



**the laws of
INTERNATIONAL
RULES
FOOTBALL**

October 2003

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Laws of International Football 2003

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APPENDICES

Part A: Introduction

A. This Publication

This publication contains the Laws of International Rules Football as administered and controlled by the AFL and GAA.

B. Application

These Laws apply to both senior and youth matches played under “International Rules Football”.

C. Nature and Objectives of International Rules Football

International Rules Football is a game played between two Teams competing in accordance with these Laws. The objective of each Team playing International Rules Football is to win by scoring more points than the opposing Team. The winner of a Match of International Rules Football is the Team which has scored, in accordance with these Laws, the greater number of points at the conclusion of the Match. A Match is drawn when each Team has the same number of points at the conclusion of the Match.

At senior level, where two matches are played in a series, should both teams win one match, the team with the highest aggregate score shall be awarded the series. Should the aggregate scores be equal after the two games, the holder of the trophy shall retain the title.

D. Purpose of Laws

These Laws explain how a Match of International Rules Football is played and seek to attain the following objectives:-

- (a) to ensure that the game of International Rules Football is played in a fair manner and a spirit of true sportsmanship; and
- (b) to prevent injuries to Players participating in a Match so far as this objective can be reasonably achieved in circumstances where some body contact is allowed within the rules.

Part B: General and Definitions

1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

1.1 Definitions

Unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

AFL:	the Australian Football League.
All Clear:	the verbal and visual instruction given by a Referee for the goal Umpire to signal and record a Goal, Over or a Behind, as the case may be.
Behind:	the recording of 1 point, when any of the circumstances described in Law 12.1 occur.
Behind Line:	the white lines marked on the Playing Field between the goal posts and the behind posts.
Centre Lines:	the area on the Playing Field described in Law 3.2.
Charge or Charging:	the conduct described in Law 15.4.4.
Controlling Committee:	the body described in Law 2.1.
Correct Disposal or Correctly Dispose:	disposing of the football in a manner permitted under Law 15.3.1
Correct Tackle or Correctly Tackled:	the conduct permitted under Law 15.4.1
Crossbar:	bar placed between the goal posts 2.5m from the ground.
End Line:	lines marked on the Playing Field between the behind posts and the sidelines.
Field of Play:	means the Playing Field and all of the area between the Playing Field and the perimeter fence, including any break in the perimeter fence.
Free Kick:	giving possession of the football to a Player on the occasions described in Law 15.
GAA:	Gaelic Athletic Association.
Goal:	the recording of 6 points, when any of the circumstances described in Law 12.1.3(a) occur.
Goal Line:	the white line marked on the Playing Field between each goal post.

Goal Keeper:	the designated person on each team with special provision contained in Law 15.13.
Handball/Handpass:	the act of holding the football in one hand and disposing of the football by hitting it with the clenched fist of the other hand.
Interchange Area:	the areas marked on the Side Line through which Players may enter and leave the Playing Surface (1 per Team). No more than one player per team may enter and leave at the same time (as per Law 7.2(f)).
Interchange Player(s):	the Player(s) of a Team who are not on the Playing Field but who are listed on the Team Sheet and available to replace a Player on the Playing Field.
Interchange Steward:	the person(s) appointed by the relevant Teams to monitor and approve the interchange of Players during a Match.
International Rules Football:	the contest played between two Teams competing in accordance with these Laws.
Kick or Kicking:	in relation to disposing of the football, means making contact with the football with any part of the Player's leg.
Mark:	has the meaning described in Law 14.1.
Match:	the contest of International Rules Football played between two Teams.
Match Official:	includes linesmen, goal umpires, referees and interchange stewards.
Melee:	an incident involving three or more Players who are grappling or otherwise struggling with one another and which, in the opinion of the Referee or any other person authorised by the Control Committee, is likely to bring the game of International Rules Football into disrepute or prejudice the interests or reputation of the AFL and/or GAA.
Official:	includes but is not limited to an officer, coach, assistant coach, trainer, runner, employee or any person performing any duties (paid or unpaid) for or on behalf of the Team.
Off Side:	a player breaching the rules under Law 15.12.
Out of Bounds:	means the football passes completely over the End Line or Side Line. If any portion of the football is on or above the Line concerned, the football is not Out of Bounds.

Over:	the recording of 3 points when the ball passes over the cross bar and between the goal posts by kicking or playing the ball in flight as described in Law 12.1.3(b).
Penalty Kick:	Free kick from the hands or from the ground awarded from the centre of the 13 metre line as per Law 15.11.
Player:	a person who plays or is selected to play with a Team or a person who otherwise trains with a Team or who is within the purview of these Laws.
Playing Field:	the field of play inside the Side Line, End Line, Goal Line and Behind Line, excluding the area between such lines and the perimeter fence.
Play On or Touched Play On:	the verbal and visual instruction given by a field Umpire to indicate that: (a) a Free Kick or Mark will not be awarded and play will continue; or (b) a Player has attempted to dispose of the football other than in a direct line over the mark and the football is therefore in play.
Possession:	controlling the football as described in Laws 15.2.1 and 15.2.2.
Prohibited Contact:	contact between Players which is prohibited under Law 15.4.5.
Protected Area:	the area described in Law 16.1.2.
Referees:	one official from each country on the field of play with responsibility for implementing the Laws of the Game.
Reportable Offence:	conduct which is deemed to be deliberate, reckless or negligent as specified in Rule 19.2.2.
Runner:	one person per team allowed to enter field of play to deliver messages or make team changes. He must not attempt to coach during play and must leave the field of play immediately after delivering message.
Scoop:	placing the hands in behind or under the ball and lifting it.
Side Line:	the white line drawn on the ground to identify the Playing Field, as described in Law 3.2.
Team:	the group of Players competing against another group of Players in a Match of International Rules Football.
Team Sheet:	the document which must be completed and lodged by each Team under Law 5.3.

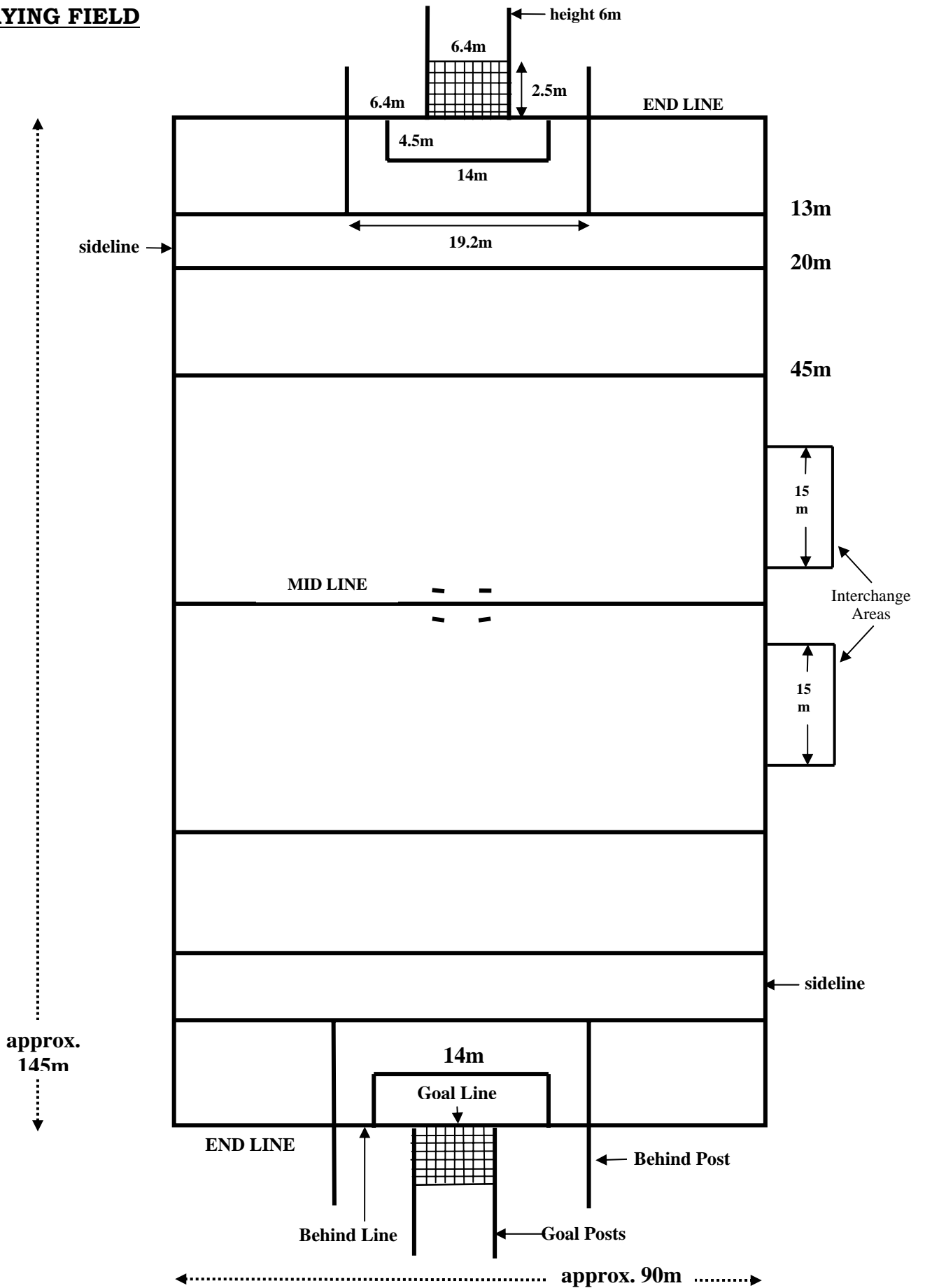
Timekeeper(s):	the person(s) appointed by the Control Committee (or Teams) to keep the time of a Match.
Time Wasting:	occurs where a Referee is of the opinion that a Player is unnecessarily causing a delay in play.
The Spot:	the position on the Playing Field where an opposition Player may stand after a Player has been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark, as described in Law 16.1.1.
Throw:	to release the ball from the hands without striking it with the fist or to propel the football off the ground with one or both hands in a scooping motion. A Player does not throw the football if the Player hits, punches or taps the football while in flight or plays it away with the hand when he and/or the ball are on the ground.
Twenty Metre Penalty:	the act of advancing by 20 metres towards the centre of the Goal Line, from the position on the Playing Field where a Player has been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark.

1.2 Interpretation

In the interpretation of these Laws, unless the context requires otherwise:-

- (a) words importing the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and vice versa;
- (b) words importing any gender shall be deemed to include the other gender;
- (c) headings are included for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation of these Laws;
- (d) "including" and similar words are not words of limitation;
- (e) any words, terms or phrases defined in the remainder of these Laws shall have the meaning prescribed within the particular Law; and
- (f) words, terms or phrases not otherwise defined in these Laws, shall be given their ordinary meaning.

