



*The Laws of*  
**INTERNATIONAL  
RULES  
FOOTBALL**

**2014**

## **Context and Perspective**

International Rules Football is a unique concept in that it provides the opportunity for Players who participate in two indigenous codes – Australian Rules and Gaelic Football – to compete against each other and, at the same time, to perpetuate the long standing sporting rivalries and cultural links which exist between Australia and Ireland.

While recognising that there are fundamental differences between the status of the Players and the Laws of Australian Rules and Gaelic Football, it is essential that Matches which are organised in conjunction with the International Rules Series (IRS) are played in a spirit of mutual respect and that there is always due regard for the underlying Principles of Fair Play as set out on Page 6.

The Laws of International Rules Football have been developed by the Australian Football League (AFL) and the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA).  
Edited by Kevin Sheehan (AFL) and Pat Daly (GAA) – 2014.  
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## Laws of International Rules Football 2010

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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/Principles of Fair Play**

These Laws explain how a Match of International Rules Football is played and seek to perpetuate the underlying Principles of Fair Play set out below:

- (a) to ensure that the game is played in a fair manner and with total respect for Match Officials.
- (b) to enhance the prevailing level of skill and reward Players who make the ball the focal point of their attention.
- (c) to make provision for physical contact while minimising the potential for injury.
- (d) to ensure that Players take responsibility for their own behaviour and that sanctions are imposed on a proportionate, transparent and consistent basis.

## **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 the circumstance described in Law 12.1.5 (c) occurs.

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 (Legal)	provided he has at least one leg on the ground, a Player may make a side-to-side (shoulder) charge on an opponent when both Players are within 5 metres of the ball and are moving in the direction of the ball or when an opponent – who is in an upright position – has the ball in his hand/s.
Charge (Illegal):	<p>an illegal charge occurs when a Player collides with an opponent:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) who is not within 5 metres of the ball</li> <li>(b) who is within 5 metres of the ball but contact is not made on a side-to-side (shoulder) basis or while moving in the direction of the ball</li> <li>(c) who is playing or attempting to play the ball – marking (catching), kicking, striking, soloing (toe tapping, bouncing or touching the ball off the ground) or lifting the ball. (A Player who has his head down while controlling the ball, when taking it into his hand/s or who is attempting to make contact with the ball while in flight will be deemed to be playing the ball)</li> <li>(d) who has played the ball away or who has been awarded a Free Kick</li> <li>(e) in order to take an opponent out of the game</li> </ul>
Control 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.
Disruptive Conduct	has the meaning given in Law 20.2.
Crossbar:	bar placed between the goal posts 2.5m from the ground. (Any reference to the Posts in these Laws includes the Crossbar).
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.
Forty Five (45) Metre Kick	Free Kick awarded when the Defending Team plays the football over its own End Line.

Foul Play	<p>Infractions prohibited under Law 20.1, 20.2 and 18.1.</p> <p>These can be defined as follows:</p> <p>(a) Irresponsible Conduct (Red Card Infraction) i.e. to display dangerous/reckless disregard for the safety of others or to behave in a manner that is prejudicial to the good name of the game</p> <p>(b) Disruptive Conduct (Yellow Card Infraction) i.e. to display inadequate regard for the safety of others or to otherwise behave in an unreasonable or unnecessary manner that undermines the Laws of the game</p> <p>(c) Unsporting Conduct (20 Metre Penalty) i.e. to foul an opponent in a manner that is not consistent with a fair effort to play the game or to behave in a manner that is contrary to the spirit of fair play</p>
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 the circumstance described in Law 12.1.5(a) occurs.
Goal Line:	the white line marked on the Playing Field between each Goal Post.
Goalkeeper:	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 (a) the clenched fist of the other hand or (b) an underhand striking action – open handed - using the non holding hand as per Law 15.3.3.
Infraction	Breach of a Law (sometimes referred to as an offence).
Interchange Area:	the areas – 5m Wide - marked adjacent to and either side of the Centre Line – on one side of the Field - through which Players may enter and leave the Playing Field. No more than one Player per Team may enter and leave at the same time (as per Law 7.2).
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 Coordinator	the person appointed by the Control Committee to maintain a written record of interchanges made during a Match as per Law 7.



Interchange Steward:	the person(s) appointed by the Control Committee to oversee the interchange of Players during a Match as per Law 7.
International Rules Football:	the contest played between two Teams competing in accordance with these Laws.
Irresponsible Conduct	has the meaning given in Law 20.1.
Kick or Kicking:	in relation to disposing of the football, means making contact with the football with any part of the Player's leg.
Kick Out	Method by which game is recommenced after the football goes Wide or after an Over or Behind has been scored.
Mark:	has the meaning described in Law 14.1.
Match (Game):	the contest of International Rules Football played between two Teams.
Match Official:	includes Linesmen, Goal Umpires, Referees (Field Umpires), Video Match Referee, Timekeepers, Interchange Coordinators and Interchange Stewards.
Match Review Panel:	the Panel established under Law 19.4.
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 or the GAA.
Moderator	the person appointed under Law 2.2.
Offside:	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 completely passes over the Crossbar and between the Goal Posts by Kicking or playing the ball in flight as described in Law 12.1.5(b).
Penalty Kick:	Free Kick from the hands or from the ground awarded from a spot 11 meters from the centre of the Goal 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 Referee to indicate that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a Free Kick or Mark will not be awarded and play will continue; or</li> <li>(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.</li> </ul>
Possession:	controlling the football as described in Laws 15.2.1 and 15.2.2.
Posts	The poles – including the Crossbar – used to determine if a score i.e. a Goal, Over or Behind has been made or if the football has gone Wide.
Prohibited Contact:	contact between Players which is prohibited under Law 15.4.5.
Protected Area:	the area described in Law 16.1.2.
Referee (Field Umpire):	an Official from each country with responsibility for implementing the Laws of the Game on the Field of Play as per Law 8.1.1.
Reportable Infraction:	conduct which is deemed to be dangerous, reckless, unreasonable or unnecessary as specified in Rule 19.2.
Runner:	one person per Team who is permitted to enter the Playing Field 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 – as per Law 6.2.
Scoop:	placing the hands in behind or under the ball and lifting it.
Shepherd:	the use of the body or arm to push, bump or block an opponent as described in Law 15.4.2.
Side Line:	the white line drawn on the ground to identify the Playing Field, as described in Law 3.2.
Side Line Kick	the kick awarded to the Opposing Team when the ball is played over the Side Line as per Law 15.6.
Team:	the group of Players competing against another group of Players in a Match of International Rules Football.
Team Official:	includes but is not limited to an officer, coach, assistant coach, trainer, runner, employee or any other person performing any duties (paid or unpaid) for or on behalf of the Team e.g. water carrier.

