees within their territories concerning the enforcement of the Laws of the Game, thus increasing the chances of differing interpretations around the world. We would like to reiterate that the International Football Association Board (or FIFA on its behalf) is the only body with the authority to issue such additional instructions concerning the Laws of the Game in order to ensure uniform application worldwide.

Moreover, a special meeting of the International Football Association Board (IFAB) took place in Zurich on 18 May 2010. The amendments to the Laws of the Game approved are listed below.

Amendments to the Laws of the Game and Decisions of the Board

1. Law 14 – The penalty kick

(Submitted by FIFA)

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees

Procedure

Present Text	Proposed Text
Feinting to take a penalty kick to confuse opponents is permitted as part of football. However, if, in the opinion of the referee, the feinting is considered an act of unsporting behaviour, the player must be cautioned.	Feinting in the run-up to take a penalty kick to confuse opponents is permitted as part of football. However, feinting to kick the ball once the player has completed his run-up is considered an infringement of Law 14 and an act of unsporting behaviour for which the player must be cautioned.

Reason

In view of an increasing trend in players feinting to take a penalty kick to deceive the goalkeeper, it is necessary to clarify what is permitted and what action a referee must take in the event of an infringement.

2. The fourth official

(Submitted by The Scottish FA)

The fourth official and the reserve assistant referee (bulletpoint 7)

Present Text	Proposed Text
He must indicate to the referee when the wrong player is cautioned because of mistaken identity or when a player is not sent off having been seen to be given a second caution or when violent conduct occurs out of the view of the referee and assistant referees. The referee, however, retains the authority to decide on all points connected with play.	He assists the referee to control the match in accordance with the Laws of the Game. The referee, however, retains the authority to decide on all points connected with play.

Reason

It is considered that the scope of the fourth official’s duty to assist the referee should be extended to allow him to offer support and advice not only in the limited number of situations covered under the existing Laws of the Game.

Entry into force of Laws of the Game 2010/2011

The IFAB unanimously agreed that the decisions of the 124th IFAB Annual General Meeting and the special meeting of the International Football Association Board (IFAB) would come into force on 1 June 2010 and therefore apply for the 2010 FIFA World Cup™.

Yours faithfully,

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Jérôme Valcke
Secretary General

cc: FIFA Executive Committee
FIFA Referees Committee
Confederations

To the members of FIFA
and the confederations

25 MAY 2010

Circular no. 1225

Zurich, 19 May 2010
SG/est

Printed edition of the 2010/2011 Laws of the Game

Dear Sir or Madam,

Further to circular no. 1224 *Amendments to the Law of the Game – 2010/2011* we are pleased to provide you as from July 2010 with the following number of copies of the 2010/2011 Laws of the Game:

- Ten copies for your association;
- Further copies, intended for the FIFA referees and assistant referees mentioned in the 2010 Refereeing – International Lists. Kindly forward them to the officials concerned.

If you wish to order additional copies, please use the enclosed form to indicate how many copies of the 2010/2011 edition of the Laws of the Game you will require for the courses scheduled in the year ahead. Each extra copy will cost CHF 8, for which we shall send you an invoice and debit your FIFA current account.

Please return the enclosed order form by fax by **1 July 2010** at the latest.

Thank you for your help and support in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

FIFA



Jérôme Valcke
Secretary General

Enc: Order form

cc: FIFA Executive Committee

Mitglieder / Member Association
 Association membre / Asociación Miembro

Spielregeln 2010/2011 / Laws of the Game 2010/2011
 Lois du Jeu 2010/2011 / Reglas de Juego 2010/2011

E-mail an/E-mail to/E-mail à/E-mail Refereeing@fifa.org
 Fax an/Fax to/Fax à/Fax para FIFA +41-(0)43-222-7878

Bedarfsmeldung/Bestellformular Voraussichtlicher Liefer-/Bedarfstermin ab Juli 2010
 Order form Provisional delivery date as from July 2010
 Bon de commande Délai de livraison probable à partir de juillet 2010
 Hoja de pedido Previsible fecha de entrega a partir de julio de 2010

	Sprachversion Language Langue Idioma	Anzahl Number Quantité Cantidad	Bemerkungen Comments Remarques Observaciones
Deutsch	Spielregeln 2010/2011		
English	Laws of the Game 2010/2011		
French	Lois du Jeu 2010/2011		
Español	Reglas de Juego 2010/2011		