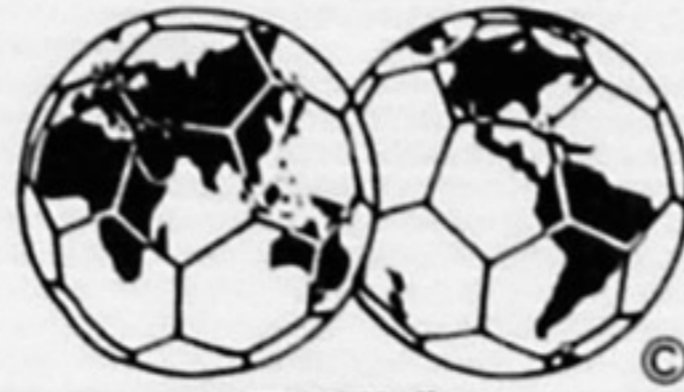


**INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION BOARD**

1990

**MINUTES
of the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**



FIFA

founded 1904

**FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

held at

THE HILTON CAVALIERI HOTEL, ROME, ITALY

on

THURSDAY, 28th JUNE, 1990, at 10.00 hours

HITZIGWEG 11
P.O. BOX 85
8030 Zurich

General Secretary

**FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

Present:

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Messrs. Dr J. Havelange, J.S. Blatter, G. Campanati, F. Bouzo.

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Messrs. F.A. Millichip, A.D. McMullen, W. Fox, R.H.G. Kelly.

THE IRISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Messrs. H.H. Cavan, S. Walker, E.N. Barry, D.I. Bowen.

THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Messrs. P. Gardiner, W.H. Dickie, J. McGinn, J. Farry.

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES

Messrs. T.R. Forse, I.V. Jones, A.E. Evans.

Also present:

Messrs. K. Ridden, G.D. Cumming, M. Zen Ruffinen and P. Pullen (interpreter to Dr J. Havelange)

I CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Dr Havelange welcomed the delegates to Rome, expressing special greetings to those members attending for the first time (Messrs. Fox, Kelly, Farry, Bouzo and Zen Ruffinen). He said he was honoured to be chairing this meeting, particularly as the fairness of the matches of the FIFA World Cup Italia '90 proved the value of the Board's work over the years as the custodian of the Laws of the Game.

II MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Meeting, held at the Caledonian Hotel, Edinburgh, Scotland, on 7th June 1989, were adopted.

III LAWS OF THE GAME AND DECISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD

Proposals and amendments submitted under Rule 3

- (1) Proposed and amended by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association:

Law IV – Player’s Equipment – (1) and (2)

Present Text

- (1) A player shall not wear anything which is dangerous to another player.
- (2) Footwear must be worn by players and conform to the following standard:
 - (a) Bars shall be made of leather or rubber and shall be transverse and flat, not less than half an inch in width and shall extend the total width of the sole and be rounded at the corners.
 - (b) Studs which are independently mounted on the sole and are replaceable shall be made of leather, rubber, aluminium, plastic or similar material and shall be solid. With the exception of that part of the stud forming the base, which shall not protrude from the sole more than one quarter of an inch, studs shall be round in plan and not less than half an inch in diameter. Where studs are tapered, the minimum diameter of any section of the stud must not be less than half an inch. Where metal seating for the screw type is used, this seating must be embedded in the sole of the footwear and any attachment screw shall be part of the stud. Other than the metal seating for the screw type of stud, no metal plates even though covered with leather or rubber shall be worn, neither studs which are threaded to allow them to be screwed on to a base screw that is fixed by nails or otherwise to the soles of footwear, nor studs which, apart from the base, have any form of protruding edge rim or relief marking or ornament, should be allowed.
 - (c) Studs which are moulded as an integral part of the sole and are not replaceable shall be made of rubber, plastic, polyurethane or similar soft materials. Provided that there are no fewer than ten studs on the sole, they shall have a minimum diameter of three eighths of an inch (10 mm). Additional supporting material to stabilise studs of soft materials, and ridges which shall not protrude

Proposed New Text

- (1) (a) The basic compulsory equipment of a player shall consist of a jersey or shirt, shorts, stockings, shinguards and footwear.
- (b) A player shall not wear anything which is dangerous to another player.
- (2) To be deleted.