PLAYING FIELD



Part C: Administrative Provisions

2. CONTROLLING BODY

- 2.1. A "Control Committee" comprising the Director General of the Gaelic Athletic Association or his nominee, the General Manager Football Operations of the Australian Football League or his nominee, and a third person mutually agreed to by them, shall have the following responsibilities and authority:
- 2.1.1 Interpretation of and rulings on the rules, except during the progress of a match.
 - 2.1.2 Investigate and act upon complaints arising from incidents occurring during the process of a match. Such complaints to be lodged in writing by team manager of either team no later than 4pm the day after a match.
 - 2.1.3 Initiate investigations of matters arising during the process of a match or the series which may be detrimental to the image of International Rules Football.
 - 2.1.4 Members may lodge a report against a player or official for an alleged reportable offence.
 - 2.1.5 Match conditions.
 - 2.1.6 Serve as a Tribunal to conduct hearings of reports from umpires.
 - 2.1.7 The third member of the Committee may vary from time to time as location and other circumstances or availability dictate.

3. PLAYING FIELD AND GOAL POSTS

3.1 General

The Playing Field shall be a rectangle of not more than 145 metres in length and 90 metres in width.

3.2 Identifying Areas on the Playing Surface

The field shall be marked along each side line and with the following:

- 3.2.1 A mid line,
- 3.2.2 Four ½ metre lines 1 metre from the centre line at the mid point of the centre line,
- 3.2.3 An end line, 13 metre, 20 metre and 45 metre lines on both sides of the mid line, and each of these lines marked with a flag where they join the sidelines,
- 3.2.4 Interchange areas of 10 metres (one for each team) shall be marked adjacent to the mid line on one side of the field.

3.3 Goalpost, Crossbar and Behind Posts

A scoring area shall be erected and marked as follows:

- 3.3.1 Two goal posts 6.4 metres apart and not less than 6 metres in height shall be placed at each end of the field.
- 3.3.2 Two behind posts shall be placed at a distance of 6.4 metres from each goal post and shall be not less than three metres in height.
- 3.3.3 A goal net shall be placed between each set of goal posts and supported by a crossbar at 2.5 metres. The net shall be attached to the crossbar and goal posts and fastened to the ground by stanchions at a 45 degree angle.

3.4 Goal, Behind, Side and End Lines

The line between the goal posts shall be called the Goal Line, and the lines between the behind and goal posts shall be called the Behind Line. The line between the behind posts and the Side Line shall be called the End Line.

3.5 Small and Large Rectangles

Two rectangles shall be marked in the goal area as follows:

- (a) A rectangle of 14 by 4.5 metres, formed by two lines of 4.5 metres at right angles to the end line, and 3.8 metres from each goal post.
- (b) A larger rectangle 19.2 by 13 metres, formed by two 13 metre lines at right angles to the end line and 6.4 metres from each goal post, and joined at the end to the 13 metre line.

3.6 Post Padding

The Controlling Committee must ensure that padding is attached around each goal and behind post as follows:-

- a minimum of 35mm thick foam padding, covered in canvas or painted;
- a minimum height of 2.5m from the bottom of each goal and behind post;
- a suitable width to allow the padding to be fixed around each goal and behind post;
- and
- the padding must be securely attached around each goal and behind post.

4. THE FOOTBALL

4.1 Dimensions and Weight

The ball shall be the regulation Gaelic Football, 68cm to 70cm in circumference. The dry ball shall weigh not less than 480 grams and not more than 500 grams.

5. TEAMS

5.1 Number of Players in Team

Each team shall consist of twenty-three named players, not more than fifteen of whom shall take part in a match at any time.

5.1.1 The remaining eight players are the interchange players.

5.1.2 Prior to the commencement of play, an official of each team shall hand to the Referees a list of names and numbers of the players comprising the team, and indicating the captain and which eight of those twenty three players will not take part in the match at its commencement. (See Appendix One)

The following field placings shall apply:

One of the fifteen players of each team on the field shall be designated as goal keeper and shall wear a distinctive jersey of a colour different from that worn by the two teams. The goal keeper shall enjoy the special privileges conferred under these rules.

The normal positioning of the 15 players on the field shall be:

- Goal Keeper
- Three Full Backs
- Three Half Backs
- Two Mid Fields
- Three Half Forwards
- Three Full Forwards

5.2 Variation to Number

The Control Committee may agree to increase numbers on the playing field from 15 players to 16 or 17 players per team for youth games in Australia which are AFL curtain raisers necessitating playing on the AFL length grounds.

5.3 Team Sheets

5.3.1 Details

Unless otherwise determined by the Control Committee, a Team Sheet shall:-

- (a) list the names and numbers of the Players in the Team;
- (b) identify the Interchange Players;
- (c) identify the captain; and
- (d) list the name of the coach and any other Official participating in the Match.

5.3.2 Completing and Lodging Team Sheet

Unless otherwise determined by the Control Committee, an Official of each Team shall complete and lodge with a Referee its Team Sheet no later than 45 minutes before the scheduled commencement of a Match.

5.4 Change of Player Jersey During Match

5.4.1 Replacement Jersey

Each Team shall ensure that a replacement jersey is available for each Player participating in a Match.

5.4.2 Replacement of jersey with Same Number

Where it becomes necessary to replace a jersey worn by a Player during a Match, the Team shall ensure that the replacement jersey displays the number allocated to the Player before the commencement of the Match.

5.4.3 Variation by Control Committee

The Control Committee may allow the replacement jersey worn by a player to display a different number to that originally worn by a player. When this occurs a team official must advise the Interchange Steward and a Referee at the next interval to allow for amendment to the Team Sheet.

5.5 Counting of Players

5.5.1 Request by Captain

The captain or acting captain of a Team may at any time during a Match request that the Referee count the number of Players of the opposing Team who are on the Playing Field.

5.5.2 Procedure

- (a) Where a request is made under Law 5.5.1, the Referee shall:-
 - (i) stop play at the first available opportunity;
 - (ii) call into line in the Centre of the ground the Players of both Teams who are at the time on the Playing Field and count the number of Players;
 - (iii) upon completing the count, ensure that each Team has the permitted number of Players on the Playing Field and then re-commence play at the position on the Playing Field where the Referee stopped play; and
 - (iv) as soon as practicable after the Match, report to the Control Committee that a request has been made to count the number of Players in a Team and the number of Players actually counted.
- (b) The maximum number of Players permitted on the Playing Field at the same time is 15.

5.5.3 Players Exceeding Permitted Number

Where a Team has more than the permitted number of Players on the Playing Field, the following shall apply:

- (a) a Referee shall award a Free Kick to the captain or acting captain of the opposing Team, which shall be taken at the Centre Line or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team;
- (b) a Twenty Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded; and
- (c) the Team shall lose all points which it has scored in the Match up to the time of the count.

5.5.4 Correct Number and Request Without Merit

Where a count reveals that the opposing Team has the permitted number of Players on the Playing Field, the following shall apply:

- (a) a Referee shall award a Free Kick to the captain or his nominee of the opposing Team, which shall be taken at the Centre Line or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team;
- (b) a Twenty Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded; and

- (c) if a Referee is of the opinion that a request was made under Law 5.6.1 primarily to delay play or such request did not have sufficient merit, the Referee shall report the Captain who requested the count for Time Wasting under Law 19.2.2.

6. TEAM OFFICIALS

6.1 Staff and Officials permitted onto playing field during match

The following people may enter the playing field during the progress of a match:-

- (a) a team runner for the sole purpose of conferring briefly with player of his team, and then immediately leave the playing field
- (b) the trainers listed on the official team sheet solely for the purpose of:
 - (i) replacing a damaged uniform
 - (ii) attending an injured player
 - (iii) running water to a player during a break in play
 - (iv) assisting the removal of an injured players by stretcher where the umpire has stopped play to allow this to occur.
- (c) the medical officer and physiotherapist of the team for the purpose of attending to an injured player.

6.2 Team Runner Regulations

- (a) A team runner cannot be a listed squad member or part of a team's coaching or selection committee.
- (b) Shall dress in the uniform provided by the Control Committee
- (c) Not have affixed any communication device

Referees to monitor officials/runners on the playing field and have the power to report breaches to the Control Committee.

6.3 Identification

Each Team Official and runner shall wear a uniform or other form of identification, (such as an armband), as determined by the Controlling Body.

Part D: Pre-Match and Match Provisions

7. INTERCHANGE

7.1 Interchange Steward – Appointment and Duties

The Control Committee will appoint two Interchange Stewards to officiate during a Match, one to monitor each Team. The Interchange Steward shall:-

- (a) be positioned throughout the Match at or near the Interchange Area;
- (b) monitor and approve the interchange of players during a Match; and
- (c) time 15 minutes of actual playing time for players sent off with yellow card;
- (d) report to the Controlling Body any infringement by a Team of this Law 7.

7.2 Procedure for Interchange

The following procedure shall apply to the interchange of Players during a Match:

- (a) An Official shall advise the Interchange Steward of the Team's intention to replace a Player who is currently on the Playing Field for another Player listed on its Team Sheet;
- (b) upon being satisfied that the replacement is permitted, the Interchange Steward shall approve the replacement;
- (c) a Team may interchange the Players concerned within a period of 3 minutes from the time approval is given by the Interchange Steward, after which the approval shall lapse;
- (d) unless Law 7.3 applies, the Players concerned shall leave and enter the Playing Field through the Interchange Area;
- (e) a Player who does not leave the Playing Field as specified under Law 7.2(d) shall not re-enter the Playing Field for the remainder of the Match.
- (f) Only one replacement player may enter the Interchange Area at a time.

7.3 Use of Stretcher

7.3.1 Health and Safety of Player

Any Player who is injured during a Match and who, in the opinion of a doctor, trainer or Official, requires the assistance of a stretcher, shall be attended by the Team's training staff and a stretcher as soon as possible so as to ensure the health and safety of the Player.

7.3.2 Procedure

Where a stretcher is required, the following procedure shall apply:-

- (a) upon being advised or noticing that a Player requires a stretcher, the Referee shall stop play at the earliest opportunity and unless a doctor considers or it is apparent that it is unsafe to do so, the Player must be removed from the Field on the stretcher or otherwise leave the Field as soon as possible and by the shortest and most direct route;
- (b) a Team may replace the injured Player with a Player listed on its Team Sheet, who must enter the Playing Field via the Interchange Area;
- (c) the Interchange Steward may allow the Player who is replacing the injured Player to enter the Playing Field before the injured Player is removed from the Arena;

- (d) once the injured Player has been removed from the Field , the Referee shall recommence play by either throwing up the football or allowing a Player who had been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark at the time play was stopped, to dispose of the football; and
- (e) a Player for whom a stretcher was called shall not resume playing for a period of 10 minutes (excluding intervals between quarters) from the time when the Player left the Arena. After the 10 minute period has expired, the Player may be interchanged in accordance with the procedure set out under Rule 7.2 provided the Player is able, having due regard to his or her health and safety, to resume playing in the Match.

8. REFEREES, LINESMEN AND GOAL UMPIRES: INSTRUCTIONS

8.1 Appointment

The Control Committee shall appoint for each Match:-

- (a) two Referees - one from each country;
- (b) two or more Linesmen - from host country; and
- (c) four goal Umpires - from host country.

