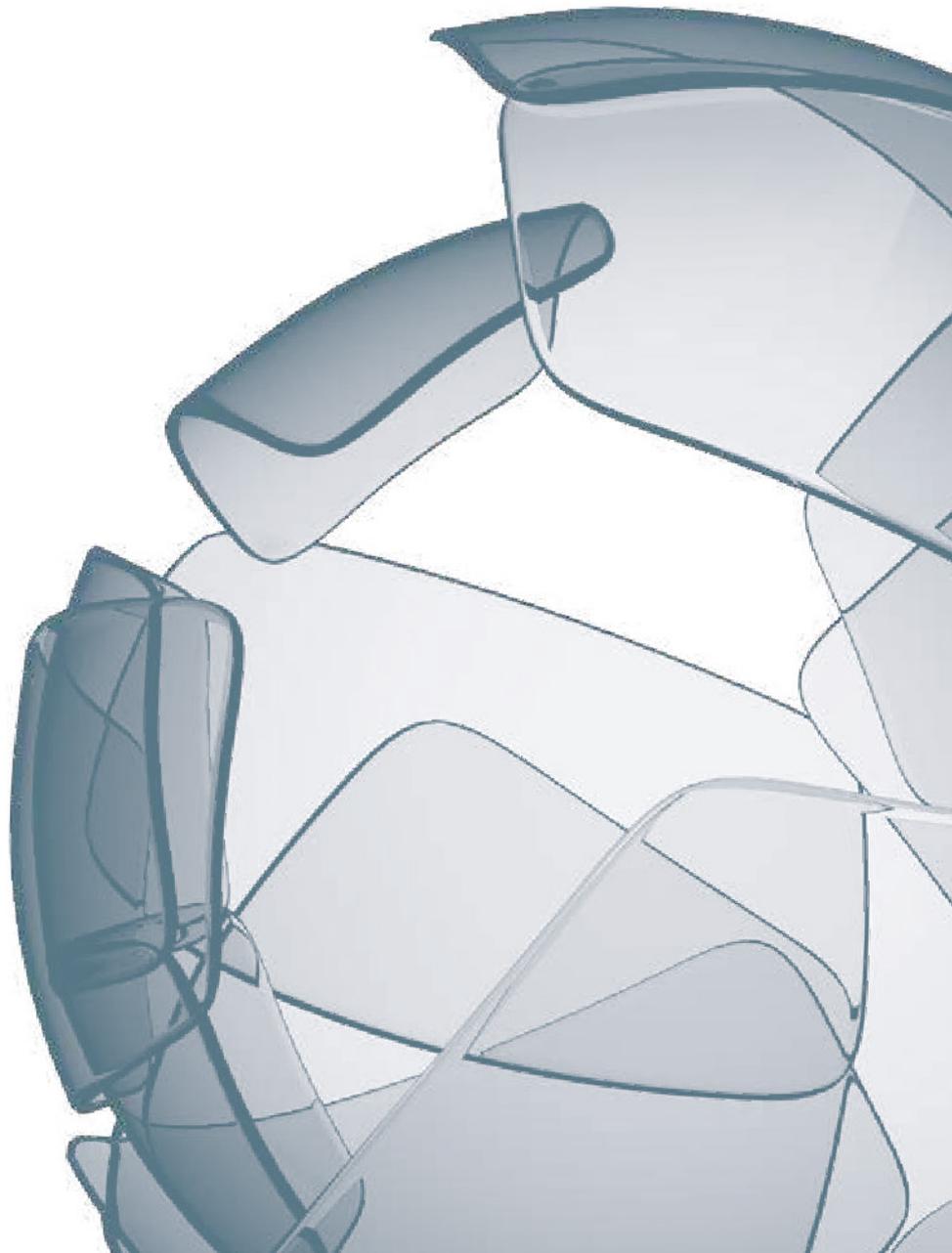


1968

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING





The International Football Association Board

Minutes of Annual Meeting
held at
Hotel Excelsior,
Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia
on Saturday, 15th June, 1968

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

of the International Football Association Board
held at the Hotel Excelsior, Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia
on Saturday, 15th June, 1968

The following constituted the Board:

Fédération Internationale de Football Association:

Sir Stanley Rous, C.B.E., J.P.
Prof. M. Andrejević
Mr. Koe Ewe Teik, P.J.K.
Mr. R. Masson
Dr. H. Käser (Secretary)
Mr. R. Courte
Dr. O. Barassi and Mr. A. Lindenberg
attended as FIFA's invited guests.