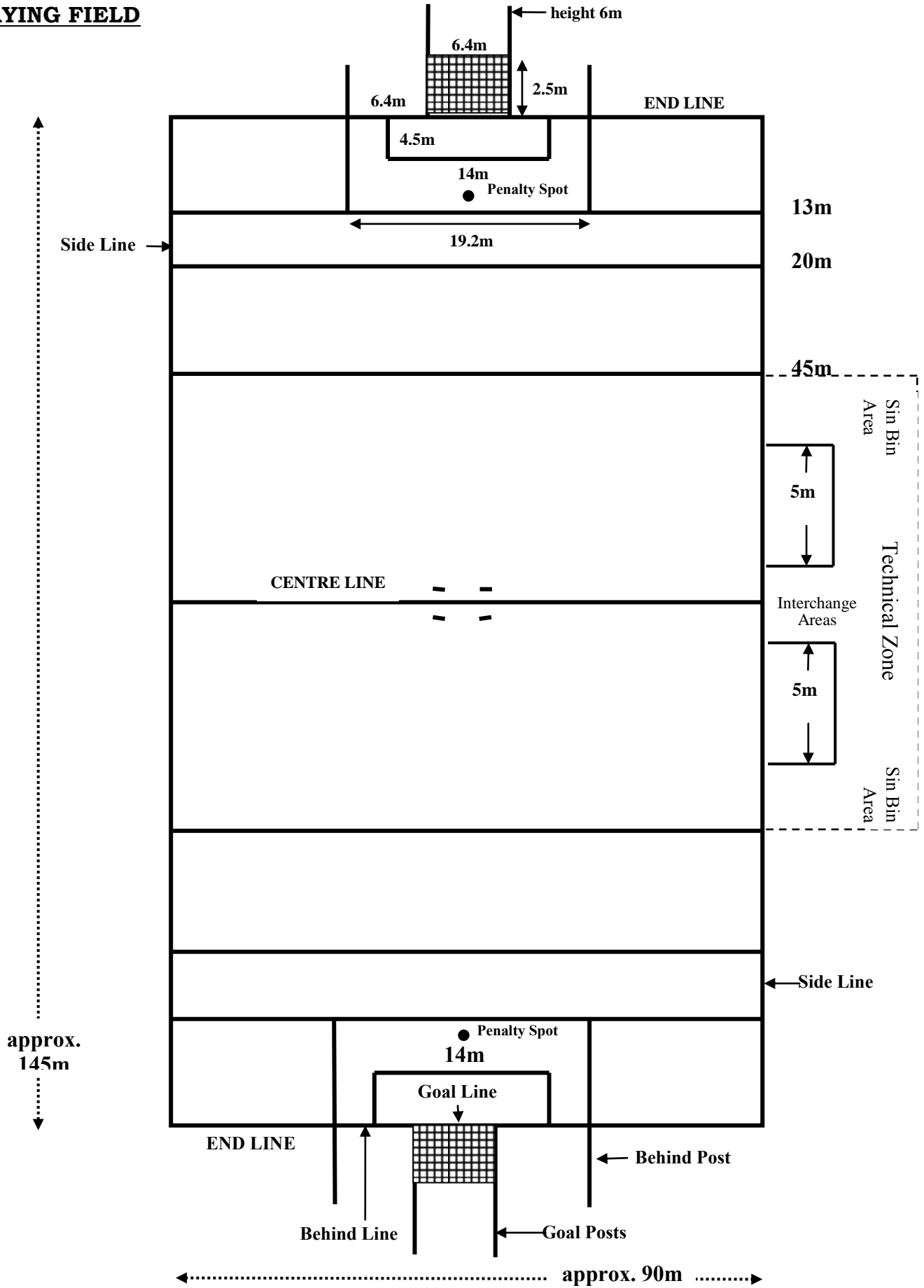
Team Sheet:	the document which must be completed and lodged by each Team under Law 5.3.
Technical Zone	is the zone as indicated in the diagram of the Playing Field between the two 45 Metre Lines.
Timekeeper(s):	the person(s) appointed by the Control Committee to keep the Time of a Match.
Time Wasting:	occurs where a Referee is of the opinion that a Player is unnecessarily causing a delay.
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 without using an underhand striking action when using the open hand. A Player is not permitted to toss the ball before playing it away with the fist or open hand as per Law 15.3.3. 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. Imposed as specified in Law 18.1.
Video Match Referee:	the person appointed under Law 19.4.2.
Wide	recording of 0 points when the ball is played over the End Line – outside of the Behind Posts – by the Attacking Team as described in Law 12.1.5(d).

## 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 AND PLAYING RULES MODERATOR**

#### **2.1 Control Committee**

2.1.1 A "Control Committee" comprising the CEO of the AFL or his nominee, CEO of the Gaelic Athletic Association or his nominee, one member of the AFL Commission or his nominee and one member of the GAA Management Committee or his nominee shall have the authority and responsibility for overseeing the operation of the Match Review Panel and the implementation of the Laws of International Rules Football, including the following:

- (a) Interpretation of and rulings on the Laws, except during the progress of a Match.
- (b) Investigate and act upon complaints/reports arising from incidents occurring during the process of a Match. Such complaints/reports may only be lodged by a Match Official.
- (c) 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.
- (d) Match Conditions.

2.1.2 The host CEO will chair the Control Committee.

2.1.3 The Control Committee shall meet prior to and following each Match for preview and review purposes.

#### **2.2 Moderator for the Laws of International Rules Football**

2.2.1 The Controlling Committee shall appoint a representative of each Country to the role of Moderator, who shall have the responsibility for the following:

- (a) production and dissemination of material relating to the Laws of International Rules Football;
- (b) convening meetings/providing training inputs for/with Video Match Referee and Match Officials; and
- (c) organising briefings for Players/Team Officials and others as appropriate

### **3. PLAYING FIELD AND 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 Field

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 Centre Line, and each of these lines marked with a flag where they join the Side Lines,
- 3.2.4 Interchange Areas of 5 metres (one for each Team) shall be marked adjacent to and either side of the Centre Line on one side of the Playing Field.

### 3.3 Goal Posts, 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 3 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 Line 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:

- 3.5.1 A Small 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.
- 3.5.2 A Large 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 football shall be the regulation Gaelic Football i.e.
- It will be 68cm to 70cm in circumference.
- The dry football weight will be not less than 480 grams and not more than 500 grams.
- It will have a pressure between 9-10 PSI.
- It will not deviate from sphericity by more than 2%.
- It will have a coefficient of restitution (bounce) of between 0.5222 and 0.576 when dropped from 1.8m onto a steel plate (15cm x 15cm x 1.5cm).
- It will deform by between 3.0-3.3cm when loaded at a speed of 10mm/min until a load of 800N is reached.

## **5. TEAMS**

### **5.1 Number of Players in Team**

5.1.1 Each Team Panel shall consist of up to twenty-three (23) named Players fifteen (15) of whom shall take part in a Match at any time.

- (a) the remaining Players (8) Players are the Interchange Players
- (b) At least 45 minutes prior to the commencement of play, a Team 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 fifteen of those twenty three Players will take part in the Match at its commencement the 8 Interchange Players. (See Appendix One).
- (c) A team may have up to four Standby Players. A Standby Player may be introduced into the Team Panel for the second test as a replacement for one the original panel of 23 Players used in the first match.