8.2 Duties

8.2.1 Referees

The duties of the Referees shall be:

- (a) Apply the Laws of the Game, using a whistle to indicate such application,
- (b) Allow or disallow a score,
- (c) Consult with other officials with regards to scoring and balls over side or end lines as required. Consult with other referee regarding yellow/red cards when necessary.
- (d) Extend the playing time in each quarter, when in his opinion, there has been an undue delay in play, specifically in the case of an order off offence, a blood rule stoppage or a stretcher on the ground, but not in the following circumstances:
 - i) ball over Side Line,
 - ii) ball over End Line,
 - iii) after a Score.
- (e) Indicate to the time keepers, when they are to add time on and when to stop adding time, by blowing a whistle and raising the right arm vertically at the start and conclusion of such periods.
- (f) Where a scrimmage develops (without a free kick being evident), to restart play by tossing the ball in the air above one player from each team. Other players may not play the ball until it has been touched by either of these two players.
- (g) Endeavour to keep the play going if a altercation/potential melee occurs with one referee following the play and the other attending the altercation/potential melee.
- (h) To indicate the end of quarters with a blow of the whistle and raising both arms.
- (i) Provide reports to the Control Committee as required under these rules.
- (j) Both Referees view video of all matches within 48 hours of games and submit any reportable offences to the Control Committee deemed appropriate under these laws.

8.2.2 Linesmen

Duties of the Linesmen shall be:

- (a) To indicate by way of waving a flag when and where the ball has crossed a side line and pointing the flag in the direction in which the Free Kick has been awarded,
- (b) When the ball has completely crossed the line, the linesman shall immediately signal to the Referee and bring the ball back to the spot where it crossed the line,
- (c) When signalling the ball out of play, the linesman shall indicate to the player of the opposing team as to where the kick shall be taken from,
- (d) When the linesman's signal is not seen by the Referee, and play continues, the linesman shall notify the Referee and the ball shall be brought back to the spot where it crossed the line. Any intervening score shall be annulled.
- (e) To refer any possible reportable offences to the Referees for video review.

8.2.3 Goal Umpires

The duties of goal umpires shall be:

- (a) When a score is registered, the goal umpires shall indicate to the umpires by raising both index fingers for a goal (6 points), by one extended arm and hand indicating over head (for 3 point over) and by one index finger for a behind and upon all clear confirmation by waving:
 - i) one green flag for a goal,
 - ii) one red flag for an over,
 - iii) one white flag for a behind.
- (b) When a ball is out of play over an end line, a goal umpire shall advise the Referee as to whether it was put out of play by a player of the defending team or attacking team.
- (c) They shall not concern themselves with question as to whether the quarter has ended or not.
- (d) Where a score is disallowed, to notify scorers by holding aloft one red and white flag, crossed.
- (e) To refer any possible reportable offences to the Referees for video review.
- (f) To officially record the scores.

8.2.4 Replacement of Match Officials

Replacement of Match Officials, as may become necessary, shall be determined by the Control Committee.

9. PLAYER'S BOOTS, JEWELLERY AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**9.1 Interpretation**

For the purposes of this Law 9, Protective Equipment includes but is not limited to:-

- (a) hard-shell helmets;
- (b) knee braces;
- (c) shoulder pads;
- (d) back supports;
- (e) arm guards; and
- (f) any other item designated as such by the relevant Control Committee.

9.2 Prohibition of Items

A Player shall not wear during a Match:-

- (a) any form of jewellery;
- (b) bootstuds, plates/cleets or any Protective Equipment (other than Protective Equipment approved by the Control Committee unless the Referee is satisfied that the item does not constitute a danger or increase the risk of injury to other Players competing in the Match; or
- (c) Protective Equipment which has been approved by the relevant Control Committee, if the Referee is satisfied that such equipment has, during the Match, become dangerous or increased the risk of injury to other Players.

9.3 Inspection

At any time before or during a Match, a Referee may inspect a Player's boots or hands or any Protective Equipment that a Player intends to wear or use during the Match.

9.4 Power to Order Off

9.4.1 Order by Referee and Replacement Player

A Referee may order from the Playing Field a Player who is wearing or using an item prohibited under Law 9.2. Where a Player is ordered from the Playing Field under this Law:

- (a) an Interchange Player may replace the Player ordered from the Playing Field; and
- (b) the Player ordered from the Playing Field may only re-enter the Playing Field once the Player has removed the prohibited item.

9.4.2 Refusal to Leave Field

Where a Player refuses to or does not immediately leave the Playing Field when ordered to do so by a Referee, the following shall apply:-

- (a) the Referee shall warn the Player that a Free Kick will be awarded and that the Player may be reported if he does not leave the Playing Field;
- (b) if the Player still refuses to leave the Playing Field, the Referee shall award a Free Kick to the Player of the opposing Team who is nearest to where the warning was given or where play was stopped, whichever is the greater penalty;
- (c) if the Player still refuses to leave the Playing Field:
 - (i) the Referee shall report the Player for misconduct in failing to follow a direction of a Referee.

10. TIMEKEEPERS, DURATION OF MATCHES, QUARTER AND INTERVALS

10.1 Duration of Match and Intervals

10.1.1 Duration

A Match shall be played for a period of 80 minutes, divided into 4 quarters, each of 20 minutes duration plus any additional time allowed by the Referees for undue delays in play.

10.1.2 Intervals Between Quarters

An interval shall be taken between each quarter as follows:-

- (a) a maximum period of 5 minutes between the end of the first quarter and the beginning of the second quarter;
- (b) a maximum period of 15 minutes between the end of the second quarter and the beginning of the third quarter; and
- (c) a maximum period of 5 minutes between the end of the third quarter and the beginning of the fourth quarter.

10.1.3 Variation

The Control Committee may vary the duration of a Youth Match and the duration of the interval between quarters.

10.2 Timekeepers

10.2.1 Appointment

The Control Committee shall appoint two (2) or more persons to act as the Timekeepers for a Match.

10.2.2 Duties

Each Timekeeper appointed for a Match shall:

- (a) keep time for each quarter of a Match;
- (b) record on time cards the time taken to play each quarter and lodge the completed cards with the Control Committee; (see Appendix Two)
- (c) sound the siren in accordance with the procedures contained in these Laws;
- (d) stop the clock which is used for the timing of each quarter as required for undue stoppage in play as indicated by Referees; and
- (e) perform any other function as may be directed by the Control Committee.

10.3 Procedure for Sounding Siren - Start of Match and Quarters

The Timekeepers shall sound the siren at the times and on the number of occasions as set out in the following table:

START OF MATCH	NUMBER OF OCCASIONS
Five minutes prior to scheduled starting time of the Match and as Referees enter the Playing Field	Once
Two minutes prior to scheduled starting time	Three times
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time	Twice
Scheduled starting time (Start of Match)	Once
First Quarter Time Interval	Once
START OF SECOND QUARTER	
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time	Three times
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time	Twice
Scheduled starting time (Start of Match)	Once
Half Time Interval	Once
START OF THIRD QUARTER	
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time	Three times
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time	Twice
Scheduled starting time (Start of Match)	Once
Three Quarter Time Interval	Once
START OF FINAL QUARTER	
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time	Three times
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time	Twice
Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter)	Once

10.4 Bringing Play to an End

10.4.1 End of Quarter

The Timekeepers shall sound the siren to signal the end of a quarter until a Referee acknowledges that the siren has been heard and brings play to an end.

10.4.2 Siren Heard by Referee

Play in each quarter shall come to an end when any one of the Referees hears the siren.

10.4.3 Signal

A Referee shall signal that he has heard the siren by blowing a whistle and holding both arms above his head. If immediately before hearing the siren, a Referee is of the opinion that a Player should be awarded a Free Kick or a Mark, the Referee award the Free Kick or Mark to the Player and then signal that play has come to an end.

10.5 Stopping and Recommencing Time

10.5.1 Stopping Time

The Timekeepers shall stop the clock which is used for the timing of a Match when directed to do so by a Referee in accordance with Law 10.5.3.

10.5.2 Recommencing Time

The Timekeepers shall recommence the clock used for the timing of a Match when directed to do so by the Referee in accordance with Law 10.5.3.

10.5.3 Signalling

A Referee shall signal to the Timekeeper to stop the clock or re-start the clock used for the timing of the Match by blowing a whistle and raising one arm above his head. This will occur for delays in play such as Undue Delays, Order Off and Blood Rule and when the stretcher is required. Should the Referee neglect to signal the restart of play the timekeeper shall restart the clock immediately he observes the play restart.

11. COMMENCING PLAY AND CHOICE OF GOAL

11.1 Choice of Goal

The end of the Playing Field to which a Team shall play shall be decided by the toss of a coin as follows:

- (a) the Referee (or such other person approved by the Control Committee) shall "toss the coin";
- (b) before the coin is tossed, the captain of the "away" Team shall call "the fall of the coin" immediately after the 3 siren sound, 2 minutes before game is to commence;
- (c) the captain of the Team who wins the toss of the coin shall choose the end to which his or her Team shall play in the first quarter; and
- (d) at the conclusion of each quarter, the Teams shall change ends.

11.2 Commencement of Play

11.2.1 Readiness to Commence Play

- (a) All interchange Players must leave the Playing Field two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of a Match, being the time when the Timekeepers sound the siren 3 times.
- (b) Before commencing play in each quarter, the Referee shall:
 - (i) ensure that the Timekeepers are ready to commence timing the Match; and
 - (ii) confirm with each captain that each Team is ready to commence play.

11.2.2 Commencing Play

- (a) The Referee shall take up a position on the Centre Line prior to throwing up the football.
- (b) The Referee shall commence play in each quarter by holding the football above his head, blowing a whistle and throwing the football directly above the Centre Line (ie. between the two lines either side of the Centre Line).
- (c) Where the Referee awards a Free Kick to a Player before throwing up the football, play shall commence when the Player brings the football into play.

- (d) The Timekeeper shall commence the clock used for timing the Match when the Referee blows the whistle or when a Player, who has been awarded a Free Kick, brings the football into play.

11.2.3 Restarting Play

- (a) When the ball is driven wide of the goal posts and over the end line by the attacking side, it shall be kicked into play from the inside of the 13 metre rectangle by the player taking the kick out after the wide has been indicated by the goal umpires.
- (b) After an over (three points) or a behind (one point) has been scored, the ball shall be kicked into play by the player taking the kick out from inside the 13 metre rectangle, after the flag has been waved by the goal umpires. A box shall be located behind the net containing additional footballs and the player taking the kick out must collect a football himself should the ball previously in play be not immediately available.
- (c) While the ball is being kicked into play, all players, other than the player taking the kick shall not be within 5 metres of the 13 metre rectangle.
- (d) After a goal, the ball shall be returned to the centre and play recommenced in accordance with Rule 11.4.3.

11.3 Throwing up the Football

11.3.1 Centre Square and Throwing Up the Ball

The Referee shall throw up the football on the occasions and on the position on the Playing Field as set out in the table below. If the incident occurs inside the 20 metre line the ball shall be thrown up on the 20 metre line.