The Football Association:

Dr. A. Stephen
Mr. S. A. Donaldson
Lt.-Col. C. F. Linnitt, B.Sc., C.C., J.P.
Mr. L. T. Shipman, M.B.E.
Mr. D. Follows, C.B.E., B.A. (Secretary)
Mr. E. M. Miller

The Scottish Football Association:

Mr. P. Scott, M. B. E.
Mr. H. S. Nelson, J.P.
Mr. A. W. Strachan
Mr. W. P. Allan, J.P. (Secretary)

The Football Association of Wales:

Mr. T. E. Russell, F.C.C.S.
Mr. G. Owens
Mr. T. H. Squire
Mr. H. Powell, O.B.E. (Secretary)

The Irish Football Association:

Mr. H. H. Cavan
Mr. W. J. Drennan, J.P. (Secretary)

Sir Stanley Rous, President of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association presided and Dr. H. Käser acted as Secretary to the meeting.

I. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Before proceeding to the official business, the Chairman welcomed the members to the Board Meeting. Mr. Dragoljub Kirčanski, President of the Football Association of Yugoslavia, welcomed the members to Yugoslavia, and particularly to Dubrovnik on behalf of his Association.

The Chairman made special reference to:

- a) The absence of Mr. W. T. Kennedy (The Irish F.A.) due to illness;
- b) The death of Sir Joseph Richards (The Football Association) and Mr. W. A. Corry (The Irish F.A.) who had been members of the Board for many years. The Board observed one minute's silence to honour the memory of these former members;
- c) Mr. R. Masson (FIFA) who was attending his first meeting of the Board;
- d) Dr. O. Barassi, Vice-President of FIFA, and Mr. Adolf Lindenberg, who had been a Board member from 1958 to 1967, both invited guests of FIFA;
- e) Mr. T. Reid's presence in Dubrovnik as a guest of the Scottish F.A. (Mr. Reid had been a member of the Board from 1957 to 1967);
- f) The fine performance of the Yugoslav National Representative team in the European Football Championship – Henri Delaunay Cup – second place (Italy being champions);
- g) The necessity to re-examine from time to time the existing laws and decisions from the point of view of "text", but particularly as they were being applied in modern football when tactical and other reforms were taking place.

II. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held at Newcastle, Co. Down, on 23rd June, 1967, were approved.

The Board discussed the following matters and the decisions indicated were taken:

III. LAWS OF THE GAME AND DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

Proposals submitted under Rule 3 of the Board Rules

(1) Proposal by The Scottish Football Association

Law X—Method of Scoring

PRESENT DECISION No. 3

If the ball is going into goal, but before it passes wholly over the goal-line a spectator enters the field and tries to prevent the goal but fails to make contact with the ball which then goes into goal, the referee shall allow the goal.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

If, when a ball is going into goal, and before it passes wholly over the goal-line, a spectator enters the field and tries to prevent a goal, a goal shall be allowed, if the ball goes into goal unless the spectator makes contact with the ball or interferes with play.

The proposal was not adopted

Law XII—Fouls and Misconduct

(2) Proposal by The Scottish Football Association

PRESENT LAW

(g) Holds an opponent with his hand or any part of his arm;
A. player committing any of the five following offences:

1. Playing in a manner considered by the Referee to be dangerous, e. g., attempting to kick the ball while held by the goalkeeper;

2. Charging fairly, i. e., with the shoulder, when the ball is not within playing distance of the players concerned and they are definitely not trying to play it;

3. When not playing the ball, intentionally obstructing an opponent, i. e., running between the opponent and the ball, or interposing the body so as to form an obstacle to an opponent;

4. Charging the goalkeeper except when he

(a) is holding the ball;

(b) is obstructing an opponent;

(c) has passed outside his goal area;

5. When playing as goalkeeper, carrying the ball, i. e., taking more than four steps while holding the ball without bouncing it on the ground;

shall be penalised by the award of an indirect free-kick to be taken by the opposing side from the place where the infringement occurred.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Delete and substitute:

“(g) Holds an opponent with his hand or any part of his arm, or, when not playing the ball, intentionally obstructs an opponent with his body.”