5.1.2 The following field placings shall apply:

- (a) One of the fifteen Players of each Team on the field shall be designated as Goalkeeper and shall wear a distinctive jersey of a colour different from that worn by the two Teams. The Goalkeeper shall enjoy the special privileges conferred under these rules.
- (b) The normal positioning of the 15 Players on the field shall be:
  - Goalkeeper
  - 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 for any Youth games

## 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 names of the Team Officials on the Interchange Bench
- (e) list the names of the Team Officials in the Coach's Box

### 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 Coordinator and a Referee at the next stoppage in play 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 recommence 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; and
- (b) a Twenty Metre Penalty shall then be imposed from the position where the Free Kick was awarded.

### 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 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) if a Referee is of the opinion that a request was made under Law 5.5.1 primarily to delay play or such request did not have sufficient merit, the Referee may report the Captain who requested the count under Law 19.2

## 6. TEAM OFFICIALS

### 6.1 Staff and Officials Permitted onto Playing Field during Match

6.1.1 The following people may enter the Playing Field during the progress of a Match :-

- (a) a Runner for the sole purpose of conferring briefly with a Player of his Team, and then immediately leave the Playing Field;
- (b) Head Trainer listed on the Official Team sheet solely for the purpose of:
  - (i) replacing a damaged uniform;

- (ii) attending an injured Player;
  - (iii) providing water to a Player after a Score/Wide or when play is stopped as a result of an injury to a Player;
  - (iv) assisting the removal of an injured Player by stretcher where the referee 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**

- 6.2.1 A Runner cannot be a listed squad member or part of a Team's Coaching or Selection Committee.
- 6.2.2 Shall dress in the uniform provided by the Control Committee
- 6.2.3 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 Control Committee.

## **6.4 Access to Interchange Bench or Arena Fence Stations (Coach's Box)**

- 6.4.1 A Team Official - identified on the Official Team sheet by \* may sit on the Interchange Bench along with the Team Runner, Team Doctor (x 2), Physiotherapist (X 2) & Head Trainer on the basis that the people concerned are identified by \* on the Official Team Sheet i.e. a total of 15 people comprising of 8 Interchange Players, and 7 others as denoted by \*
- 6.4.2 The Team Official shall be permitted to move within a designated Technical Zone and may utilise a radio link to the other Team Officials
- 6.4.3 All other Team Officials listed on the Official Team Sheet, shall sit at the Arena Fence Station (Coach's Box) located around the perimeter of the arena.
- 6.4.4 A Player who is ordered off i.e. receives a Red Card shall not be permitted to sit on the Interchange Bench

## **Part D: Pre-Match and Match Provisions**

### **7. INTERCHANGE**

#### **7.1 Interchange Coordinator & Steward – Appointment and Duties**

The Control Committee will appoint for each Match, an Interchange Coordinator who maintains a written record of Players who interchange and two Interchange Stewards, one from each Country to oversee the interchange system for the Opposing Team. The Interchange Stewards shall:-

- 7.1.1 be positioned throughout the Match at or near the Interchange Area;
- 7.1.2 monitor and approve the interchange of Players during a Match (see Appendix Three); and
- 7.1.3 report to the Control Committee 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:

- 7.2.1 The Team Official shall advise the Interchange Coordinator of the Team's intention to replace a Player who is currently on the Playing Field for another Player listed on its Team Sheet as determined by Law 5.1.1 (b);
- 7.2.2 upon being satisfied that the replacement is permitted, the Interchange Coordinator shall approve the replacement;
- 7.2.3 a Team may interchange the Players concerned within a period of 3 minutes from the time approval is given by the Interchange Coordinator, after which the approval shall lapse;
- 7.2.4 unless Law 7.3 applies, the Players concerned shall leave and enter the Playing Field through the Interchange Area;
- 7.2.5 a Player who does not leave the Playing Field as specified under Law 7.2.4 shall not re-enter the Playing Field for the remainder of the Match;
- 7.2.6 Only one replacement Player may enter the Interchange Area at a time;
- 7.2.7 Each Team is permitted to make a maximum of 15 interchanges per quarter and it shall not be possible to carry over unused Interchanges from one quarter to any other;
- 7.2.8 In addition to the maximum of 15 interchanges per quarter, each Team is permitted to make unlimited interchanges between each quarter;
- 7.2.9 In the event of the application of Laws 20.2 and 20.3.2 - order off (Yellow Card; with replacement) - the interchange procedure as set out here shall apply; and
- 7.2.10 Where a Team exceeds 15 interchanges per quarter or is in breach of Law 20.3.2, the Player/s concerned shall be removed for the remainder of the quarter and play will recommence with a Free Kick. The referee shall award a 20m penalty against the Offending Team from where play was stopped or from the halfway line whichever is the greater penalty.

### 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 the doctor, requires the assistance of a stretcher shall be attended by the Team's training/medical 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 Playing 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 Field;
- (d) once the injured Player has been removed from the Playing 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 Playing Field. 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 health and safety, to resume playing in the Match.

## 8. REFEREES AND MATCH OFFICIALS: INSTRUCTIONS

### 8.1 Appointment

8.1.1 The Control Committee shall appoint for each Match:-

- (a) two Referees - one from each Country and a standby Referee;
- (b) two Linesmen;
- (c) four goal Umpires;
- (d) one Video Match Referee;
- (e) two Timekeepers;
- (f) two Interchange Coordinators;
- (g) two Interchange Stewards; and

- (h) two Sin Bin Supervisors

## 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 Match Officials with regards to scoring and balls over Side or End Lines as required. Consult with other Match Officials 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 infraction, a blood rule stoppage or a stretcher on the ground or after a Goal is scored but not in the following circumstances:
  - (i) ball over Side Line;
  - (ii) ball over End Line;
  - (iii) after a Behind or an Over.
- (e) Indicate to the Timekeepers, 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 scrum develops (without a Free Kick being evident), to restart play by throwing the ball in the air above one Player from each Team as per Law 11.3.1. Other Players may not play the ball until it has been touched by either of these two Players.
- (g) To indicate the end of quarters with a blow of the whistle and raising both arms.
- (h) Stop play in the event of melee, brawl or free-for-all in the half of the field in which he is officiating. A decision to stop play may not be overruled by the other Referee.
- (i) Both Referees and the Video Match Referee view video of all Matches - as per Law 19.4.2 – and submit any Reportable Infractions to the Control Committee as 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 Side Line 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; and
- (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, Free Kick or Mark awarded shall be annulled.

### 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 Referees by raising both index fingers for a Goal (6 points), by one extended arm and hand indicating Over (3 points) 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 questions as to whether the quarter has ended or not.
- (d) Where a score is disallowed by holding aloft one red and white flag, crossed.
- (e) To officially record the scores.

8.2.4 Video Match Referee – as per Law 19.4.2

8.2.5 Timekeepers – as per Law 10.2

8.2.6 Interchange Coordinator – as per Law 7.1

8.2.7 Interchange Steward – as per Law 7.1

8.2.8 Linesmen and Goal Umpires shall have the power to bring Yellow and Red Card Infractions to the attention of the Referees at the next stoppage in play. For the avoidance of any doubt, play shall recommence as determined by these Laws for the original stoppage and any score which is made, between the incidents, shall remain valid.