OCCASION	POSITION ON PLAYING FIELD
Unless Law 11.3.2 applies, at the start of each quarter or after a Goal has been scored	The Centre Line
Where the football has become trapped as two or more opposing Players struggle for possession of the football.	Where the football becomes trapped
When the ball is pinned by a tackle and the player has had no prior opportunity to dispose of the ball.	Where incident occurred
Where a Referee is unsure about which Player has taken a Mark.	Where the Mark was contested
When a Player, who has claimed to have taken a Mark which is not awarded by the Referee, is Correctly Tackled by an opponent, provided the Referee is of the opinion that the Player did not hear or see the Referee's signal of "Touched Play On" or "Play On".	Where the Player is Correctly Tackled
When a Player or Players from both Teams enter the Centre Area at the same time contrary to Law 11.3.4.	The Centre Line
Unless a Free Kick or a Mark is awarded, if the football is in the proximity of an Injured Player.	The location of the football when play is stopped
When the Linesman is unable to decide which team played the ball over the Sideline	5 metres inside the playing field from where the ball crossed the Side line
Where two Players engage in a reportable offence and its not possible for play to continue	Where incident occurred

11.3.2 Free Kick Awarded

If the Referee awards a Free Kick to a Player during the period between when a Goal is scored and the football is thrown up in the Centre, play shall recommence when the Player brings the football into play.

11.3.3 Permitted Numbers at the Centre Ball-Up

When the football is thrown up to start a quarter or recommence play after a Goal has been scored, the following shall apply:-

- (a) a maximum of 2 Players from each Team are permitted within the 45 metre lines;
- (b) no Player (other than the 2 initial Players) or Team Official shall enter the Centre Area from the time the Referee commences his approach to the Centre Line to throw up the football until the football leaves his hands, in the act of being thrown up;
- (c) where a Player or Team Official contravenes Law 11.4.3(b), the Referee shall award a Free Kick to the Player of the opposing Team who is nearest to the Centre Line;
- (d) if an injured Player is receiving treatment (but does not require a stretcher) in the Centre Area at the time of a centre throw up, the Referee shall:-
 - (i) instruct the Player to immediately leave the Centre Area; and
 - (ii) not recommence play until the Player has left the Centre Area;
- (e) if an injured Player does not leave the Centre Area upon being instructed to do so, the Referee shall award a Free Kick to the Player of the opposing Team who is nearest to the Centre Line;

11.3.4 Contesting the Centre Throw Up

- (a) The centre throw up shall be contested by one Player from each team. They must be positioned opposite the Referee and 2 metres from the Centre Line (ie. 4 metres apart) on their defensive side. The second player permitted per team at the centre throw up must also be on the defensive side. All players can only cross the mid line after the Referee releases the ball.
- (b) Where a Player contravenes Law 11.3.4(a), the Referee shall award a Free Kick to the Player on the opposing Team who is nearest to the Centre Line.

12. SCORING: GOALS, OVERS AND BEHINDS

12.1 Goals, Overs and Behinds

- 12.1.1 A score is registered when the ball is kicked, driven or comes off any part of the body - other than by offensive handball - of any player of either team and the ball completely passes over the line. A defensive handball over the line/crossbar results in a score (goal, over or behind).
- 12.1.2 A player not in possession may register a score by flicking or fisting the ball in flight or along the ground.
- 12.1.3
 - (a) A score is not registered if the ball is carried over the goal or behind line by a player of the attacking team (defender kick in from 13m box)
 - (b) If a defending player carries a ball over the line a score is allowed except when a mark or free kick has been awarded.

12.1.4 Scores shall be registered as follows:**(a) Goal - 6 Points**

A goal (six points) is scored when the ball is driven between the goal posts and under the cross bar.

(b) Over - 3 Points

An over (three points) is scored when the ball is driven between the goal posts and over the cross bar.

(c) Point (behind) - 1 Point

A behind (one point) is scored when the ball is driven between the goal and behind posts.

(d) Strikes Post

When the ball strikes a goal or behind post and crosses the goal or behind line, a score shall be registered.

(e) If the ball strikes the post and is deflected wide, no score shall be registered.

(f) If the ball comes back into play, having struck a goal or behind post or cross bar, without going wide over end line, a "play on" situation shall apply.

12.1.5 Goal Umpires to Judge Goal, Over or Behind

The Goal Umpires shall decide whether a Goal, Over or Behind has been scored but may, before deciding, consult with the Referee. The decision of the Goal Umpires shall be final. The Goal Umpires shall only signal that a Goal, Over or Behind has been scored when the Referee signals "All Clear".

12.2 All Clear**12.2.1** Signal by Referee

A Goal, Over or a Behind shall only be signalled by a Goal Umpire and recorded as such when:-

(a) the Referee signals "All Clear"

12.2.2 Goal Umpire to Notify Referee

(a) Where the Goal Umpire is of the opinion that a Goal, Over or Behind has been scored and the Referee has allowed play to continue, the goal Umpire shall immediately notify the Referee. Upon being notified by the Goal Umpire, the Referee shall stop play and signal "All Clear" and the Goal, Over or Behind shall be signalled by the goal Umpire and recorded as a score. Play shall then re-commence in accordance with these Laws.

(b) Unless Law 12.4.1 applies, any Free Kick awarded to a Player before the Referee signals All Clear under Law 12.2.2(a) shall be cancelled.

12.3 Signalling a Goal, Over or Behind

12.3.1 Goal

The Goal Umpire shall signal that a Goal has been scored by raising both index fingers and then waving one green flag.

12.3.2 Over

The Goal Umpire shall signal that an Over has been scored by raising one arm above his head with palm of hand over the head and then waving one red flag.

12.3.3 Behind

The Goal Umpire shall signal that a Behind has been scored by raising one index finger and then waving one white flag.

12.3.4 Changing a Decision

- (a) The Goal Umpire may change his decision about the scoring of a Goal, Over or a Behind if and only if the Goal Umpire notifies the Referee before the football is brought back into play.
- (b) A Goal Umpire shall signal that the scoring of a Goal, Over or Behind has been changed by:-
 - (i) immediately standing on the centre of the Goal Line and holding red and white flags above his head in a crossed position; and
 - (ii) then signalling the new score or "wide" as the case may be.

12.4 Relationship Between Free Kicks and All Clear

12.4.1 Free Kick Awarded Before All Clear

Where a Free Kick is awarded to a Player immediately after the football passes the Goal or Behind Line but before the Referee signals "All Clear" the following shall apply:-

- (a) the Referee shall signal "All Clear" after which the goal Umpire shall signal and record the score; and
- (b) the Free Kick shall then be taken where the infringement occurred, or the position at which the football is brought back into play, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team.

12.4.2 All Clear Given but Play has not Recommenced

- (a) Where a Free Kick is awarded to a Player during the period when the Referee has signalled "All Clear" for a Goal to be recorded and the football is thrown up at the Centre Line, the Free Kick shall be taken where the infringement occurred, or at the Centre Line, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team.
- (b) Where a Free Kick is awarded to a Player during the period when the Referee has signalled "All Clear" for an Over or Behind to be recorded and the football being brought back into play, the Free Kick shall be taken from the following positions:-
 - (i) in the case of a Free Kick being awarded to the defending Team, where the infringement occurred, or at the defensive 45 metre line, whichever is the greater penalty against the attacking Team; or
 - (ii) in the case of a Free Kick being awarded to the attacking Team, the centre of the 45 metre line.

12.5 Scoring Goal, Over or Behind after siren has sounded

12.5.1 Goal or Behind Recorded in Certain Circumstances

Even though play has come to an end, a Goal, Over or Behind shall be recorded for a Team if:-

- (a) the Goal, Over or Behind is scored by a Player from a Free Kick or Mark which was awarded to the Player before play came to an end; or
- (b) the Goal, Over or Behind was scored by a Player who disposed of the football before play came to an end; or
- (c) the Goal, Over or Behind is scored by a Player who was awarded a Free Kick under Law 12.6.

12.5.2 Football touched in Transit

A score shall still be recorded under Law 12.5.1 if the football is touched in transit by another Player, provided the Referee is satisfied that the scoring was not assisted by a Player from the same Team.

12.5.3 Referee Sole Judge

A Referee shall be the sole judge in deciding whether a Free Kick or Mark should be awarded or whether the football was disposed of by a Player before play came to an end.

12.6 Free Kick After siren has sounded

12.6.1 Before Kick or in the act of Kicking

After a Referee has signalled that play has come to an end, any Referee may award a Free Kick to any Player when a Player is preparing to Kick or in the act of Kicking the ball. In such a case, the following shall apply:-

- (a) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the attacking Team, the Free Kick shall be awarded to the Player where the infringement occurred or, the Player in the attacking Team who is preparing to Kick or in the act of Kicking for Goal shall be awarded a Twenty Metre Penalty, whichever is the greater penalty against the defending Team; or
- (b) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the defending Team, the Player shall be awarded the Free Kick where the infringement occurred or where the football is at the time of the infringement, whichever is the greater penalty against the attacking Team.

12.6.2 After the Kick

After a Referee has signalled that play has come to an end, the Referee may award a Free Kick to any Player during the period when a Player has Kicked for Goal and the football is in transit or during the period when a Player has Kicked a Goal, Over or Behind but before the Referee has signalled "All Clear". In such cases, the following shall apply:

- (a) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the attacking Team and a Goal is Kicked, the Referee shall signal "All Clear" and a Goal shall be recorded; or
- (b) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the attacking Team and a Goal is not scored, then that Player may take the Free Kick where it was awarded (or where the football is at the time the Free Kick was awarded, whichever is the greater penalty) or, where an Over or a Behind is scored, elect to have the score recorded; or

- (c) if the Player awarded the Free Kick is playing for the defending Team, the Player shall be awarded the Free Kick where the infringement occurred. For the avoidance of doubt, any Goal, Over or Behind which would have been recorded in favour of the attacking Team but for the awarding of the Free Kick to a Player on the defending Team, shall not be recorded.

12.7 Recording Scores

The Control Committee may appoint a person or persons to record the scores of a Match independently from the Goal Umpires. Where the Goal Umpires cannot agree on the final score of a Match, the Control Committee may take into account the scores recorded by the person(s) so appointed to determine the result of a Match.

13. KICKING THE FOOTBALL INTO PLAY AFTER AN OVER, BEHIND OR WIDE

13.1 Football Must be Kicked

Unless Law 12.4 applies, when an Over, a Behind or wide has occurred, the following shall apply:-

- (a) the football must be Kicked back into play from the hands or off the ground by any Player of the defending Team within a reasonable time;
- (b) the football must be Kicked from within the 13 metre rectangle. For the avoidance of doubt, one foot of the Player must be behind any of the lines which define the 13 metre box at the time when the Player Kicks the football;
- (c) no Player is permitted within 5 metres of the 13 metre rectangle at the time when the football is being Kicked back into play.

13.2 Delay in Football being brought back into Play

After giving a Player a reasonable opportunity, the Referee shall direct a Player to Kick the football back into play. If a Player fails to Kick the football back into play after being instructed to do so by a Referee or the Referee is of the opinion that a Player has not Kicked the football back into play in accordance with Law 13.1, the Referee shall throw the ball up on the centre of the 20 metre line to recommence play.

