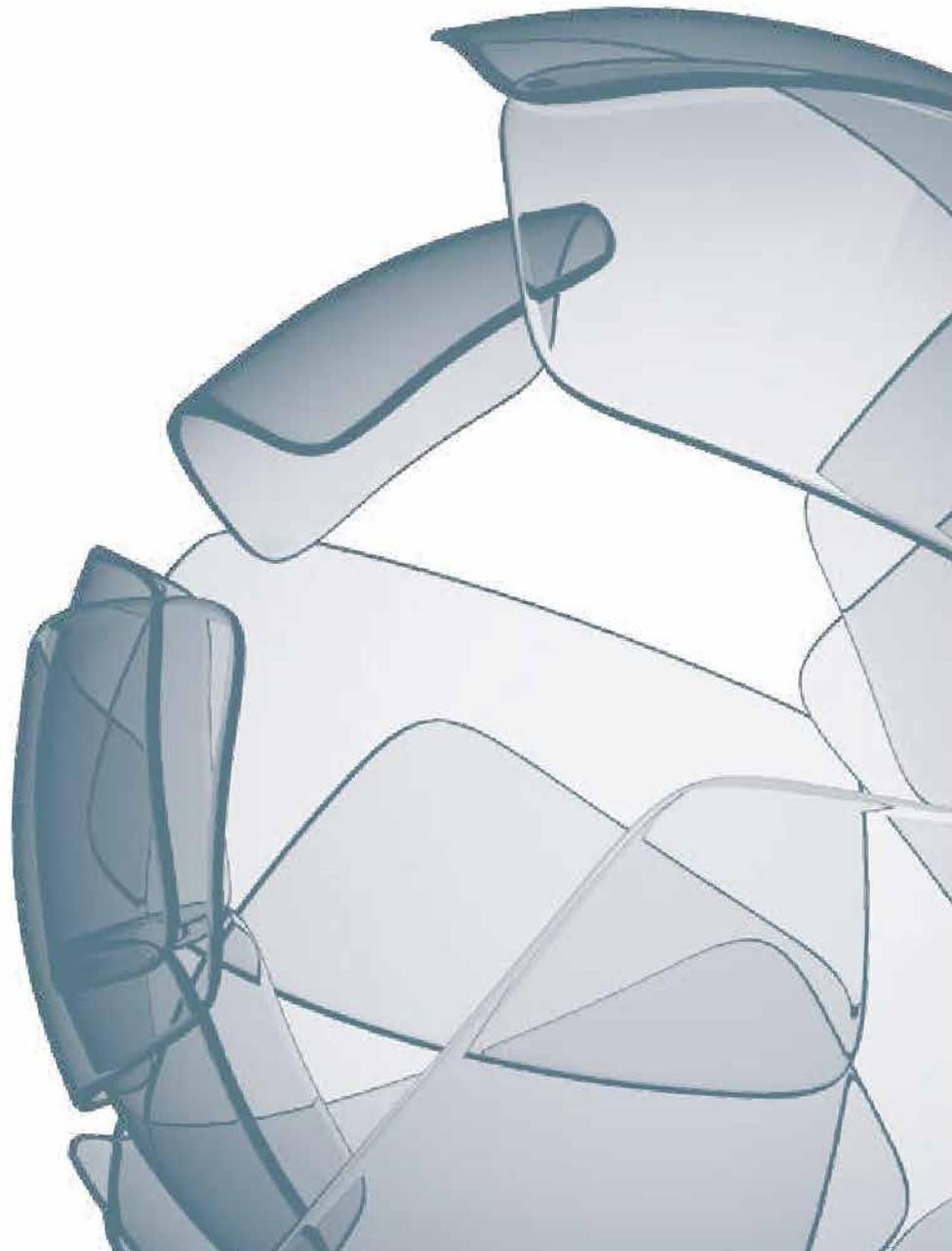
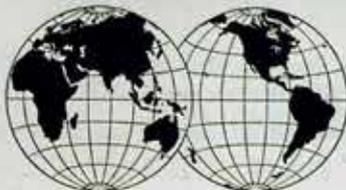


1954

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING





Minutes of the Annual Meeting

held at the Schweizerhof Hotel, Berne,
on Saturday, 19th June, 1954

The following constituted the Board:

Fédération Internationale de Football Association

Messrs. R. W. Seeldrayers
H. Delaunay
K. Gassmann (Secretary)
H. Bangerter

The Football Association

Messrs. L. C. Tyte
Col. Linnitt
Sir Stanley Rous (Secretary)
E. M. Miller

The Scottish Football Association

Messrs. H. S. Swan
J. W. Park
R. Williamson
Sir George Graham (Secretary)

The Football Association of Wales

Messrs. M. Jenkins
E. J. Morgan
H. Powell (Secretary)

The Irish Football Association

Messrs. F. J. Cochrane
J. McBride
W. R. Hewitt
W. J. Drennan (Secretary)

Mr. R. W. Seeldrayers, Vice-President of the F. I. F. A., presided, and
H. Bangerter, Assistant Secretary, acted as Secretary to the Board.