Delete the word “five” in the first line and substitute “four”.

3. Delete.

4. To be re-numbered “3”.

5. To be re-numbered “4”.

The proposal was not adopted

(3) Proposal by The Football Association

PRESENT LAW

5. When playing as goalkeeper,

(a) takes more than 4 steps whilst holding, bouncing or throwing the ball in the air and catching it again without releasing it so that it is played by another player, or

(b) indulges in tactics which, in the opinion of the Referee, are designed merely to hold up the game and thus waste time and so give an unfair advantage to his own team,

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Section 5 (a)

That Section 5(a) with regard to carrying the ball by the goalkeeper be clarified.

The Board considered the request of the Football Association for an interpretation of Law XII para. 5a. It was agreed that the law was presenting no difficulties and that another season at least should pass before any further changes were contemplated. In the meantime it was agreed that the FIFA interpretation of the law as contained in the following decision of the meeting of the FIFA Referees' Committee, held in Montevideo on 1st and 2nd March 1968, should be accepted.

“...that ‘dribbling the ball by the goalkeeper’ was not ‘holding’, and that a goalkeeper could dribble the ball before, during or after taking the four steps. After having taken the four steps he is therefore allowed to dribble the ball, but he cannot take it into his hands again before another player has played it”.

(4) Proposal by The Scottish Football Association

PRESENT LAW

A player shall be cautioned if:

(j) he enters the field of play to join or re-join 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. If the game has been stopped (to administer the caution) it shall be restarted by the Referee dropping the ball at the place where the infringement occurred, but if the player has committed a more important offence he shall be penalised according to that section of the Law infringed.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Delete the word "important" and substitute the word "serious".

The proposal was adopted

(5) Proposal by The Football Association and FIFA

PRESENT LAW

A player shall be sent off the field of play, if:

(n) in the opinion of the Referee he is guilty of violent conduct or serious foul play;

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Section (n)

That a new Board Decision be made to provide that the offence of spitting at opponents or officials, or similar unseemly behaviour, should be considered as violent conduct within the meaning of section (n) of Law XII.

The proposal was adopted and the new decision (14) worded as follows:

"The offence of spitting at opponents, officials or other persons, or similar unseemly behaviour shall be considered as violent conduct within the meaning of section(n) of Law XII".

Decisions

(6) Proposal by The Scottish Football Association

PRESENT DECISION No. 9

If a player intentionally stretches his arms to obstruct an opponent and steps from one side to the other, moving his arms up and down to delay his opponent, forcing him to change course, but does not make "bodily contact" the referee shall caution the player for ungentlemanly conduct and award an indirect free-kick.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Delete and re-number subsequent decisions.

The proposal was withdrawn

(7) Proposal by The Scottish Football Association

PRESENT DECISION No. 10

If, during the half-time interval, a player strikes an opponent or behaves in an ungentlemanly manner towards the referee, he shall be debarred from taking any further part in the match, and shall not be replaced.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Delete the words "strikes an opponent" and substitute "commits ungentlemanly conduct".

The proposal was deferred for further consideration

Law XIV—Penalty-Kick

(8) Proposal by The Scottish Football Association

PRESENT LAW

Punishment

For any infringement of this Law:

(a) ...

(b) ...

(c) By the player taking the penalty-kick committed after the ball is in play, a player of the opposing team shall take an indirect free-kick from the spot where the infringement occurred.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Delete the words "committed after the ball is in play" occurring in section (c).

The proposal was not adopted

Decisions

(9) Proposal by The Football Association

PRESENT DECISION 5

5. If, in the circumstances (described in 4), the ball had passed the goal-line outside the goal, the referee would restart the game with a goal-kick.

The wording of decision 4 is as follows:

4. If when a penalty kick is being taken the player taking the penalty kick is guilty of ungentlemanly conduct he shall be cautioned. If the kick has been taken and a goal has resulted it shall be retaken.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Delete the entire Decision (5).