13.3 Goal Umpire Indicating Score

A Player from the defending Team may only Kick the football into play after the Goal Umpire has waved the flag to signal that an Over or a Behind has been scored. If a defending Player Kicks the football before this time, the Referee shall direct the Player to Kick the football again.

13.4 Attacking Team Delaying Re-commencement of Play

- (a) Where the Referee is of the opinion that a Player from the attacking Team:
 - (i) is within 5 metres of the 13 metre box at the time when a Player from the defending Team is Kicking the football back into play;
 - (ii) has prevented the Player from the defending Team from Kicking the football back into play; or

(iii) has otherwise delayed play.

the Referee shall bring the mark forward from the 13 metre rectangle to the back 45 metre line, at which location the football shall be Kicked back into play by the Player of the defending Team who is closest to that location.

- (b) Where the Referee is of the opinion that a Player of the attacking Team has again contravened Law 13.4(a), the spot shall be brought forward from the back 45 metre line to the forward 45 metre line, at which location the football shall be Kicked back into play by the Player of the defending Team who is closest to that location.

13.5 Official within Forty-Five Metre Area

Unless attending to an injured Player, no Official is permitted within the 45 metre area during the time when a defensive Player is preparing to Kick or in the act of Kicking the football back into play after an Over or a Behind has been scored. Where an Official contravenes this Law, the opposing Team shall be awarded a Free Kick at the back 45 metre line, to be taken by the Player from the opposing Team who is closest to that location.

14. MARKING THE FOOTBALL

14.1 Definition

A Mark is taken if, in the opinion of the field Umpire, a Player catches or takes control of the football:-

- (a) within the Playing Field; and
- (b) after it has been Kicked from the hands or off the ground by another Player a distance of at least 20 metres; and
- (c) which has not touched the goalposts, crossbar or behind posts, the ground or been touched by another Player during the period when the football was Kicked until it was caught or controlled by the Player.

14.2 Particular Circumstances

- (a) For the avoidance of doubt, a Mark shall be awarded if:-
 - (i) a Player catches or takes control of the football before it has passed completely over the Side Line, Goal Line or Behind Line or End Line; or
 - (ii) before the football was caught or controlled by the Player, it was touched by any Official.
- (b) The Referee may consult with the Linesman or Goal Umpire before deciding whether a Mark has been taken before the football passed completely over the Side/Wide Line, Goal Line or Behind Line.

14.3 Player to be Awarded the Mark

- (a) Where a Referee is of the opinion that a Player has taken a Mark, he shall award the Mark to the Player at the location on the Playing Field where the Mark was taken.
- (b) Law 16 shall apply when a Player has been awarded a Mark.

14.4 Referee to Signal "Touched, Play On"

Where a football rebounds off the goalposts, crossbar or behind posts is touched by another Player during the period when the football was Kicked until it is caught or controlled by a Player, the Referee shall immediately call and signal "Touched, Play On" in order to indicate to the Players that a Mark will not be awarded.

14.5 When a Mark is not Awarded

Where a Player claims to have taken a Mark which is not awarded by the Referee, the following shall apply:-

- (a) if the Player does not retain possession of the football, play shall continue; or
- (b) if the Player retains possession of the football and the Player is Correctly Tackled by an opponent, the Referee shall bounce the football in accordance with Law 11.3.1, provided he is satisfied that the Player did not hear or see the signal of "Touched, Play On" or "Play On". If the Referee considers that the Player did hear or see the signal of "Touched, Play On" or "Play On", Law 15.2.3 shall apply.

15. FREE KICKS**15.1 Interpretation****15.1.1 Spirit and Intention of Awarding Free Kicks**

It is the spirit and intention of these Laws that a Free Kick shall be awarded to:-

- (a) ensure that a Match is played in a fair manner;
- (b) a Player who makes obtaining possession of the football his sole objective;
- (c) protect Players from sustaining injury; and
- (d) a Player who executes a Correct Tackle in accordance with these Laws.
- (e) to the opposition when a player doesn't dispose of the ball in accordance with these Laws.
- (f) when the player in possession plays for a free kick.

15.1.2 Awarding Free Kicks

In addition to any other circumstances described elsewhere in these Laws, a Free Kick shall be awarded to or against a Player, as the case may be, when a Referee considers that any of the circumstances set out in this Law 15 occur, irrespective of whether the football is in play. Unless otherwise stated in these Laws, a Free Kick shall be taken where it is awarded or where the football is at the time, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team.

15.1.3 When a Free Kick May be Awarded

A Free Kick may be awarded when the football is or is not in play. For the avoidance of doubt, a Free Kick may be awarded:

- (a) if an infringement occurs on the Playing Field before the commencement of a quarter, in which case the Free Kick shall be taken at the Centre Line or where the infringement occurred, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team; and
- (b) after a score has been recorded or play has come to an end, in the circumstances described in Laws 12.4, 12.5 and 12.6.

15.1.4 Effect of Free Kick

A Free Kick means that possession of the football is given to a Player of the Team who is awarded the Free Kick, after which play shall continue in accordance with Law 16 unless advantage or a downfield free kick is awarded.

15.2 Free Kicks Relating to Possession of the Football**15.2.1 In Possession of the Football**

A Player is in possession of the football if, in the opinion of the Referee:-

- (a) the Player is holding or otherwise has control of the football;
- (b) the Player is in the act of bouncing the football
- (c) the Player is in the act of toe tapping the football

15.2.2 Remaining in Possession and Bouncing the Football

(a) A Player may remain in possession of the football for any length of time:

- (i) unless the Player is Correctly Tackled by an opponent; or
- (ii) unless directed to dispose of the football by a Referee; or
- (iii) provided the Player complies with Law 15.2.2(b).

(b) Where a Player is moving whilst in possession of the football, he must bounce or touch the football on the ground at least once every 15 metres, irrespective of whether such Player is running in a straight line or otherwise. A player may bounce the ball on a maximum of 2 occasions before disposal but may toe tap (playing the ball from hand to foot to hand) as many times as he wishes.

(c) A Player who plays the ball away by foot or hand - having held it in his hand/s - cannot take the ball back into his hand/s unless or until it is played by another player, it touches the ground or rebounds into play off the crossbar, goalposts or the behind posts.

(d) A Referee shall award a Free Kick against a Player if he is of the opinion that a Player has contravened Law 15.2.2(b) or 15.2.2(c).

15.2.3 Holding the Football – Prior Opportunity/No Prior Opportunity

Where the Referee is satisfied that a Player in possession of the football:

- (a) has had a prior opportunity to dispose of the football, the Referee shall award a Free Kick against that Player if the Player does not Kick or Handball the football immediately when he is Correctly Tackled; or
- (b) has not had a prior opportunity to dispose of the football, the Referee shall award a Free Kick against that Player if, upon being correctly tackled, the Player does not Dispose of the football or attempt to do so after being given a reasonable opportunity to do so.

15.2.4 Application – Specific instances where play shall continue

For the avoidance of doubt, the Referee shall allow play to continue when:-

- (a) a Player is bumped and the football falls from the Player's hands;

- (b) A Player fumbles the football as a result of physical contact/pressure and loses possession of the football.

15.2.5 Ball on Ground

- (a) The ball may be lifted up directly off the ground by hand, while the player concerned is standing or running.
- (b) The ball may be dribbled, pushed or patted along with hand or foot by a player prior to the pick up, provided such player is upright and not sitting, kneeling or lying on the ground.
- (c) A player, whilst sitting, lying or on knees, may strike the ball away from his body, but shall otherwise not place a hand upon the ball.
- (d) A player shall not scoop the ball from the ground to a team mate.
- (e) Other than the Goal Keeper within the small rectangle, players may not dive on the ball when it is on the ground.
- (f) A referee shall award a free kick against a player if he is of the opinion that a player has contravened Law 15.2.5(c), (d) or (e)

- 15.2.6 If the attacking team carries ball over the goal line or behind line no score will be recorded and a free kick awarded to the defending team to be taken from the 13 metre line.

15.3 Free Kicks Relating to Disposal of the Football

15.3.1 Correct Disposal

A Player Correctly disposes of the football if he Kicks or Handballs the football.

15.3.2 Incorrect Disposal and Awarding of Free Kick

When the football is in play, a Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player who Throws the football, or hands the football to another Player, or drops the ball to avoid being tackled.

15.4 Free Kick - Permitted and Prohibited Physical Contact

15.4.1 Correct Tackle or Correctly Tackled

- (a) For the purposes of these Laws, a Player executes a tackle correctly if:-
 - (i) the Player being held is in possession of the ball; and
 - (ii) that Player is held (either by the body or jersey) below the shoulders and above the thighs.
- (b) For the avoidance of doubt, a tackle may be executed correctly by holding a Player from the front, side or behind, provided that a Player held from behind is not pushed in the back.

15.4.2 Shepherd

A Shepherd - defined as using the body or arm to push, bump or block an opponent - is not permitted and will result in a free kick.

15.4.3 Permitted Contact

Other than the Prohibited Contact identified under Law 15.4.5, a Player may make contact with another Player :-

- (a) by using his hip and/or shoulder, side to side, hip to hip provided neither player is airborne and that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the Player;

- (b) by executing a Correct Tackle by gripping the opponent's body or jersey below the shoulder level and above the thighs or by both arms provided neither player is airborne. Players may not be tackled by one arm or slung to the ground; or
- (c) if such contact is incidental to a marking contest and the Player is legitimately Marking or attempting to Mark the football.

15.4.4 Charge or Charging

- (a) A Charge means an act of colliding with an opposition Player where the amount of physical force used is unreasonable or unnecessary in the circumstances, irrespective of whether the Player is or is not in possession of the football or whether the Player is within 5 metres of the football.
- (b) Without limiting the general application of Law 15.4.4(a), a Charge occurs when a Player unreasonably or unnecessarily collides with an opposition Player:
 - (i) who is not within 5 metres of the football;
 - (ii) who, although within five metres of the football, contact is made to front or back of opponent;
 - (iii) who is attempting to Mark the football or who has Marked the football or been awarded a Free Kick;
 - (iv) after that Player has disposed of the football; or
 - (v) before the football is brought into play.

15.4.5 Prohibited Contact and Awarding of Free Kick

A Referee shall award a Free Kick against a Player where he is satisfied that the Player has made Prohibited Contact with an opponent.

A Player makes Prohibited Contact with an opponent if he:-

- (a) makes contact with any part of his body with an opponent above the shoulders (including the top of the shoulders);
- (b) pushes an opponent in the back, unless such contact is incidental to a marking contest and the Player is legitimately Marking or attempting to Mark the football;
- (c) holds an opponent who is not in possession of the football;
- (d) pushes or bumps an opponent who is in the act of Marking or attempting to Mark the football;
- (e) pushes, bumps or blocks an opponent when the football is further than 5 metres away from the opponent or is out of play;
- (f) Charges an opponent;
- (g) trips or attempts to trip an opponent, whether by the use of hand, arm, foot or leg;
- (h) kicks or attempts to kick an opponent, unless contact is accidentally made whilst the Player is Kicking the football;
- (i) strikes or attempts to strike an opponent, whether by hand, fist, arm, knee or head;
- (j) holds or throws an opponent after that Player has disposed of the ball;
- (k) blocks with the boot including a sliding tackle;
- (l) slings opponent to the ground; and
- (m) knees, stamps or stands on opponent,
- (n) spits at or on an opponent,
- (o) gouges or bites an opponent.