Prior to the Business of the Meeting, the Chairman welcomed the delegates to Switzerland and made special reference to:

- a) the absence of Mr. Arthur Drewry owing to illness and of Mr. E. Coppola owing to the death of his brother;
- b) the responsibility vested in the Board to alter the Laws as infrequently as possible so that the game remains the same all over the world.

Appropriate telegrams were sent to Mr. Drewry and Mr. Coppola.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held at Eastbourne on 20th June, 1953, were confirmed.

Laws of the Game

1. The following proposal by The Football Association of Wales was adopted:

PRESENT LAW

Law 2

"The ball shall be spherical; the outer casing shall be of leather and no material shall be used in its construction which might prove dangerous to the players. The circumference of the ball shall not be more than 28 inches nor less than 27 inches. The weight of the ball at the start of the game shall not be more than 16 oz. nor less than 14 oz.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Add to the end of the last sentence of Law 2:
 "... and it shall not be changed during the game unless authorized by the Referee".

2. The following proposal by The Scottish Football Association was rejected by 3 : 2 votes:

PRESENT LAW

Law 12, section 1 (g)

"(g) holds an opponent with his hand or any part of his arm;"

PROPOSED ALTERATION

"(g) holds an opponent
 (i) with his hand;
 (ii) with any part of his arm;
 (iii) with his body, i. e. while not playing the ball, preventing an opponent from playing it by physical contact".

3. The following proposal by The Scottish Football Association was withdrawn:

PRESENT LAW	PROPOSED ALTERATION
<p><i>Law 12, section 2</i></p> <p>" A player committing any of the five following offences:"</p>	<p>" In opening sentence delete "five" and substitute "four". Delete para. "(3)" and renumber paragraphs "(4)" and "(5)" as "(3)" and "(4)".</p>

4. and 5. The following alterations proposed by the Fédération Internationale de Football Association and the Football Association of Wales were considered:

Proposal by the Fédération Internationale de Football Association

PRESENT LAW	PROPOSED ALTERATION
<p><i>Law 12, section 3 (j)</i></p> <p>" (j) he joins or rejoins his team after the game has commenced without reporting to the Referee and receiving a signal of acknowledgment from him." If the game... the Law infringed.</p>	<p>" (j) if he joins or rejoins his team after play has started without first having received, while waiting on the touch-line or goal-line, a signal from the Referee showing him that it is in order for him to do so. (This clause is not applicable in the case of Law 4). " If the game... the Law infringed.</p>

Proposal by the Football Association of Wales

PRESENT LAW	PROPOSED ALTERATION
<p><i>Law 12, section 3 (j)</i></p> <p>" (j) he joins or rejoins his team after the game has commenced without reporting to the Referee and receiving a signal of acknowledgment from him." If the game... the Law infringed.</p>	<p>" A player shall be cautioned if: (j) he enters the field of play to join or rejoin his team after the game has commenced without reporting to the Referee and receiving a signal of acknowledgment from him. (This clause is not applicable in the case of Law 4)." If the game... of the Law infringed.</p>

The following text was finally adopted:

" A player shall be cautioned if:

(j) he enters the field of play to join or rejoin his team after the game has commenced without first having received a signal from the Referee showing him that he is in order to do so. "

(This clause is not applicable in the case of Law 4)." If the game... of the Law infringed.

Miscellanea

(i) *Light coloured ball*

A memorandum submitted by The Football Association was considered. The Board decided that the National Associations should be informed that the outer casing of footballs used in matches under their jurisdiction must be one hundred per cent leather.

(ii) *Studs: Football Boots*

It was decided to defer consideration of the memorandum submitted by The Football Association about the material to be used in the manufacture of football studs. After further enquiries and experiments have been made a proposal will be submitted to the International F. A. Board.

(iii) *Television*

It was decided that the matter, as it affects the four British Associations, be discussed at a meeting to be arranged in Scotland in July 1954.

Law 12 (dangerous play)

The Board was invited by the Referees' Committee of F. I. F. A. to give their advice on the following item:

"A player stoops too much to head the ball at the same time as the opponent kicks the ball."

Is this an infringement of Law 12? Shall the player who is attempting to head the ball be penalised for dangerous play by the award of an indirect free-kick?

The Board gave the following comment:

If a player stoops too low to head the ball an infringement of Law 12 is not committed unless in the opinion of the Referee the player trying to head the ball is a danger to himself; in these circumstances, he could penalise the player by awarding an indirect free-kick to the opposing side from the place where the infringement occurred in accordance with Law 12, section 2 (I).

Annual Meeting 1955

It was decided that the next meeting be held in St. Andrews (Scotland) on June 18th.

Vote of Thanks

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and the F. I. F. A. concluded the meeting.



THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

SCHWEIZERHOF HOTEL BERNE

SATURDAY, 19TH JUNE, 1954

A t t e n d a n c e

Rebecqer

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Kalys.
Quinn
Cr. Shaw.
* Red. C. Wells Shuller.

THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

A. D. Swan
John M. P. Taylor
W. G. Gibson Sutcliffe

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES

W. I. Hughes J. G. Jones
E. J. Thomas
W. J. Jones (Secretary)

THE IRISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

J. J. Moran
J. MacL. King
William H. Bennett Treasurer
J. J. Moran (Secretary)

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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