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

## **9. PLAYERS' BOOTS, JEWELLERY AND PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

### **9.1 Interpretation**

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

- 9.1.1 hard-shell helmets;
- 9.1.2 knee braces;
- 9.1.3 shoulder pads;
- 9.1.4 back supports;
- 9.1.5 arm guards; and
- 9.1.6 any other item designated as such by the Control Committee.

### **9.2 Prohibition of Items**

A Player shall not wear during a Match:-

- 9.2.1 any form of jewellery;
- 9.2.2 bootstuds, plates/cleats 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
- 9.2.3 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 order the Player off for ten minutes as per Law 20.2

## **10. TIMEKEEPERS, DURATION OF MATCHES, QUARTERS AND INTERVALS**

### **10.1 Duration of Match and Intervals**

#### 10.1.1 Duration

A Match shall be played for a period of 72 minutes, divided into 4 quarters, each of 18 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 6 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 6 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 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:

<b>START OF MATCH</b>	<b>NUMBER OF OCCASIONS</b>
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 quarter)	Once
First quarter time interval	Once
<b>START OF SECOND QUARTER</b>	
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	Once
<b>START OF THIRD QUARTER</b>	
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	Once
<b>START OF FINAL QUARTER</b>	
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 shall award the Free Kick or Mark to the Player and then signal that play has come to an end. (In the event of a Free Kick, the Referee may award a Kick Down the Field – as per Law 15.10 - or a Twenty Metre Penalty as per Law 18.1)

**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 a 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, Blood Rule, when a Goal is scored and when the Stretcher is required. Should the Referee neglect to signal the restart of play the Timekeeper shall restart the clock immediately when he observes the play restart.

**11. COMMENCING PLAY AND CHOICE OF GOAL****11.1 Choice of Goal**

11.1.1 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 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/Officials 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
- (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 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 Goalkeeper after the Wide has been indicated by the Goal Umpires.
- (b) After an Over (three points) or a Behind (one point) has been scored or a Wide, the ball shall be Kicked into play by the Goalkeeper, from inside the 13 metre rectangle, after the flag has been waved by the Goal Umpires.
- (c) A bin shall be located behind the net containing additional footballs and the Goalkeeper must collect a football himself should the ball previously in play be not immediately available.
- (d) While the ball is being Kicked into play, all Players, other than the Goalkeeper shall be outside the 20m line.
- (e) After a Goal, the ball shall be returned to the centre and play recommenced in accordance with Rule 11.3.4

### 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. If the incident occurs within 13m of the Side Line the ball shall be thrown up 13m from the Side 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
Where a player is taking a shot at goal after been awarded a mark or a free kick who retreats offline to take the kick and then disposes of the football other than in a direct line over the spot.	On the spot – where the incident occurred
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/s or Official/s 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 Side Line	13 metres inside the Playing Field from where the ball crossed the Side Line
Where two Players engage in a Reportable Infraction and it's not possible for play to continue	Where incident occurred
When the Rules pertaining to the Kick Out (13.1 & 13.2) are contravened by the Goalkeeper or a team-mate	On the 20m Line

### 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 11.3.3(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 1 metre from the Centre Line (i.e. 2 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 Centre 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 an offensive handball - of any Player of either Team and the ball completely passes over the line. A defensive handball over the Goal Line, Crossbar or Behind Line 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.
- 12.1.3 A score is *not* registered if the ball is carried over the Goal or Behind Line by a Player of the Attacking Team or when the Goalkeeper is taking a kick out from within the 13m rectangle.
- 12.1.4 If a defending Player carries a ball over the line a score is allowed except when a Mark or Free Kick has been awarded.
- 12.1.5 Scores shall be registered as follows:

(a) Goal - 6 Points

A Goal (six points) is scored when the ball passes completely between the Goal Posts and under the Crossbar as described in 12.1.1

(b) Over - 3 Points

An Over (three points) is scored when the ball passes between the Goal Posts and completely over the Crossbar as described in 12.1.1

(c) Point (behind) - 1 Point

A Behind (one point) is scored when the ball passes completely between the Goal and Behind Posts as described in 12.1.1

(d) Wide – 0 points

A Wide is recorded when the ball is played over the End Line – outside of the Behind Posts – by the Attacking Team.

(e) Strikes Post

When the football strikes a Goal or Behind Post and crosses the Goal or Behind Line, a score shall be registered.

(f) If the ball strikes the Post and is deflected Wide, no score shall be registered.

(g) If the ball comes back into play, having struck a Goal or Behind Post or Crossbar, without going Wide i.e. out over End Line, a “play on” situation shall apply.

12.1.6 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 Referee 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 Behind shall only be signalled by a Goal Umpire and recorded as such when 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 or Mark 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 Wide**

The Goal Umpire shall signal that the ball has gone wide by crossing his two hands.

**12.3.5 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, Behind Line or End 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 Recommended**

- (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, Behind or Wide 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 or where the infringement occurred, whichever is the greater penalty.

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

### **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 a member of the Defending 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, the Referee may award a Free to any Player who is in the process 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
- (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.
- (c) The Referee may award a Down the Field Free Kick - as per Law 15.10 - or award a Twenty Metre Penalty – as per Law 18.1 – as appropriate.

### **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:-

- 13.1.1 the football must be Kicked back into play after the Goal Umpire has waved his flag – to indicate an Over or Behind – or has crossed his hands to indicate a Wide;
- 13.1.2 the football shall be Kicked from the hands or off the ground by the Goalkeeper of the Defending Team within a reasonable time;
- 13.1.3 the football must be Kicked from within the 13 metre rectangle. For the avoidance of doubt, one of the Goalkeeper's feet must be behind any of the lines which define the 13 metre box at the time when he kicks the football;
- 13.1.4 the football must be Kicked beyond the Goalkeeper's defensive 45 metre line (on the full);
- 13.1.5 no Player is permitted inside the 20 metres line until the football has been Kicked back into play; and
- 13.1.6 the Goalkeeper must not touch the football again after it has been Kicked back into play until it has been touched by another Player.

### **13.2 Failure or Delay in Kicking Football back into Play**

- 13.2.1 After giving the Goalkeeper a reasonable opportunity, the Referee shall direct him to kick the football back into play. If he 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 the Goalkeeper has not Kicked the football back into play in

accordance with Law 13.1, the Referee shall subject to Law 13.2.2 throw the ball up on the centre of the 20 metre line to recommence play.

- 13.2.2 Where the Goalkeeper fails to kick the football beyond his Team's defensive 45 metre line (as per Law 13.1.4), the Opposing Team shall be awarded a Free Kick to the Player closest to that location be taken at the 45 metre line (Attacking Team) in direct line with the point where the football landed, was Marked or went out of play (as applicable).

### 13.3 Goal Umpire Indicating Score/Wide

The Goalkeeper 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 or has crossed his hands to indicate the ball has gone wide. If the Goalkeeper kicks the football before this time, the Referee shall throw the football up on the 20m line.

### 13.4 Attacking Team Delaying Re-Commencement of Play

- 13.4.1 Where the Referee is of the opinion that a Player from the Opposing Team:

- (a) is within 7 metres of the 13 metre rectangle at the time when the Goalkeeper is Kicking the football back into play;
- (b) has prevented the Goalkeeper from Kicking the football back into play;  
or
- (c) has otherwise delayed the re-commencement of 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 Team awarded the Free Kick who is closest to that location.