The proposal was adopted

(10) Proposal by The Football Association

PRESENT DECISION 6

6. If a colleague of the player taking the penalty-kick, encroaches into the penalty-area or within 10 yards of the penalty-mark before the ball is in play, and the ball rebounds into play from the goal-posts, crossbar or goalkeeper, the Referee shall stop the game and caution the player at fault. The game shall be restarted by an indirect free-kick.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Delete the present Decision and substitute:

“If a colleague of the player taking a penalty-kick encroaches into the penalty-area or to within ten yards of the penalty-mark before the ball is in play and the ball when kicked does not directly pass into goal the referee shall stop the play and restart the game with an indirect free-kick to the defending side from the place where the offence occurred”.

The proposal was not adopted

IV. SUGGESTIONS AND QUESTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER RULE 2 OF THE BOARD RULES

A. RULES OF THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

(Approved and adopted by International Football Association Board—June 1958)

(11) Proposal by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association

PRESENT RULE

9. The decisions of the Board shall be binding on all national Associations on and after the twenty-fifth of July following each Annual Meeting of the Board and no alterations to the Laws of the Game shall be made by any Association until they have passed by the Board.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

The decisions of the Board shall be binding on national Associations on and after the twenty-fifth of July following each Annual Meeting of the Board but National Associations whose current season has not ended by 25th July may delay the introduction of the adopted alterations for their National Competitions until the beginning of their next season. No alterations to the Laws of the Game shall be made by any Association until they have been passed by the Board.

The proposal was adopted.

It was agreed that for international matches any such decisions would be effective from the 25th of July following the Annual Meeting of the Board at which they were reached.

B. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Universal Guide for Referees)

(12) Proposal by The Scottish Football Association

Law XII—Fouls and Misconduct

PRESENT QUESTION AND ANSWER 8

8. q. If a player who enters or returns to the field of play without receiving a signal from the Referee to do so, and who, apart from this, commits another more serious infringement, e. g. handles the ball or strikes an opponent, how should he be penalised?

a. *The Referee should punish the more serious infringement.*

The proposal was adopted and it was agreed that the answer be reworded as follows:

A. 1. The referee shall caution the player for entering or returning to the field of play without having received a signal from the referee.
2. The referee shall furthermore punish the more serious infringement.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

Add at the end of the answer “The player shall be cautioned for entering or returning to the field of play, without having received a signal from the referee”.

(13) Proposal by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association**Law XIV—Penalty-Kick**

PRESENT QUESTION AND ANSWER 9

9. Q. What are the decisions of the Referee if the signal having been given, but before the ball is kicked, a colleague of the player taking the kick encroaches into the penalty-area and the Referee notices the offence but allows the kick to be taken and the ball rebounds from the goal-keeper, cross-bar or goal-posts to the player who has encroached and this player sends the ball into goal?

A. *The Referee shall disallow the goal, caution the player at fault for ungentlemanly conduct and re-start the game by retaking the penalty-kick.*

PROPOSED ALTERATION

The answer to be reworded as follows:

A. *The Referee shall disallow the goal, caution the player at fault for ungentlemanly conduct and re-start the game by an indirect free-kick.*

The proposal was adopted

C. THE DIAGONAL SYSTEM OF CONTROL

(Universal Guide for Referees)

(14) The Board received proposals from the FIFA to revise some parts of the diagonal system of control as outlined in the text and diagrams published in the FIFA – “Universal Guide for Referees”. This, they thought had become necessary to conform with the commentary in parts of the film “Referee and Linesmen – A Team”.

The Board members were asked to study the suggestions which, after they had been discussed by the Referees’ Committee of FIFA, would be submitted to the 1969 meeting of the Board.

D. EXPERIMENTAL MATCHES

(15) FIFA proposed to the F. A. Board that experimental matches be authorized in which the off-side law would not be applied to the taking of free-kicks.

The proposal was adopted

E. “THE PLACE WHERE THE ACTION WAS INITIATED”

(16) FIFA asked the F. A. Board to clarify its 1967 decision worded as follows (see Minutes of the International Board Meeting 1967, page 10.):

“The Board decided that the offence or attempted offence is committed at the place where the player concerned initiates the action.”

The Board confirmed the decision reached at its previous meeting in relation to the specific circumstances of the question posed.

V. INTERNATIONAL F. A. BOARD MEETING 1969

The invitation of The Football Association to hold the 1969 meeting in Jersey, provided suitable accommodation were available, was accepted.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS*1. International F.A. Board statement on behaviour on the field*

It was agreed that the following statement be issued to the press:

“The International Football Association Board at its Meeting in Dubrovnik expressed its concern at the disorder and violence which have crept into the Game, and particularly into competitive football during recent years.