Amendment submitted by

Decision

more than 3 years from the date of completion
of construction of such building provided
that they are in no way detrimental to the
player. In all other respects they shall conform
to the general requirements of the
Law.

(b) Combined bars and seats may be used
provided the whole complies with the general
requirements of this Law. Whether bars are
used on the seats shall depend upon the
discretion of the court. It shall not be
deemed to be contrary to this Law.

Reasons:

This proposal is made in conformity with the decision taken by the International F.A. Board on
Monday 10 February 1970 at its 17th meeting in London. The Board was of the opinion that the
provision of the present Law is not in conformity with the decision of the Board and that it is
not necessary and that it is more in conformity with the decision of the Board and that it is
not necessary to amend the Law in this respect and that the Board has decided to amend the
Law in this respect.

more than 5 mm from the sole and moulded to strengthen it, shall be permitted provided that they are in no way dangerous to other players. In all other respects they shall conform to the general requirements of this Law.

- (d) Combined bars and studs may be worn, provided the whole conforms to the general requirements of this Law. Neither bars nor studs on the soles shall project more than three-quarters of an inch. If nails are used they shall be driven in flush with the surface.

Reason:

This proposal is made in accordance with the decision taken by The International F.A. Board at its Meeting in Edinburgh on June 7th 1989 (see point IV (1) of the Minutes of this Meeting). Furthermore, it is considered that the present text of the Decision (1) implied that the equipment was optional whereas it was, in fact, compulsory and that it is more relevant to transfer it to the Law IV itself. The new version of point (1) already covering the obligation to wear footwear and the elimination of dangerous equipment, point (2) now becomes superfluous.

Amendment submitted by

Decision

The proposal of The Fédération Internationale de Football Association was adopted.

(2) Proposed by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association:

Law IV - Players' Equipment

New Point (2):

Proposed New Text

(2) Shinguards, which must be covered entirely by the stockings, shall be made of a suitable material (rubber, plastic, polyurethane or similar substance) and shall afford a reasonable degree of protection.

Reason:

Now that a proposal is being submitted to the International Football Association Board to declare shinguards compulsory, it is deemed necessary to define them.

Amendment submitted by

Decision

Proposed New Text

(1) To be deleted

(2) In International Match, International Competition, International Club Competition and friendly matches between clubs of different National Associations, the Referee, prior to the start of the game, shall inspect the players' equipment and prevent any player whose equipment does not conform to the requirements of this Law from playing until such time as it does comply. The rules of any competition may include a similar provision.

M.B. (3) becomes (1)
 (4) becomes (2)
 (5) becomes (3)
 (6) becomes (4)

The proposal of The Fédération Internationale de Football Association was adopted.

- (3) Proposed by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association as a consequence of the amended proposal under Law IV, Items (1) and (2):

Law IV - Players' Equipment - Decisions of the International F.A. Board

Present Text

- (1) The basic equipment of a player is a jersey or shirt, shorts, stockings and footwear.
- (2) In International Matches, International Competitions, International Club Competitions and friendly matches between clubs of different National Associations, the Referee, prior to the start of the game, shall inspect the players' footwear, and prevent any player whose footwear does not conform to the requirements of this Law from playing until such time as it does comply. The rules of any competition may include a similar provision.

Proposed New Text

- (1) To be deleted
- (2) In International Matches, International Competitions, International Club Competitions and friendly matches between clubs of different National Associations, the Referee, prior to the start of the game, shall inspect the players' equipment, and prevent any player whose equipment does not conform to the requirements of this Law from playing until such time as it does comply. The rules of any competition may include a similar provision.

- N.B.: (2) becomes (1)
(3) becomes (2)
(4) becomes (3)
(5) becomes (4)

Reason:

Now that the text of decision (1) has been incorporated into the new proposed version of paragraph (1)(a) of the Law, it has therefore become superfluous here. The wording of decision (2) should be modified to reflect the fact that it has become a general rule (dangerous equipment has been banned altogether) as provided for in the new proposed paragraph (1)(b).