- 13.4.2 Where the Referee is of the opinion that a Player of the Opposing Team has again contravened Law 13.4.1, 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 Team awarded the Free Kick who is closest to that location.

### 13.5 Official within the Forty-Five Metre Area

Unless attending to an injured Player, no Official is permitted within the 45 metre area during the time the Goalkeeper is preparing to kick or in the act of Kicking the football back into play after the football has gone Wide or after an Over or a Behind has been scored. Where an Official contravenes this Law, the Opposing Team shall be awarded a Free Kick 45 metres from opponent's goal, to be taken by the Player from the Team awarded the Free Kick who is closest to that location.

## 14. MARKING THE FOOTBALL

### 14.1 Definition

- 14.1.1 A Mark is taken if, in the opinion of the Referee, 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 15 metres; and

- (c) which has not touched the ground, been touched by another Player or rebounded off the Goal Posts during the period when the football was Kicked until it was caught or controlled by the Player; and
- (d) in a position that is not behind the position from which the football was Kicked.

## 14.2 Particular Circumstances

14.2.1 For the avoidance of doubt, a Mark shall be awarded if:-

- (a) 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
- (b) before the football was caught or controlled by the Player, it was touched by any Official.

14.2.2 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/End Line, Goal Line or Behind Line.

## 14.3 Player to be Awarded the Mark

14.3.1 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.

14.3.2 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 Posts or 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

14.5.1 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;
- (d) a Player who executes a Correct Tackle in accordance with these Laws.
- (e) the opposition when a Player doesn't dispose of the ball in accordance with these Laws e.g. throws the football, makes an illegal handpass, makes more than 6 consecutive handpasses, bounces/touches the ball off the ground more than twice while in possession, takes possession, having played the football away before it is touched by another Player or touches the ground, drops the football to avoid being caught in possession, hands the football to a team-mate or plays the ball in an illegal manner while it is on the ground;
- (f) the opposition when the Player in possession plays for a Free Kick; or
- (g) the opposition when a Player is caught in possession having had prior opportunity.

#### 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 or not. 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 is played by the Referee.

### 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; or

- (d) the Player is in the act of touching the ball off the ground.

#### 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 10 metres or 6 steps (whatever the greater), irrespective of whether such Player is running in a straight line or otherwise. A Player may bounce the ball or touch it off the ground on a maximum of 2 occasions before disposal but may toe tap (play the ball from hand to foot to hand) as many times as he wishes. (A Player may bounce the football basketball style when he is attempting to take control of it).
- (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, touches the ground or rebounds into play off the Crossbar, Goal Post or the Behind Post.
- (d) A Team may not handpass the ball more than six (6) successive occasions.
- (e) 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), 15.2.2(c) or 15.2.2(d)

#### 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 strike the ball away with the hand 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; or
- (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 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 lifting it, provided such Player is upright and not sliding, sitting, kneeling or lying on the ground.
- (c) A Player who is not standing or running i.e. whilst sliding, sitting, lying or while on his knees, may strike the ball away from his body, but shall not otherwise place a hand upon it.
- (d) A Player shall not scoop the ball from the ground to a team-mate.
- (e) Players may not dive on the ball when it is on the ground in order take possession. Exception: the Goalkeeper may do so when the ball is within the small rectangle
- (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 (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e)

15.2.6 If the Attacking Team carries the ball over the Goal Line or Behind Line no score will be recorded and a Free Kick shall be 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 plays it away with the hand as set out in Law 15.3.3

#### 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 caught in possession or when his Team maintains possession on the back of 7 successive handpasses.

15.3.3 A Player in possession of the football is permitted to play the football away by hand if there is a definite striking action with either the fist or hand. A Player in possession of the football is only permitted to strike the ball away with the open hand provided he plays it away with an underhand striking action using the opposite hand. For the avoidance of any doubt, a Player shall not toss the ball prior to playing it away with the fist or the open hand.

### 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;
  - (iii) is initially grabbed with two hands.
- (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.
- (c) a tackle cannot be executed with one hand. (Exception: A Player who has held or grabbed an opponent with two hands is permitted to

maintain a one handed hold/grip provided it is still part of the original two-handed tackle).

- (d) A Player who executes a successful tackle on an opponent shall release him immediately once the Referee's whistle sounds for a Free Kick.

#### 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 a side-to-side (shoulder) charge provided each Player has one foot on the ground provided that the football is no more than 5 metres away from the Players and that both Players are moving in the direction of the ball;
- (b) by executing a Correct Tackle by gripping – with the two hands - the opponent's body or jersey below the shoulder level and above the thighs provided neither Player is airborne. Players may not be tackled by the arm or hand or slung to the ground; or
- (c) if such contact is incidental to playing the ball.

#### 15.4.4 Charge (illegal)

- (a) An illegal Charge means an act of colliding with an Opposition Player where the amount of physical force/contact used is dangerous/reckless or 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 or moving in its direction
- (b) Without limiting the general application of Law 15.4.4(a), a Charge (illegal) occurs when a Player collides in a dangerous/reckless fashion or on an unreasonable/unnecessary basis 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 has Marked the football;
- (iv) who is playing or attempting to play the ball – marking (catching), kicking, striking, soloing (toe tapping, bouncing or touching the ball off the ground) or lifting the football. (A Player who has his head down while controlling the ball, when taking it into his hand/s or when he is attempting to make contact with the football while in flight will be deemed to be playing the ball); or
- (v) who has played the ball away or who has been awarded a Free Kick.

#### 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 and take any further appropriate action – see 18.1, 20.1 and 20.2

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/disposing or attempting to mark/dispose of 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 side to side further than 5m from the ball or without having at least one foot on the ground;
- (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 football;
- (k) blocks with the boot including a sliding tackle;
- (l) slings, slams or drives an opponent to the ground;
- (m) knees, stamps or stands on an opponent;
- (n) spits at or on an opponent; and
- (o) gouges or bites an opponent.

15.4.6 The Free Kick shall be taken by the Player against whom Prohibited Contact is made unless the Player is injured, when the nearest team-mate shall take the Free Kick

## **15.5 Free Kicks Relating to Match Officials or other Behavioural Infringements**

15.5.1 A Referee shall award a Free Kick against a Player or Team Official who behaves in an inappropriate manner towards a Match Official and take any further appropriate action – see 18.1, 20.1 and 20.2. A Player or Team Official acts in an inappropriate manner if he:

- (a) uses abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene language towards a Match Official;
- (b) behaves in an abusive, insulting, threatening or obscene manner towards a Match Official;



- (c) lays a hand on, pushes, pulls or jostles a Match Official (i.e. minor physical interference);
- (d) assaults a Match Official; or
- (e) engages in conduct which affects, interferes with or prevents a Match Official from performing his duties.

15.5.2 The Free Kick shall be taken by the Player of the Opposing Team who is closest to where the infringement occurred or where the football is located, whichever is the greater penalty against the Offending Team.

## 15.6 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 within the 13 metre rectangle (Defending Team) or 45 metre line (Attacking Team) in direct line with the point where the ball crossed the End Line.