The Board requests National Associations throughout the World to do everything in their power to improve their position to rid the Game of abuses by exercising full control over players, trainers, managers, referees and other officials. If such firm control is not exercised there is real danger that Association Football will cease to be a game to be played and to be watched with pleasure.

The International Football Association Board receives many suggestions for improving the Game, and alterations to the Laws and such suggestions are carefully studied. It is the belief of the Board, however, that the Spirit in which the Game is played is of paramount importance and that changes in the Laws to improve the Game as a spectacle are of little value if “fair play” is not universally observed.”

2. *Mouldmaster balls*

The Scottish F.A. raised the question of the increasing use of "Mouldmaster" footballs in schools. It was agreed to amend para (b) of the "Notes" to the "Laws of the Game and Universal Guide for Referees (1967 edition)" to read as follows: (b) size, weight and *material* of the ball.

3. *Plastic studs*

Reports were received concerning examination of a new kind of plastic football studs. It was agreed that plastic studs which had a metal surface did not comply with Law IV.

VII. VOTE OF THANKS

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

VIII. MEETING OF THE FOUR BRITISH ASSOCIATIONS

(Present as for the meeting of the International Board, with the exception of the delegates of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association)

The following proposals were considered:

International Matches

(1) PRESENT AGREEMENT 3e

(e) That a National Association requesting the services of a player for a Saturday who is registered with The Football League should not be required to pay to the player's club an amount in respect of the player's wages.
Decision of Four British Associations, 13th July, 1946.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

(The Football Association)

Delete the Present Agreement and substitute the following: "That a British National Association requesting the services of a professional player registered with The Football League shall pay the player's club an amount equal to the player's current contract basic weekly wage for every week or part thereof that he is required by that National Association. (The proposal applies only to Full International Matches)."

The Football Associations of Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales felt that it was difficult for them in view of their financial position to accept the proposal. They were conscious of the fact that the new arrangements for the British Championship might result in an improvement in their financial position but that could be judged in the light of experience.

It was felt, therefore, that the consideration of the proposal should be deferred for at least a year during which time the effect of the proposal might be better ascertained.

(2) PRESENT AGREEMENT 3h

(h) That the following fees shall be paid to professional players in international and representative matches:

	Players	Reserves
Full International	£50	£30
"B" Tour matches forming part of an "A" Tour in which full International Players are taking part	£30	£30
"B" Internationals	£15	£10
Under 23 (Colts)	£15	£10
Representative matches	£6	£6
Youth representative matches (excluding British Youth Championship)	£2	£2

Decision of Four British Associations, 18th June, 1955.

Revised, 17th June, 1961, as follows: Full International £60;
Under 23 International £20; Representative £10.

PROPOSED ALTERATION

(The Scottish Football Association)

That the fees for players in full international matches be increased from £60 to £100.

The Scottish Football Association withdrew their proposal

Apprentice Players and Ground Staff

The Football Association drew attention to the difficulties which had been created by the decision of the Scottish F. A. to register professional players at the age of 15 years. It was felt that every effort should be made to secure uniformity throughout the Four British Associations on the age at which boys could become professionals.

The Scottish F. A. felt it might be possible for them to change their opinion in relation to apprentice footballers if a Scottish boy who joined an English Club might be completely free to be registered with a Scottish Club immediately his registration as an apprentice with an English Club were cancelled. It was agreed to discuss the matter at a future meeting which it was hoped to call as soon as possible in the Season 1968/69.

Andrew Stephen

Fédération Internationale de Football Association

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD

Dubrovnik, 15th June, 1968.

Delegates

Signature

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

A. Stephen
 S.A. Donaldson
 Lt.-Col. C.F. Linnitt, C.C., J.P., B.Sc.,
 L.T. Shipmann
 D. Follows, E.B.E., B.A.,
 E.M. Miller

.....

THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

P. Scott
 H.S. Nelson, J.P.,
~~FRANCIS A.W. STRACHAN.~~
 W.P. Allan, J.P.,

.....

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES

T.E. Russell, F.C.C.S.,
 G. Owens
 T.H. Squire
 H. Powell, O.B.E.,

.....

THE IRISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

H.H. Cavan
 x W.J. Drennan, J.P.,

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FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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