Amendment submitted by

Decision

(4) Proposed by The Football Association

Law XI - Off-side - (3)

Proposed New Text

Final Text

- (1) Unchanged
- (2) A player shall only be declared off-side and penalised for being in an off-side position, if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is in the opinion of the referee
- (a) seeking to interfere with play or with an opponent
- (b) seeking to gain an advantage by being in that position

- (1) Unchanged
- (2) A player shall only be declared off-side and penalised for being in an off-side position, if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee
- (a) interfering with play or with an opponent
- (b) seeking to gain an advantage by being in that position

Positioning play is called when a player in an off-side position intentionally interferes with play. The amendment will ensure that a player will only be declared off-side in respect of interfering with play, or a player who finds himself in an off-side position intentionally through the intentional movement forward of the ball is played near to his position.

Positioning play is called when a player in an off-side position intentionally interferes with play. The amendment will ensure that a player will only be declared off-side in respect of interfering with play, or a player who finds himself in an off-side position intentionally through the intentional movement forward of the ball is played near to his position.

The proposal of The Fédération Internationale de Football Association was adopted.

(4) Proposed by The Football Association

Law XI - Off-side - (2)

Present Text

- (1) Unaltered
- (2) A player shall only be declared off-side and penalised for being in an off-side position, if, at the moment the ball touches, or is played by, one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee
 - (a) interfering with play or with an opponent, or
 - (b) seeking to gain an advantage by being in that position.

Proposed New Text

- (1) Unaltered
- (2) A player shall only be declared off-side and penalised for being in an off-side position, if, at the moment the ball touches, or is played by, one of his team, he is in the opinion of the referee
 - (a) seeking to interfere with play or with an opponent, or
 - (b) seeking to gain an advantage by being in that position.

Reason:

Sometimes play is halted when a player in an off-side position involuntarily interferes with play. The amendment will ensure that a player will only be declared off-side in respect of interfering with play, or with an opponent, in cases where he seeks to do so. A player who finds himself in an off-side position merely through the intentional movement forward of opposing players will not then be declared off-side automatically if the ball is played near to his position.

Amendment submitted by

Decision

Proposed by The Football Association

Law XI - Off-side

(1) A player shall not be declared off-side by the referee if he is in an off-side position at the moment the ball is struck by a player of his own team.

(2) If he receives the ball direct from a goal-kick, a corner-kick, or a throw-in (not of his own team) he shall not be declared off-side.

(1) A player shall not be declared off-side by the referee if he is in an off-side position at the moment the ball is struck by a player of his own team.

(2) If he receives the ball direct from a goal-kick, a corner-kick, a throw-in, or when it has been dropped by the referee, he shall not be declared off-side.

The proposed new text eliminates the phrase "concerning the direct" which was inserted in the original proposal. The new text is clearer and more concise. It also removes the phrase "of his own team" which was redundant in the context of an off-side offence. The phrase "of his own team" was only included in the original proposal as a player may only be declared off-side if he is in an off-side position at the moment the ball is struck by a player of his own team.

The Board agreed with the principle outlined in the proposal of The Football Association but decided not to adopt the proposal until the Editorial Committee had had the opportunity of giving more detailed consideration as to its implementation.

(5) Proposed by The Football Association:

Law XI - Off-side - (3)

Present text

- (3) A player shall not be declared off-side by the referee
- (a) merely because of his being in an off-side position, or
 - (b) if he receives the ball, direct from a goal-kick, a corner-kick, a throw-in, or when it has been dropped by the referee.

Proposed new text

- (3) A player shall not be declared off-side by the referee
- (a) merely because of his being in an off-side position, or
 - (b) if he receives the ball, direct from a goal-kick, a corner-kick, or a throw-in (rest of the sentence to be deleted)

Reason:

The proposed new text eliminates the phrase concerning the ball being dropped by the referee. Since the Law was reworded some years ago this phrase has not been appropriate, as a player may only be considered in the context of an off-side offence if the ball was touched or played by one of his team.