## 15.7 Free Kick - Shaking the Posts

15.7.1 Unless Law 15.7.2 applies, any Player or Official who intentionally interferes with the Posts or who climbs onto a team-mate's shoulders (either before or after a Player has disposed of the football) the Referee shall award a 20m penalty

### 15.7.2 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 Infractions

15.8.1 Unless Law 15.8.2 applies, a Referee shall award a Free Kick against a Player or Official who is reported for a Reportable Infraction.

15.8.2 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 as determined by Law 11.3.1

## 15.9 Free Kicks – Involving an Official

### 15.9.1 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 Opposing 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/Free Kick Down the Field

Where Prohibited Contact is made against a Player as or after he plays the football away 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 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 the conduct was directed 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 foul committed on an opponent by the defence within the large 13m rectangle. For the avoidance of any doubt, the Player who is fouled shall be completely inside the 13m rectangle.
- 15.11.3 Any Red Card infraction

Note: Should Red Cards be awarded against both Teams, at the same time, the penalty kick sanction shall not apply

The Penalty Kick shall be taken from a spot 11 metres from the centre of the Goal Line and all Players other than the Defending Goalkeeper 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 Goalkeeper may move along his goal line to anticipate the kick, but may not advance until the ball has been Kicked.

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 and 15.11.3 may be taken by any Player on the Offended Team.

- 15.11.4 In circumstances where:
  - (a) a Penalty Kick is awarded to a team following the identification of a Red Card infraction detected by a Video Match Referee under 19.4.2; and
  - (b) a Free Kick is awarded to the Opposing Team under 12.4.2,
 the Penalty Kick shall be taken first followed by the Free Kick (which will be taken from the relevant spot as determined by 12.4.2).

### 15.12 Free Kicks - Offside

An attacking player is permitted to enter opponent's "small rectangle";

- 15.12.1 During Play – after the final play of the ball into the small rectangle
- 15.12.2 In Set Play (i.e. recommencement after a free or sideline kick or a mark) – after the ball enters the "small rectangle".

An infringement of this Rule shall result in a Free Kick to the Defending side, the kick to be taken from within the small rectangle by the Goalkeeper.

### 15.13 Free Kicks - Goalkeeper

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

#### 15.14 Free Kicks – Failure to Kick in beyond 45 metre line

##### 15.14.1 When Awarded

A Free Kick shall be awarded against a Team where the Goalkeeper fails to kick the football beyond his Team's defensive 45 metre line (on the full) following a Wide, Behind, or an Over.

##### 15.14.2 Where Free Kick Taken

A Free Kick awarded under Law 15.14.1 shall be taken at the 45 metre line (Attacking Team) in direct line with the point where the football landed, was Marked or went out of play (as applicable) by the Player closest to that location.

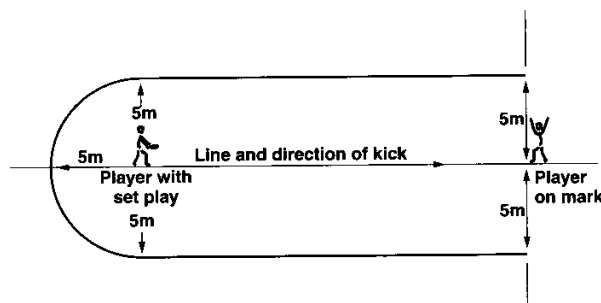
## 16. DISPOSAL FROM MARK OR FREE KICK

### 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 the above diagram. 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 centre of the 13 metre line.

### **16.4 Disposal by a Defending Player – Goal Line, Behind Line and Mark within the Small Rectangle**

16.4.1 If a Defending Player is awarded a Side Line Kick or a Mark and is given or takes possession of the football beyond the Goal Line, Behind Line or makes a Mark within the Small Rectangle the following shall apply:

- (a) the Opposing Player standing on the Spot must be positioned on the 13 metre line directly in line from the Goal Line, Behind Line or the Small Rectangle 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 over 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**

16.7.1 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 Opposing 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 Field of Play 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**

17.2.1 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 15 metres;
- (d) the Referee cancels a Free Kick;
- (e) the Referee is of the opinion that a Player, who has been awarded a Free Kick or a Mark, runs, strikes the football with the hand, kicks or attempts to run the football otherwise than over the Spot, unless the Player is taking a set shot at goal, in which case Law 11.3.1 applies; or
- (f) the ball rebounds onto the Playing Field having struck the Posts.

### **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 if the Referee is of the opinion that doing so will provide an advantage to that Player's Team.

Note: Once the Referee plays advantage there shall be no recall mechanism on the basis that this rule should only be applied by the Referee when he is satisfied that an advantage will accrue.

## **18. TWENTY METRE PENALTY**

### **18.1 When Imposed**

- 18.1.1 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 Team:
- (a) Charges (illegal), pushes or pulls an opponent in a manner that is not consistent with a fair effort to play the football;
  - (b) oversteps the Spot;
  - (c) enters the Protected Area, except when the Player is accompanying or following within 5 metres of his opponent or when the Referee calls Play On;
  - (d) 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 Field of Play 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;
  - (e) engages in Time Wasting or delays the opposition from recommencing play (exception Law 13.2 & 13.3 re Kick Out);
  - (f) delays a Player who has been fouled or taken a Mark from playing the ball by holding onto him after the Referee's whistle has sounded for the Mark/Free Kick;
  - (g) does not return the football directly and on the full to the Player awarded a Free Kick or a Mark;
  - (h) attempts to gain an unfair advantage: (i) have more than the permitted number of Players on the Field of Play subject to 5.5.3; (ii) enter the Field of Play before the Player who is being replaced has come through the Interchange Zone; (iii) use more than the 15 interchanges permitted in any quarter subject to 7.2.9; (iv) go outside a boundary line except when taking a free or sideline kick; (v) interfere with the Posts or elevate a team-mate; (vi) request for a team count without merit subject to 5.5.4; or (vii) feign a foul or an injury;
  - (i) dispute/dissent with the decision of a Match Official; or
  - (j) uses provocative language or gestures to a person other than a Match Official or behaves in any other manner that is contrary to the spirit of fair play.

### **18.2 Imposing a Twenty Metre Penalty**

- 18.2.1 When the Referee imposes a Twenty 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 football shall be advanced to 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 Irresponsible or Disruptive Conduct:

- (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.

### **19.2 Reportable Infractions**

The Match Review Panel or other body appointed to hear and determine the report to the Control Committee may find the report proven if it is reasonably satisfied that the charge amounted to Irresponsible or Disruptive Conduct.

### **19.3 Reporting Procedure**

#### 19.3.1

- (a) The Referee shall use his best endeavours to inform the person against whom a Reportable Infraction has been committed of the report (if applicable).
- (b) 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.
- (c) 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) After the completion of the Match, the Referee shall complete a Notice of Report in the form prescribed by the Control Committee. (See Appendix Four)

### **19.4 Match Review Panel**

#### 19.4.1 Establishment

A Match Review Panel shall be established comprising of the following members:

- (a) Chairperson of the AFL Tribunal, or nominee;
- (b) Chairperson of the GAA Central Competitions Control Committee (CCCC), or nominee;
- (c) an Independent person mutually agreed between the AFL and GAA who shall be drawn from a panel of three (3) people nominated from within the AFL Appeals Board or the Legal Panel of the GAA Disputes Resolution Authority.

