

1984

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING





The Scottish Football Association

The International Football Association Board

MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING

held at

TURNBERRY HOTEL, AYRSHIRE, SCOTLAND

on SATURDAY, 2nd JUNE, 1984

6 PARK GARDENS,
GLASGOW G3 7YF

Secretary.

THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

The International Football Association Board

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PRESENT

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION:

Dr. J. Havelange, Messrs. H. H. Cavan, O. Sey, T. Wharton, J. S. Blatter and P. Pullen (Interpreter).

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION:

Messrs. F. A. Millichip, A. D. McMullen, J. J. Dunnett and E. A. Croker.

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES:

Messrs. S. Jenkins, T. Jarman, E. M. Danter and A. E. Evans.

THE IRISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION:

Messrs. S. Walker, E. N. Barry and D. I. Bowen.

THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION:

Messrs. D. H. Will (in the Chair), P. Gardiner, W. H. Dickie, E. Walker and P. Donald.

GUEST OF HONOUR:

Sir Stanley Rous.



I CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Will extended a welcome to all of the delegates and made special reference to his pleasure at having the President of F.I.F.A., Dr. Havelange, in attendance. Speaking on behalf of everyone present, he bade a warm welcome to the guest of honour, Sir Stanley Rous, and commented on the fact that Messrs. Bowen, Donald and Sey were attending their first meeting of the International Board.

Mr. Will paid tribute to four former members of the International Board—Dr. Artemio Franchi, President of U.E.F.A. and Chairman of the F.I.F.A. Referees' Committee, Professor Sir Harold Thompson, former Chairman of The Football Association, Mr. Tom Younger, President of The Scottish Football Association, and Sir Denis Follows, former Secretary of The Football Association—whose deaths had occurred since the last meeting, and the members stood in silence to mark their respect.



II MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held at Chewton Glen Hotel, Hampshire, England, on 9th July, 1983, were confirmed and signed.

III LAWS OF THE GAME AND INTERNATIONAL BOARD DECISIONS

Proposals and amendments submitted under Rule 3

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

Law VIII – The Start of Play

Present Text

(d) After any other temporary suspension; when restarting the game after a temporary suspension of play from any cause not mentioned elsewhere in these Laws, provided that immediately prior to the suspension the ball has not passed over the touch or goal-lines, the Referee shall drop the ball at the place where it was when play was suspended and it shall be deemed in play when it has touched the ground; if, however, it goes over the touch or goal-lines after it has been dropped by the Referee, but before it is touched by a player, the Referee shall again drop it. A player shall not play the ball until it has touched the ground. If this section of the Laws is not complied with the Referee shall again drop the ball.

Proposed New Text

(d) After any other temporary suspension; when restarting the game after a temporary suspension of play from any cause not mentioned elsewhere in these Laws, provided that immediately prior to the suspension the ball has not passed over the touch or goal-lines, the Referee shall drop the ball at the place where it was when play was suspended, *unless this occurs within the goal area, in which case it shall be dropped on the six yard goal area line, perpendicular to where it was situated when the game was suspended.* It shall be deemed in play when it has touched the ground; if, however, it goes over the touch or goal-lines after it has been dropped by the Referee, but before it is touched by a player, the Referee shall again drop it. A player shall not play the ball until it has touched the ground. If this section of the Laws is not complied with the Referee shall again drop the ball.

Reason:

In order to avoid players crowding and hence jostling when a ball is dropped on the goal-line between the goal-posts, the ball shall be dropped on the six yard goal area line, which is parallel to the goal-line and forms one of the sides of the rectangle being the goal area.

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY

DECISION

The Scottish Football Association:

unless it was within the goal area at that time, in which case it shall be dropped on that part of the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal-line, at the point nearest to where the ball was when play was stopped.

The proposal by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association was withdrawn in favour of the amendment submitted by The Scottish Football Association, which was adopted.

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

Law XIII – Free-Kick

Present Text

Notwithstanding any other reference in these Laws to the point from which a free-kick is to be taken, any free-kick awarded to the defending team, within its own goal area, may be taken from any point within that half of the goal area in which the free-kick has been awarded.

Proposed New Text

Notwithstanding any other reference in these Laws to the point from which a free-kick is to be taken:

1. Any free-kick awarded to the defending team, within its own goal area, may be taken from any point within that half of the goal area in which the free-kick has been awarded.
2. *Any indirect free-kick awarded to the attacking team within the goal area shall be made from the six yard goal area line, perpendicular to the point where the offence was committed.*

Reason:

In order to avoid players crowding and hence jostling when an indirect free-kick has to be taken on the goal-line between the goal-posts (wall on the goal-line between the goal-posts), the indirect free-kick shall be executed on the six yard goal area line, which is parallel to the goal-line and forms one of the sides of the rectangle being the goal area.