15.5 Free Kicks Relating to Referees

A Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player or Official who:-

- (a) uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards a Referee or Match Official;
- (b) behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards a Referee or Match Official;
- (c) deliberately, recklessly or negligently makes contact with a Referee or Match Official;
- (d) deliberately, recklessly or negligently engages in conduct which affects, interferes with or prevents a Referee or Match Official from performing his duties.

15.6 Free Kicks Relating to Out of Bounds

15.6.1 When Awarded

A Free Kick shall be awarded against the Team which last touches the ball before it goes over the side or end lines.

15.6.2 Where Free Kick Taken

A Free Kick awarded under Law 15.6.1 shall be taken at the point where the ball crossed the Side Line and in the case of ball crossing an End Line (wide) the kick will be taken either from the 13 metre rectangle (defending team) or 45 metre line (attacking team) in direct line with the point where the ball crossed the line.

15.7 Free Kick - Shaking Goal or Behind Post /Crossbar

15.7.1 Awarding Free Kick

Unless Law 15.7.3 applies, a Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player or Official who intentionally shakes a Goal or Behind Post or Crossbar (either before or after a Player has disposed of the football) which may affect whether a Goal, Over or Behind is scored.

15.7.2 Taking Free Kick

The following shall apply to a Free Kick awarded under Law 15.7.1:

- (a) if a Free Kick is awarded against a Player or Official of the defending Team and a Goal is not scored, the Player from the attacking Team who was about to or who has Kicked for Goal, shall take the Free Kick at the centre of the 13 metre Line;
- (b) if the Free Kick is awarded against a Player or Official of the attacking Team, the Player on the defending Team who was nearest to the position from where the football will be or has been Kicked, shall take the Free Kick from that position. For the avoidance of doubt, any Goal, Over or Behind which would have been recorded in favour of the attacking Team but for the awarding of the Free Kick to a Player of the defending Team, shall not be recorded.

15.7.3 Goal Scored

If a Player or Official of the defending Team contravenes Law 15.7.1 but a Goal is still scored, the Referee shall not award a Free Kick. In such cases, the Referee shall signal "All Clear" and a Goal shall be recorded.

15.8 Free Kicks - Reportable Offences

- (a) Unless Law 15.8(b) applies, a Referee shall award a Free Kick against a Player or Official who is reported for a Reportable Offence.
- (b) Unless otherwise determined by a Referee, where a Player(s) or Official(s) from both Teams are reported for conduct arising from the same incident, the Referee shall allow play to continue or if that is not practicable, re-commence play by throwing up the football.

15.9 Free Kicks - Generally

15.9.1 When Awarded

A Free Kick shall be awarded against a Player or a Team where the Referee is of the opinion that:-

- (a) the Player is engaging in Time Wasting;
- (b) an Official of the Team or such other person of the Team who may from time to time be permitted onto the Playing Field, deliberately, recklessly or negligently interferes with the football, a Player of the opposition Team, a Referee or general play; or
- (c) a Player has lifted a Player or climbed on the shoulders of a Player from the same Team or onto the Crossbar. This Free Kick shall be taken by a Player from the opposing Team where the infringement occurred or where the football is at the time of the infringement, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team;
- (d) a free kick to be awarded against a player who uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language and/or gestures.

15.9.2 Taking a Free Kick Given Against an Official

Where a Free Kick is awarded against a Team because of the conduct of an Official of the Team, the Free Kick shall be taken by the Player of the opposition Team who is closest to where the infringement occurred or where the football is located, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending Team.

15.10 Free Kicks After Disposal

Where Prohibited Contact is made against a Player who has disposed of the football a Free Kick shall be awarded to that Player's Team and shall be taken by a Player of that Team who is nearest to the location where the football touches the ground, a Player or crosses the Side Line, as the case may be. If taking the Free Kick at this location will penalise the Team awarded the Free Kick, the Free Kick shall be taken by the Player against whom and at the location where Prohibited Contact was made.

15.11 Free Kicks - Penalty Kick

A Penalty Kick shall be awarded in the following circumstances:

- 15.11.1 Any foul committed by the defence within the small rectangle.
- 15.11.2 A personal foul committed by the defence within the larger rectangle.

The penalty kick shall be taken from the centre point of the 13 metre line and all players other than the defending goal keeper and the player taking the kick shall be positioned outside the 20 metre line and 13 metres from the ball. No player shall cross the 20 metre line until the ball has been kicked.

The goal keeper may move along his goal line to anticipate the kick, but may not advance until the ball has been kicked.

- 15.11.3 A penalty kick must be taken from the penalty spot. The player may place the ball on the ground or take the kick out of his hands. The player taking the penalty kick will be the player who was fouled. Infringements against 15.11.1 can be taken by any player on the offended team.

15.12 Free Kicks - Offside

Attacking players may not enter the "small rectangle" before the ball. The infringement shall result in a free kick to the defending side, the kick to be taken from within the small rectangle.

15.13 Free Kicks - Goal Keeper

- 15.13.1 The goal keeper shall not be charged, checked, challenged or tackled inside the small rectangle unless he delays playing the ball away.
- 15.13.2 The goal keeper may be tackled when in possession of the ball outside the small rectangle.
- 15.13.3 A goal keeper's kick may be blocked.
- 15.13.4 A goal keeper may not hold the ball longer than is necessary to commence play.

16. DISPOSAL FROM MARK OR FREE KICK

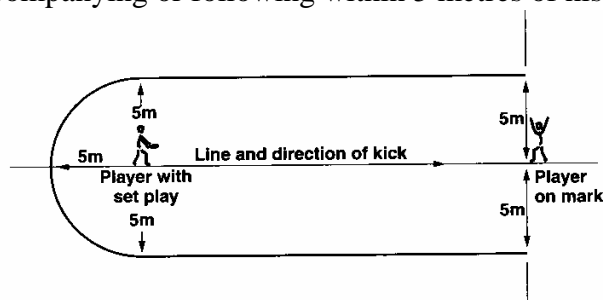
16.1 Standing on the Spot and Ten Metre Protected Area

16.1.1 Standing on the Spot

When a Player is awarded a Mark or Free Kick, one Player from the opposing Team may stand at the position on the Playing Field where the Mark or Free Kick was awarded or where the Referee otherwise directs the Player to stand. The position on the Playing Field where the opposing Player stands is known as "the spot".

16.1.2 Protected Area

The Protected Area is a corridor which extends from 5 metres either side of the spot to 5 metres either side of, and a 5 metre radius behind, the Player with the football, as illustrated in diagram 2 appearing immediately below. No Player shall enter and remain in the Protected Area unless the Referee calls Play On or the Player is accompanying or following within 5 metres of his opponent.



16.2 Playing from Behind the Spot

A Player who has been awarded a Mark or Free Kick shall dispose of the football from directly behind the spot. If a Player disposes or attempts to dispose of the football other than in a direct line over the spot, the Referee shall call Play On and the football shall immediately be in play. This Law does not apply if a Player is disposing of the football from beyond the Goal Line, Behind Line, End Line or Side Line, in which case Laws 16.4 or 16.5 shall apply.

16.3 Kicking for Goal**16.3.1 Centre of Goal Line**

Where a Player is Kicking for a Goal after being awarded a Mark or a Free Kick from outside the 13 metre line, the Kick shall be taken along a direct line from the spot to the centre of the Goal Line. Should the mark/free kick be awarded inside the 13 metre line the player can take the option of moving out to the 13 metre line. To take up this option the player must notify the Referee of his intentions.

16.3.2 Overstepping the Spot whilst Player is Kicking for Goal

If the Player standing the spot oversteps the mark whilst a Player is in the act of Kicking at the goals, the following shall apply:-

- (a) if a Goal is Kicked, the Referee shall signal "All Clear" and a Goal shall be recorded;
- (b) if a Goal is not Kicked, the Player may elect to take another Kick, in which case the Player shall also be awarded a Twenty Metre Penalty up until the 13 metre line.

16.4 Disposal by a Defending Player – Goal Line and Behind Line

If a defending Player is awarded a Free Kick or a Mark and is given or takes possession of the football beyond the Goal Line or Behind Line, the following shall apply:

- (a) the defending Player standing the spot must be positioned on the 13 metre line directly in line from the Goal Line or Behind Line where the mark or free kick occurred, as the case may be;
- (b) the defending Player may Play On in any direction

16.5 Disposal – From Out of Bounds**16.5.1 When Permitted**

A Player who is awarded a Free Kick or a Mark may bring the football into play from beyond the Side Line provided that the Player moves in one direction whilst in the act of Kicking, Handballing or moving to cross the Side Line.

16.5.2 Football Back in Play

The football is deemed to be back in play when any portion of it is on or above the Side Line.

16.6 Disposal Where Player Awarded Free Kick or Mark is Injured

Where a Player is awarded a Free Kick or a Mark and, in the opinion of the Referee, that Player is suffering from an injury that will prevent him from disposing of the football, the Player who is nearest to and on the same Team as the Player awarded the Free Kick or Mark, shall dispose of the football at the location (or as near as possible) where the Free Kick or Mark was awarded.

16.7 Further Breach of Laws Before Disposal

Where a Player has been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark and before disposing of the football:-

- (a) he or a Player from the same Team engages in conduct which contravenes these Laws, then the Referee shall award a Free Kick to the Player against whom the conduct was directed or who is nearest to where the conduct occurred; or
- (b) a Player from the opposition Team engages in conduct which contravenes these Laws, then:-
 - (i) if the conduct occurred 20 metres or more in front of the position on the Playing Surface where the initial Free Kick or Mark was awarded, the Referee shall award a Free Kick to the Player against whom the conduct was directed or who is nearest to where the conduct occurred; or
 - (ii) if the conduct occurred behind or at the same position on the Playing Field where the initial Free Kick or Mark was awarded, the Player awarded the initial Free Kick or Mark shall also be awarded a Twenty Metre Penalty.

17. PLAY ON AND THE ADVANTAGE RULE

17.1 Ball in Play

The football shall remain in play on each and every occasion when the Referee calls and signals "Play On".

17.2 Circumstances – Play On

The Referee shall call and signal Play On or Touched Play On when:-

- (a) a Referee is struck by the football while it is in play;
- (b) the Referee is of the opinion that the football, having been Kicked, was touched whilst in transit;
- (c) the Referee is of the opinion that the football, having been Kicked, does not travel a distance of at least 20 metres;
- (d) the Referee cancels a Free Kick; or
- (e) the Referee is of the opinion that a Player, who has been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark, runs, Handballs or Kicks or attempts to run, Handball or Kick otherwise than over the spot.
- (f) the ball rebounds onto the Playing Field having struck the Goal Post, Behind Post or Cross Bar.