The host Chairperson shall chair the Match Review Panel.

#### 19.4.2 Video Match Referee

- (a) An independent Video Match Referee shall be appointed who must be from a country other than Australia or Ireland and have a background in sport officiating at an elite level.
- (b) The Video Match Referee shall have the power to:
  - (i) identify Yellow or Red Card infractions which have not been detected by the other Match Officials. These shall be brought to the attention of the Match Referees at the next stoppage in play so that a Yellow or Red Card sanction can be applied. For the avoidance of any doubt, play shall recommence as determined in these Laws for the original stoppage and any score which is made, between the incidents, shall remain valid.
  - (ii) decide, in consultation with the Match Referees, on Players/Officials who shall be reported to the Match Review Panel.
  - (iii) advise the Match Referees, on request, in relation to Red and Yellow Cards, Scores or if a foul was committed within the large or small rectangle. For the avoidance of any doubt, the ball shall completely cross the goal line/cross bar where a score is concerned and the Player shall be completely within the 13m rectangle where a foul is concerned, and the complete ball shall be within the small rectangle with regard to a technical infringement.
  - (iv) review any Wide, Over, Goal or Behind the Video Match Referee firmly believes was incorrectly determined by the Match Referees and may (at the Video Match Referee's discretion) change that Wide, Over, Goal or Behind to the correct score. The Video Match Referee must alert the Match Referees to the review, and conduct such a review (and determine any change to the score following the review) prior to the Football being:
    - (a) kicked in after the Wide, Over or Behind (as originally determined by the Match Referees); or
    - (b) thrown up in the centre after a Goal,
 (as applicable).

For the avoidance of doubt, the Video Match Referee's decision following the review will be final and play shall recommence in accordance with the decision the Video Match Referee has made.

#### 19.4.3 Match Review Panel Hearings



Hearings of the Match Review Panel shall be convened no later than 7.00pm on the day following the first Test Match and within 3 hours of the second Test Match, or as otherwise agreed by the Control Committee, with respect to charges laid in accordance with these Laws relating to:

- (a) Players “ordered off” for 10 minutes and for the remainder of the game;
  - (b) Officials and Players reported by the Match Officials;
- 19.4.4 Players or Officials reported are required to attend a hearing and shall be entitled to representation by an advocate of their choice. This person may give evidence and be accompanied by other persons who may be called to act as witnesses and/or provide evidence to the Match Review Panel.
- 19.4.5 The Match Review Panel shall operate in accordance with the principles of natural justice. It shall also, in the interest of transparency, be open to the media who may attend as observers on the basis that the deliberations and findings of the Panel are reported on a factual basis.
- 19.4.6 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 Five)

## 19.5 Sanctions

- 19.5.1 Where the Match Review Panel finds a charge sustained in relation to a Player it shall impose a sanction it deems reasonable in the circumstances.
- 19.5.2 The Match Review Panel shall have the power to impose sanctions which apply in the GAA National Football League or in the AFL Premiership Season.

## 20. ORDER OFF LAW

### 20.1 Order Off – Red Card -Remainder of Match – No replacement; Irresponsible Conduct i.e. to display dangerous or reckless disregard for the safety of others or behaves in a manner which is prejudicial to the good name of the game

- 20.1.1 In addition to awarding a Penalty Kick, a Referee shall order the Player from the Field of Play for the remainder of the Match.
- 20.1.2 The following are typical examples of infractions that fall into the category of Irresponsible Conduct:
- (a) To engage in dangerous/reckless use of the body, head, leg, knee, hand, fingers, elbow or arm e.g., head butt, kick, knee, gouge, strike or Charge (illegal) an opponent;
  - (b) To stamp, trample or stand on an opponent;
  - (c) To sling, slam or drive an opponent into another Player, the ground or the boundary area;
  - (d) To bite or spit at an opponent;
  - (e) To assault or engage in physical interference with a Match Official e.g., put a hand on, push, pull, jostle or throw an object at a Match Official;
  - (f) To behave in an abusive, insulting or threatening manner towards a Match Official; or

- (g) To contribute – in a dangerous/reckless manner – to a brawl or a melee or to behave towards another person in any other manner that is prejudicial to the good name of the game.

20.1.3 Players ordered off under this provision must immediately go directly to the dressing room and not return to the Playing Field during any intervals or for any post Match presentations.

20.1.4 Following a Player being ordered off under this provision, a Penalty Kick is to be awarded to the Opposition Team which is taken by any Player from a spot 11m from the centre of the Goal Line.

20.1.5 Where a Player from each Team is sent off, at the same time, under a Red Card, 20.1.4 does not apply.

**20.2 Order Off– Yellow Card – off for remainder of match ; with replacement - Disruptive Conduct i.e. to display inadequate regard for the safety of others or to otherwise behave in an unreasonable or unnecessary manner that undermines the Laws of the game**

20.2.1 In addition to awarding a Free Kick, a Referee shall order the Player from the Field of Play for the remainder of the match .

20.2.2 The following are typical examples of infractions that fall into the category of Disruptive Conduct:

- (a) To engage in rough or careless play e.g. use unreasonable or unnecessary force or contact when charging or challenging an opponent;
- (b) To pull down an opponent;
- (c) To trip an opponent with hand(s), leg, arm or foot;
- (d) To bring an arm around the neck of an opponent in a careless manner;
- (e) To wrestle with an opponent;
- (f) To be the third Player into a melee except where a Player's sole intention is to remove a team-mate from the incident – the third man is deemed to have incited the melee;
- (g) To front up to an opponent or to engage in any other form of physical intimidation;
- (h) To attempt to strike with the head, hand, arm or knee or to attempt to kick, stamp, trample, stand on, bite or gouge an opponent;
- (i) To foul an opponent – it may/may not involve the use of unreasonable force or contact – who has a clear goal scoring opportunity (professional foul);
- (j) To throw an object at another person;
- (k) To confront, harass, remonstrate with or otherwise challenge the authority of a Match Official;
- (l) To refuse to carry out the instructions of a Match Referee (except as per Law 9.4);

- (m) To behave in an abusive, insulting or threatening manner to an another person or to behave in any other manner that undermines the Laws of the game; or

20.2.3 The Referee, at the conclusion of the Match, has the option of lodging a report on the Player to the Control Committee.

### 20.3 Replacing Player

20.3.1 A Player ordered off under Law 20.1 (Red Card) cannot be replaced.

20.3.2 A player ordered off under Law 20.2 ( Yellow Card ) can be replaced immediately provided the team has not used up its 15 interchanges in the quarter. Where the team has used up its 15 interchanges in the quarter the replacement player shall be introduced at the start of the next quarter. All replacements in this regard are subject to Law 7.2.

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

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 Dressing Rooms and displaying a Red Card 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) A Player sent off must leave the Playing Field and go to changing rooms and cannot return .