Amendment submitted by

Decision

Proposed by The Football Association (b)

Law XI - Off-side (1)

Proposed text

- (1) A player is in an off-side position if he is nearer to his opponents' goal line than the ball, unless:
 - (a) he is in his own half of the field of play, or
 - (b) he is not nearer to his opponents' goal-line than at least two of his opponents.

Proposed text

- (1) A player is in an off-side position if he is nearer to his opponents' goal-line than the ball, unless:
 - (a) he is in his own half of the field of play, or
 - (b) there are at least two of his opponents nearer to their own goal-line than he is.

Reasons

The amendment to the Law is proposed to encourage the attacking team about an attacker who is level with the second last defender would now be considered on-side and not off-side as in the present Law.

The proposal of The Football Association was adopted.

(6) Proposed by The Scottish Football Association:

Law XI - Off-side - (1)

Present text

- (1) A player is in an off-side position if he is nearer to his opponents' goal-line than the ball, unless
- (a) he is in his own half of the field of play, or
 - (b) there are at least two of his opponents nearer their own goal-line than he is.

Proposed new text

- (1) A player is in an off-side position if he is nearer to his opponents' goal-line than the ball, unless:
- (a) he is in his own half of the field of play, or
 - (b) he is not nearer to his opponents' goal-line than at least two of his opponents.

Reason:

The amendment to the Law is proposed to encourage the attacking team since an attacker who is level with the second last defender would now be considered on-side and not off-side as in the present Law.

Amendment submitted by

Decision

The proposal of The Scottish Football Association was adopted.

(7) Proposed by The Scottish Football Association:

Law XI - Off-side - Decisions of The International F.A. Board

Proposed New Decision (2)

(2) A player who is level with the second last opponent or with the last two opponents is not in an off-side position.

Amendment submitted by

Decision

The proposal of The Scottish Football Association was adopted.

IV ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(1) Submitted by The Football Association of Wales:

The Board agreed to accede to the request of The Football Association of Wales to permit an experiment under Law XI (off-side) with a subsequent report on the results of this experiment being submitted to the Board.

The experiment will be the amendment of the Law whereby a player shall not be off-side if he receives the ball which is played directly from his own half of the field.

(2) Submitted by The Football Association:

The better punishment of the blatant or reckless act which eliminates an obvious goalscoring opportunity.

The Board welcomed the Discussion Paper submitted by The Football Association which complemented the instructions to referees issued by FIFA for the World Cup Italia '90. The Editorial Committee was requested to draft an appropriate text:

- a) for release by means of instructions by FIFA to all National Associations;
- b) for submission to the 1991 Board meeting;

(3) Submitted by The Football Association:

Timewasting by goalkeepers

The Board welcomed the request of The Football Association regarding further consideration of the problem of timewasting by goalkeepers and asked The Editorial Committee to further study this subject, together with timewasting as a team tactic, as intimated by The Scottish F.A.

V 1991 MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

The 1991 Annual Meeting is to take place on 8th June in Northern Ireland.


VI OTHER BUSINESS

1. The FIFA President explained the background leading to his idea of having the game divided into four parts of 25 minutes each.
2. The FIFA delegation recalled the request of some of the World Cup team managers to allow the two authorised substitutes per match to be selected from the remaining eleven players, instead of from five nominated substitutes as is at present the case for the FIFA World Cup.
3. The Board should be aware that Law V - Referees, and Law VI - Linesmen, are not always being appropriately implemented at major international tournaments.

The meeting was concluded by Mr. Harry H. Cavan expressing regret at the lack of knowledge of some people involved in football at a high level regarding the role exercised by The International F.A. Board.

Dr Havelange said that FIFA would in future give more publicity to the Board's activities, which he himself found to be of vital importance for the benefit of the game. He then wished all the members a pleasant stay in Italy.

Mr. Millichip proposed a vote of thanks to the FIFA President, emphasising the excellent relationship between the four British Associations and FIFA on the Board which he had had the pleasure to witness at all nine meetings he had attended.



Harry H. Cavan