17.3 Playing Advantage

17.3.1 Application

Where the Referee intends to or has signalled that he intends to award a Free Kick to a Player, the Referee may, instead of awarding the Free Kick, allow play to continue without blowing the whistle if the Referee is of the opinion that doing so will provide an advantage to that Player's Team.

18. TWENTY METRE PENALTY

18.1 When Imposed

Where a Referee has awarded a Free Kick or a Mark to a Player, the Referee shall also award a Twenty Metre Penalty in favour of that Player if he is of the opinion that any Player or Official from the opposing side:-

- (a) has overstepped the spot; or
- (b) engages in Time Wasting; or
- (c) uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards a Referee; or
- (d) behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards a Referee or disputes the decision of a Referee or Match Official; or
- (e) enters the Protected Area, except when the Player is accompanying or following within 5 metres of his opponent; or
- (f) has not returned the football directly and on the full to the Player awarded the Free Kick or Mark;
- (g) engages in any other conduct for which a Free Kick would ordinarily be awarded, unless such conduct occurred 20 metres or more in front of the position on the Playing Surface where the initial Free Kick or Mark was awarded, in which case a Free Kick shall be awarded to the Player against whom the conduct was directed or who is nearest to where the conduct occurred; or
- (h) delays a Player who has taken a Mark from playing the ball by holding onto him.

18.2 Imposing a Twenty Metre Penalty

When the Referee imposes a 20 metre Penalty, the following procedure shall apply:-

- (a) the Referee shall advance the spot by Twenty metres in a direct line with the centre of the Goal Line; and
- (b) if the Player who is obtaining the benefit of the Twenty Metre Penalty is less than Twenty metres from the Goal Line, the spot shall become the centre of the 13 Metre Line.

19. REPORTING PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS

19.1 Obligation to Report

19.1.1 To Control Committee

A Referee shall report to the Control Committee any Player or Official who commits or engages in conduct which may constitute a Reportable Offence:-

- (a) during a Match; or
- (b) on the day of the Match and within the immediate proximity of the Field of Play where the Match is conducted.

19.1.2 Interpretation – "Within the Immediate Proximity of the Field of Play"
Without limiting their ordinary meaning, the words "within the immediate proximity of the Field of Play" shall include any area within 500 metres of the Field where the Match is conducted.

19.1.3 Other appointed persons
In addition to a Referee, the Control Committee may authorise a person or persons to report any player or official who commits or engages in conduct which may constitute a Reportable Offence. Any person so authorised shall have the same powers and duties as imposed upon a Referee under this Law 19.

19.2 Reportable Offences

19.2.1 Degree of Intent – Clarification

Where any of the Reportable Offences identified in Law 19.2.2 specify that conduct may be deliberate, reckless or negligent:-

- (a) any report or notice of report which does not allege whether the conduct was deliberate, reckless or negligent shall be deemed to and be read as alleging that the conduct was either deliberate, reckless or negligent; and
- (b) the tribunal or other body appointed to hear and determine the report may find the report proven if it is reasonably satisfied that the conduct was either deliberate, reckless or negligent.

19.2.2 Specific Offences

Any of the following types of conduct is a Reportable Offence:-

- (a) deliberately, recklessly or negligently making contact with or striking a Referee or Match Official;
- (b) attempting to make contact with or strike a Referee or Match Official;
- (c) using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to a Referee or Match Official;
- (d) behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to a Referee or Match Official;
- (e) deliberately, recklessly or negligently:-
 - (i) kicking, stamping or standing on another person;
 - (ii) striking by hand, fist, arm or knee or headbutting another person;
 - (iii) tripping another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg;
 - (iv) charging another person;
 - (v) throwing another Player after that Player has taken a Mark, disposed of the football or after the football is otherwise out of play;
 - (vi) engaging in rough play against an opponent which in the circumstances is unreasonable;
 - (vii) engaging in a Melee - (refer definition of Melee)
"an incident involving three or more players who are grappling or otherwise struggling with one another.....". The third man in is deemed to have incited the melee and should be ordered off.
 - (viii) spitting at or on another person,
 - (ix) gouging or biting another person.
- (f) attempting to kick another person;
- (g) attempting to strike another person;
- (h) attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg;
- (i) wrestling another person;
- (j) using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language;
- (k) failing to leave the Playing Field when directed to do so by a Referee;
- (l) wearing boots, jewellery and equipment prohibited under Law 9;

- (m) any act of misconduct;
- (n) interchange players/officials leaving the interchange bench and illegally entering the Playing Field to interfere with play.

19.3 Reporting Procedure

19.3.1 Reports During Match

- (a) Where a Referee reports a Player during a match the Referee shall inform the Player immediately as it will result in either a yellow or red card and play will stop.
- (b) Where a Referee reports an Official during the course of a Match, the Referee shall use his best endeavours to inform the Official of the report:-
 - (i) at the time of the incident; or
 - (ii) before the commencement of the next quarter; or
 - (iii) where the incident occurs in the final quarter, after the completion of the Match.
- (c) The Referee shall use his best endeavours to inform the person against whom a Reportable Offence has been committed of the report (if applicable).
- (d) A Referee may inform the captain, acting captain or Official of a Team of a report where it is impracticable to inform the Player or Official who has been reported.
- (e) Apart from informing a Player or Official of the report, a Referee shall not speak with the reported Player or Official or any other Player or Official about the report which has been made.

19.3.2 Completing Notice of Report

- (a) During the Match or after the completion of the Match, the Referee shall complete a notice of report in the form prescribed by the Control Committee. (See Appendix Three)

19.4 Sanctions and Suspensions - Tribunal

19.4.1 Tribunal

The Tribunal appointed by the Control Committee shall conduct hearings of charges laid in accordance with these rules relating to:

- (a) Players “sent off” for 15 minutes and for the remainder of the game.
- (b) Officials and players reported by the umpires for alleged breaches of Rule 19.3.
- (c) Players or officials reported are required to attend a hearing and shall be entitled to representation, other than by a person qualified as a legal practitioner, call witnesses, and to the principles of natural justice.
- (d) Where a Tribunal finds a charge sustained in relation to player sent off for the remainder of the game, a minimum one match suspension shall apply.

19.4.2 Rules

The Control Committee shall adopt Rules which prescribe the procedures for the hearing and determination of a report. Such rules must prescribe that the person reported be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard. (See Appendix Four)

19.4.3 Effect of Suspension

(a) A Player or Official suspended by the Control Committee is, for the period of the suspension, prohibited from playing or participating in a Match played under International Rules in the current or future series.

20. ORDER OFF LAW**20.1 Order Off for Remainder of Match - (Red Card)**

In addition to being reported, a Referee shall order the Player reported from the Playing Surface for the remainder of a Match if the Player is reported for any of the following Reportable Offences:-

- (a) deliberately, recklessly or negligently making contact with or striking a Referee or Match Official;
- (b) attempting to make contact with or strike a Referee or Match Official;
- (c) using abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards or in relation to a Referee or Match Official;
- (d) behaving in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards or in relation to a Referee or Match Official;
- (e) deliberately, recklessly or negligently kicking, headbutting, stomping, standing on, striking or charging another person;
- (f) failing to leave the Playing Field when directed to do so by a Referee.
- (g) interchange players/officials leaving the interchange bench and illegally entering the field of play to interfere with play;
- (h) spitting on or at another player;
- (i) gouging or biting an opponent.

20.2 Order Off for 15 Minutes - (Yellow Card)

A Referee shall order the Player from the Playing Surface for 15 Minutes for any of the following Reportable Offences:-

- (a) disputing a decision of a Referee;
 - demonstrative
 - directed at the umpire
 - abusive, insulting, threatening
- (b) tripping or attempting to trip another person whether by hand, arm, foot or leg;
- (c) attempting to kick or strike another person;
- (d) engaging in rough play which is considered unreasonable;
- (e) wrestling another person;
- (f) using abusive language;
- (g) engaging in a Melee; (refer 19.2.2 vii)
- (h) wearing boots, jewellery and equipment prohibited under Law 9;
- (i) any act of misconduct.

The Referee, at the conclusion of the match, has the option of lodging a report on the player for tribunal determination on any penalty or deciding the 15 minute order off was sufficient for the offence.

20.3 Replacing Player

A Player ordered from the Playing Field under Law 20.2 shall be replaced by another Player.

20.4 Signalling and Procedure for Order Off (Red Card/Yellow Card)

20.4.1 Signal

A Referee shall, in addition to informing a Player that he is to immediately leave the Playing Field, signal that the Player has been ordered off the Playing Field by pointing to the Interchange Area and displaying the Red or Yellow Card.

20.4.2 Player to Leave Playing Field

- (a) A Player shall immediately leave the Playing Field when ordered to do so by a Referee under this Law 20.
- (b) Player sent off under a yellow card is permitted to sit on the interchange bench whereas a player sent off with a red card must leave the playing field to change rooms and cannot return to interchange area.
- (c) Where a Player refuses to or does not immediately leave the Playing Field when ordered to do so by a Referee, the following shall apply:-
 - (i) in addition to being reported for the Reportable Offence which led to the Player being ordered from the Playing Field, the Player shall be reported for misconduct in failing to follow a direction of a Referee.

21. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

21.1 Participation in Matches

21.1.1 Team Obligation

No Team shall allow any Player to participate in any Match or continue to participate in any Match for so long as such Player:-

- (a) is bleeding; or
- (b) has blood on any part of his body or playing attire.

21.1.2 Player Obligation

A Player shall not participate in any Match or continue to participate in any Match for so long as such Player:-

- (a) is bleeding; or
- (b) has blood on any part of his body or playing attire.

21.2 Role and Directions of Referee

21.2.1 Role of Referee

Where a Referee is of the opinion that a Player is bleeding or has blood on any part of his playing attire, the Referee shall:-

- (a) stop play at the first available opportunity;
- (b) direct the Player concerned to immediately leave the Playing Field;
- (c) wait a reasonable period to allow the replacement Player to take up position before re-commencing play; and
- (d) recommence play.

21.2.2 Player to follow directions of Referee

A Player shall immediately upon a direction by a Referee leave the Playing Field at the nearest point on the Endline or Sideline, where the Referee is of the opinion that the Player is bleeding or has blood on any part of his or her body or playing attire. Upon being directed to leave the Playing Field, a Player shall not return or take any further part in any Match until and unless:-

- (a) the cause of any such bleeding has been abated;
- (b) the injury is securely covered to the extent that no blood emanates from the covered wound;
- (c) any blood stained article of playing attire has been removed and replaced; and
- (d) any blood on any part of a Player's body has been thoroughly cleansed and removed.

21.2.3 Replacement Player

A Player directed to leave the Playing Field may be replaced by another Player listed on the Team Sheet. A replacement Player may enter the Playing Field while the Player that he or she is replacing is leaving the Playing Field. If a replacement Player does not enter the Playing Field by the time the directed Player leaves the Playing Field, the field Umpire shall re-commence play immediately.