### 20.5 Illegal Charge

20.5.1 For the purposes of this Law 20, in determining whether an illegal Charge constitutes (i) Irresponsible Conduct (ii) Disruptive Conduct, or (iii) Unsporting Conduct, regard will be had to whether:

- (a) contact is made to an opponent's head or neck;
- (b) the level of force/contact is dangerous/reckless or is unreasonable/unnecessary;
- (c) the elbow/forearm is part of the contact;
- (d) the Player making the charge jumps or has his feet off the ground and the direction/distance that he has travelled; and
- (e) the effort made to play the ball is consistent with a reasonable attempt to do so

## 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 for 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 End Line or Side Line, where the Referee is of the opinion that the Player is bleeding or has blood on any part of his 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 from 1-23 on the Team Sheet. The replacement Player may enter the Playing Field while the Player that he 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 Referee 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 Referee shall warn the Player that he will be sent off for ten minutes (Yellow Card Infraction).

**21.3 Failure to Obey Direction**

A Player's refusal to promptly obey a direction of a Referee given under Law 21.2 is a Reportable Infraction.

**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**

21.5.1 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**

21.7.1 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 having official involvement with 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 Law 22.1, a Referee 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 Law. The complaint must outline the circumstances of the allegations made against a person.

## **22.3 Control Committee Role**

22.3.1 The Control Committee shall:

- (a) inform the person alleged to have contravened Law 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**

22.4.1 The particulars of a complaint and the conciliation shall at all times remain confidential; and

22.4.2 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 Law 22.3 shall be conducted by a suitable independent person appointed by the Control Committee upon agreement between the AFL and GAA.

## **22.6 Attendance at Education Programme**

22.6.1 Where:

- (a) a person alleged to have contravened Law 22.1 attends a conciliation for the first time (other than as a person vilified), and
- (b) the complaint against the person is resolved at conciliation, the person shall attend an Education Programme in relation to racial and religious vilification as approved from time to time by the AFL/GAA.

22.6.2 Where a person employed, engaged or is otherwise officially associated with a Team is required to attend an Education Programme, the Team shall pay the costs of that person's attendance.

22.6.3 A person who fails to attend the Education Programme shall be deemed to have contravened this Law 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 AFL and GAA.

## **22.8 Unsuccessful Conciliation**

22.8.1 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 Match Review Panel to be dealt with as a Reportable Infraction; or
- (b) in the case of any other person, refer the complaint to the GAA or AFL to be dealt with under their own rules.

## **22.9 Previous Involvement**

Where a person alleged to have contravened Law 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 Match Review Panel to be dealt with as a Reportable Infraction, in the case of a Player, or directly to the GAA/AFL to be dealt with in the case of any other person.



**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

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*			

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	* only people permitted on the interchange bench - all other Team Officials located in the Coach's Box	

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

Team/Football Manager



**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:

	NUMBER OF OCCASIONS
<b>START OF MATCH</b>	
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	once
<b>Start of Second Quarter</b>	
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	once
<b>Start of Third Quarter</b>	
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	once
<b>Start of Final Quarter</b>	
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

**TIMEKEEPERS' REPORT**

**Match:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Vs**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Played at**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

Completed Report to be included with Referees Match envelope.

**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

**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		4th QUARTER	
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: \_\_\_\_\_



## Interchange Coordinator's Log



Match:

Date:

Quarter: 1  2  3  4  ✓ as appropriate

Country: Australia  Ireland  ✓ as appropriate

Player In	Player Out	Time
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		





**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 Infraction and provide particulars of the alleged Infraction).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Reportable Infraction 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/s or Official/s the copy of any charge or charges laid by an officiating Referee.

5 copies to be photocopied (1. Referee; 2. Player/Official Charged; 3. Player/Official Offended; 4. Competing Teams; 5. Control Committee)



## MATCH REVIEW PANEL PROCEDURE



### **Note 1: General Principles**

Hearings of the Panel shall be convened no later than 7pm on the day following the first Match and with three hours of the second Match or as otherwise decided by the Control Committee.

The Match Review Panel shall operate in accordance with the principles of natural justice, ensuring that the Reported Person is given a reasonable opportunity to be heard both in reply to the substance of the charges made against them and in mitigation of sanction.

The Panel shall, in the interest of transparency, be open to the media who may attend as observers on the basis that the deliberations and findings of the Panel are reported on a factual basis.

### **Note 2: Reported Persons**

Reported Persons are required to attend a hearing and shall be entitled to representation by an advocate of their choice. The Reported Person may give evidence and may call on other witnesses to support their case, where appropriate.

### **Note 3: Procedure**

In the case of reports laid by a Referee on the day of the Match, immediately following the game, an appointee of the Control Committee shall seek a statement from the Offended Person and submit this statement to the Chairman of the Match Review Panel when the Match Review Panel is convened. Offended Persons do not attend the panel hearings.

In the case of reports which may result from the Control Committee investigations under Law 2.1.1 (b) and (c) the Offended Person or a witness will be asked to submit statements which will be sought through an appointee of the Control Committee and submitted to the Chairman of the Match Review Panel. Neither Offended Persons nor the witnesses attend the Panel hearings.

### **Note 4: Hearing**

All parties assemble in the presence of the Match Review Panel and the charge against the Reported Person is read out.

The Reported Person pleads guilty or not guilty to the Charge.

#### *Guilty Plea*

Where the Reported Person pleads guilty, the Reported Person shall be given an opportunity to make a plea on mitigation of sanction, during which he may be questioned by Panel Members.

After the plea in mitigation has been completed, all parties other than the three Panel members leave while the Panel considers its findings. Once the Panel has deliberated on the plea in mitigation of penalty, all parties reassemble for the outcome, and the Panel's final decision is announced by its Chair.

### *Not Guilty Plea*

Where the Reported Person pleads not guilty to the Charge, all available video evidence is shown to both the Panel and all parties.

Where the Report originates from one laid by a Referee on the day of the Match , the Referee may be asked to elaborate on his report and may be questioned by the Reported Person's advocate and/or the Chair and members of the Panel. The Referee is then excused.

Where the Report originates from a Control Committee investigation, the appointee of the Control Committee may be asked to elaborate on his report and may be questioned by the Reported Person's advocate and/or the Chair and members of the Panel. The appointee of the Control Committee is then excused.

On completion of the above, the Reported Person is then asked by the Chair of the Panel to give his explanation of the incident, and may be accompanied by other persons who may be called to act as witnesses or otherwise provide evidence to the Panel. These other persons should not include Offended Persons. Clarification on any part of the explanation by the Reported Person may be requested by the Chair and members of the Panel.

After all the evidence has been given to the satisfaction of the Panel, the Reported Person or their advocate will plead his case in a summary to the Panel.

All parties, other than the three Panel members, then leave while the Panel considers its findings.

Once the Panel has deliberated, all parties reassemble for the outcome, and the Panel's decision will be announced, and the reasons for it explained briefly, by its Chair.

Where the Reported Person is found guilty, the Reported Person shall be given an opportunity to make a plea on mitigation of sanction, during which he may be questioned by Panel Members.

After the plea in mitigation has been completed, all parties other than the three Panel members leave while the Panel considers its findings. Once the Panel has deliberated on the plea in mitigation of sanction, all parties reassemble for the outcome, and the Panel's final decision will be announced by its Chair.