21.2.4 Refusal to leave Playing Field

Where a Player refuses to or does not immediately leave the Playing Field when directed to do so by a Referee, the following shall apply:

- (a) the Referee shall warn the Player that a Free Kick will be awarded and that the Player may be reported if he or she does not leave the Playing Field.

21.3 Failure to Obey Direction

- (a) A Player's refusal to promptly obey a direction of a Referee given under Law 22.2.2 is a Reportable Offence.

21.4 Protective Gloves

Each Team shall ensure that any doctor, trainer and any other person treating Players of a Team wears protective gloves as may be approved from time to time by the relevant Controlling Body.

21.5 Disposal of Bloodied Clothing and Other Material

Each Team shall ensure that:

- (a) any bloodied item of uniform or clothing of a Player is placed as soon as possible in a hygienic sealed container and laundered to ensure the removal of all blood; and
- (b) all towels, wipes, bandages, dressings and other materials used in the treatment of bleeding Players shall be placed in a hygienic sealed container and discarded or destroyed in a hygienic manner.

21.6 Dressing Rooms

Each Team shall ensure that all dressing rooms and other areas occupied by the Team prior to, during or immediately following the completion of any Match are kept clean and that no blood shall remain on any surface, equipment, hand basin, toilet, shower, bath or other area. All such surfaces, equipment and areas shall be cleansed and disinfected immediately after contact with blood.

21.7 Hygiene

Each Team shall ensure that:-

- (a) Players do not urinate (other than in a toilet) in or about any dressing rooms or on the Playing Field prior to, during or immediately following the completion of any Match; and
- (b) each of its Players observe a high standard of personal hygiene.

21.8 Trainers/Para Medical Personnel

A Trainer or other personnel responsible for the treatment of Players shall not provide treatment to a Player on the Playing Field for any cut, abrasion or other injury involving the discharge of blood.

22. RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS VILIFICATION RULE

22.1 Prohibited Conduct

No person in his capacity as an employee of a team or, in the course of carrying out his duties or functions as or incidental to being an employee of a team (being a person entitled to enter the Playing Field during the course of or prior to or during any break in play in any match) shall act towards or speak to any other person in a manner, or engage in any other conduct which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person (“the person vilified”) on the basis of that person’s race, religion, colour, descent or national or ethnic or socio economic background.

22.2 Lodging Complaint

In the event that it is alleged that a person has contravened Regulation 22.1 a Referee, club or player may by 5.00pm on the first working day following the day on which the contravention is alleged to have occurred, lodge a complaint in writing with the Control Committee for the purposes of this Regulation. The complaint must outline the circumstances of the allegations made against a person.

22.3 Control Committee Role

The Committee shall:

- (a) inform the person alleged to have contravened Regulation 22.1 of the complaint and provide that person with an opportunity to respond to it in writing,
- (b) identify and obtain written statements from any available witnesses,
- (c) obtain video or other evidence produced through the multi-media, and
- (d) arrange for the complaint to be conciliated and take all steps necessary for the complaint to be conciliated.

22.4 Confidentiality and no Public Comment Subject to Regulation 22.1

- (a) the particulars of a complaint and the conciliation shall at all times remain confidential, and
- (b) a person shall not publicly comment on or disseminate to any person information concerning a complaint at any time prior to, during or after the conciliation.

22.5 Conciliator

A conciliator arranged under Regulation 22.1 shall be conducted by a suitable independent person appointed by the Control Committee upon agreement between the parties.

22.6 Attendance at Education Program

- (a) Where:
 - (i) a person alleged to have contravened Regulation 22.1 attends a conciliation for the first time (other than as a person vilified), and
 - (ii) the complaint against the person is resolved at conciliation, the person shall attend an education program in relation to racial and religious vilification as approved from time to time by the AFL/GAA.
- (b) Where a person employed, engaged or otherwise associated with a team is required to attend an Education Program, the team shall pay the costs of that person's attendance.
- (c) A person who fails to attend the Education Program shall be deemed to have contravened this Regulation and will be referred to either the AFL /GAA (respectively) for action by his Controlling Body.

22.7 Public Statement

Where a matter is resolved by conciliation, the only public statement that shall be made concerning a complaint and its resolution shall be that agreed upon by the parties.

22.8 Unsuccessful Conciliation

Where the Control Committee is of the opinion that the matter has not been resolved by conciliation, it shall:

- (a) in the case of a player, refer the complaint to the Tribunal to be dealt with as a Reportable Offence as defined in the Rules, or
- (b) in the case of any other person, refer the complaint to the GAA or AFL to be dealt with under their individual rules.

22.9 Previous Involvement

Where a person alleged to have contravened Regulation 22.1 has previously taken part in a conciliation (other than as a person vilified), the Control Committee may refer the complaint directly to the Tribunal to be dealt with as a Reportable Offence, in the case of a player, or directly to the GAA/AFL to be dealt with in the case of any other person.

Appendix One



**OFFICIAL TEAM SHEET
PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS LISTING**



(To be lodged no later than 45 minutes prior to the official match starting time)

COUNTRY NAME: _____

MATCH: _____ V _____

PLAYED AT: _____ ON _____ 20____

* Indicates those starting on the Interchange Bench

(C) Indicates Captain

~~Smith R~~ Strike out those players not selected

PLAYERS: (Numerical Order)			
	GUERNSEY No	SURNAME	INITIALS
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			

OFFICIALS: (Access to Arena inc. ¼ & ¾ Time)		
	TITLE	NAME
1	Match C'tee or Coach Staff	
2	Match C'tee or Coach Staff	
3	Match C'tee or Coach Staff	
4	Match C'tee or Coach Staff	
5	Match Day Team Manager	
6	Interchange Steward	
7	Medical Officer 1	
8	Medical Officer 2	
9	Physiotherapist 1	
10	Physiotherapist 2	
11	Team Runner	
12	Fitness / Warm up	
13	Head Trainer	
14	Trainer 2	
15	Trainer 3	
16	Trainer 4	
17	Trainer 5	
18	Trainer 6	
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		

SIGNED: _____

Team/Football Manager

ONLY THOSE PERSONS INDICATED ON THIS SHEET SHALL BE PERMITTED ONTO THE ARENA

OUTSIDE

10.3 PROCEDURE FOR SOUNDING SIREN -START OF MATCH AND QUARTERS

The Timekeepers shall sound the siren at the times and on the number of occasions as set out in the following table:

START OF MATCH	NUMBER OF OCCASIONS
Five minutes prior to scheduled starting time of the Match and as Referees enter the Arena	once
Two minutes prior to scheduled starting time	three times
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time	twice
Scheduled starting time (Start of Match)	once
First Quarter Time Interval	
Start of Second Quarter	
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time	three times
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time	twice
Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter)	once
Half Time Interval	
Start of Third Quarter	
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time	three times
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time	twice
Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter)	once
Three Quarter Time Interval	
Start of Final Quarter	
Two minutes prior to the scheduled starting time	three times
One minute prior to the scheduled starting time	twice
Scheduled starting time (Start of Quarter)	once

10.4 BRINGING PLAY TO AN END

10.4.1 End of Quarter

The Timekeepers shall sound the siren to signal the end of a quarter until a Referee acknowledges that the siren has been heard and brings play to an end.

10.4.2 Siren Heard by Referee

Play in each quarter shall come to an end when any one of the Referees hears the siren.

10.4.3 Signal

A Referee shall signal that he has heard the siren by blowing a whistle and holding both arms above his head

TIMEKEEPERS' REPORT

Match:

_____ Vs _____

Played at

_____ Date

Completed Report to be included with Referees Match envelope.

INSIDE

AFL TIMEKEEPERS' REPORT

Match: _____ Played at: _____
 _____ v _____ Date: _____ 20 _____

1st QUARTER					TIME	3rd QUARTER					TIME
Referees enter field	..	..	..	..	_____	Referees enter field	..	..	..	..	_____
Home Team enters field	..	..	..	..	_____	Home Team enters field	..	..	..	..	_____
Visitors enter field	..	..	..	..	_____	Visitors enter field	..	..	..	..	_____
START	..	..	..	..	_____	START	..	..	..	..	_____
FINISH	..	..	..	..	_____	FINISH	..	..	..	..	_____
Time off	_____ min. _____ sec.				_____	Time off	_____ min. _____ sec.				_____
Time bet 1st & 2nd Qr.	_____ min. _____ sec.				_____	Time bet 3rd & 4th Qr.	_____ min. _____ sec.				_____
2nd QUARTER					TIME	4th QUARTER					TIME
START	..	..	..	..	_____	START	..	..	..	..	_____
FINISH	..	..	..	..	_____	FINISH	..	..	..	..	_____
Time off	_____ min. _____ sec.				_____	Time off	_____ min. _____ sec.				_____
Time bet 2nd & 3rd Qr.	_____ min. _____ sec.				_____						_____

No. 1 Timekeeper: _____
 (Print)

No. 2 Timekeeper: _____
 (Print)

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Appendix Three



**NOTICE OF REPORT
INTERNATIONAL RULES FOOTBALL**



Form approved by AFL/GAA Control Committee for use in International Rules Football

Match: _____ V _____

Date: _____

I, the undersigned, report the following Person:

PERSON'S NAME	NUMBER (If applicable)	TEAM

The Person is reported for (state Reportable Offence and provide particulars of the alleged offence).

The Reportable Offence was allegedly committed (state quarter in which incident occurred or whether the incident occurred before or after the Match or during an interval).

State the approximate vicinity where the incident occurred:

SIGNED: _____
Referee/control committee or representative

PRINT NAME: _____ DATE: _____

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the team official appointed to be in attendance at the termination of the match to hand to his Team's player or players the copy of any charge or charges laid by an officiating referee.

6 copies to be photocopied (1. Referee; 2. Player charged; 3. Player offended; 4. & 5. Competing teams; 6. Control committee)

Appendix Four



TRIBUNAL PROCEDURE



*NOTE: Players may be supported by a player representative (advocate) who shall not have a legal background

- ◆ All parties assemble in the presence of the Tribunal (which is the Control Committee or its nominees) and the charge against the reported player is read out.
- ◆ The reported player pleads guilty or not guilty to the Charge.
- ◆ All Available Video is shown to the Tribunal panel and all parties.
- ◆ All players infringed against if asked to leave the room while referee gives evident.
- ◆ The Referee is then asked to elaborate on his report and may be questioned by the Player's Representative. The Chairman and members of the Tribunal may also ask questions as they desire. The Referee is then excused.
- ◆ The other player mentioned in the report (the player who has been infringed against) is asked to give his explanation of the incident. He may be questioned by Tribunal members and the Charged players Representative.
- ◆ The reported player is then asked to give his explanation of the incident. He may be questioned by Tribunal Members and his Representative.
- ◆ After all the evidence has been given the Player Representative will plead his case in a summary to the Tribunal.
- ◆ All Parties, other than the Three (3) tribunal members, leave while the tribunal considers its findings.
- ◆ Once a decision is reached, all parties reassemble for the outcome. If found guilty, opportunity for player representative to make a plea regarding penalty.
- ◆ Should a report occur after the last match in a tour the Control Committee may determine that a tribunal hearing be heard at an appropriate time by conference call with parties above involved.

NOTES