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY

DECISION

The Scottish Football Association:

2. *Any indirect free-kick awarded to the attacking team within its opponent's goal area shall be taken from that part of the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal-line, at the point nearest to where the offence was committed.*

The proposal by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association was withdrawn in favour of the amendment submitted by The Scottish Football Association, which was adopted.

(3) Proposed by The Football Association:

Law XV – Throw-In

Present Text

Decisions of the International Board

- (1) If a player taking a throw-in, plays the ball a second time by handling it within the field of play before it has been touched or played by another player, the Referee shall award a direct free-kick.
- (2) A player taking a throw-in must face the field of play with some part of his body.
- (3) If, when a throw-in is being taken, any of the opposing players dance about or gesticulate in a way calculated to distract or impede the thrower, it shall be deemed ungentlemanly conduct, for which the offender(s) shall be cautioned.

Proposed New Text

Decisions of the International Board

- (1) If a player taking a throw-in, plays the ball a second time by handling it within the field of play before it has been touched or played by another player, the Referee shall award a direct free-kick.
- (2) A player taking a throw-in must face the field of play with some part of his body.
- (3) If, when a throw-in is being taken, any of the opposing players dance about or gesticulate in a way calculated to distract or impede the thrower, it shall be deemed ungentlemanly conduct, for which the offender(s) shall be cautioned.
- (4) *A throw-in taken from any position other than the point where the ball passed over the touch-line shall be considered to have been improperly thrown in.*

Reason:

The additional decision will clarify the situation as to when a ball is improperly thrown in.

The current wording of the Law is quite specific in relation to the thrower's hand action and position of his feet whilst throwing. The proposed extra decision confirms that a throw-in can only be executed from the point where the ball crossed the touch-line if it is to conform to the present wording of the Law. A throw-in taken from an incorrect position would then be regarded as improperly thrown and Punishment (a) would be applied.

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED BY

DECISION

CONFIDENTIAL

The proposal was defeated.

IV ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Submitted by The Fédération Internationale de Football Association:

1. Feinting at the Taking of a Penalty-Kick

This item has already been postponed several times (At the 1982 meeting of The International FA Board, it was agreed that this matter should be handled by the Editorial Committee. This was neither handled at the meeting of said Committee in December, 1982, nor in July, 1983.), which is why FIFA suggests that it be thoroughly discussed at this meeting in order to reach a definite and precise conclusion.

It was agreed that this question should be referred again to the Editorial Board in the hope that, on this occasion, recommendations for a definitive conclusion would be forthcoming.

2. The Place at Which a Free-Kick Should be Taken: at the point of contact or where the foul was initiated.

FIFA has noticed that the Minutes of the 1967 and 1968 International FA Board meetings are contradictory in this respect. Moreover it is our opinion that there should be a definite standardisation as to the spot from where a free-kick should be carried out (except in cases where one player is in the field and the other outside of it, and suchlike), either at the point of contact or where it was initiated, but not sometimes the former and sometimes the latter, which causes confusion and misunderstanding.

This is why FIFA feels this issue should be rediscussed.

This item was withdrawn by F.I.F.A.

3. Duration of the Half-Time Interval

FIFA suggests that a study be made of the possibility of changing the second paragraph of Law VII – Duration of the Game, explicitly specifying that an interval of fifteen minutes is permitted.

It was agreed that this item be referred to the Editorial Board for consideration.

4. Table of Measurements

FIFA suggests that the table of measurements (Law I, Decision 3 of The International FA Board) be altered only in as much as the pressure of the ball is concerned.

It was agreed that F.I.F.A. should submit a suitable proposal for consideration at the next meeting of The International Football Association Board.

Submitted by The Football Association:

5. Discussion Paper on Law XI – Offside

To consider the views of the FIFA Technical Committee and of the FIFA Referees' Committee on The Football Association's Discussion Paper on Law XI – Offside, which was considered at the meeting of The International FA Board in 1983 and which was referred to these committees at that time.

Despite the fact that it was indicated that the F.I.F.A. Technical Committee has not yet considered the discussion paper, all of the delegations represented expressed views on Law XI – Offside, and The Football Association's paper on the subject was noted.

6. Law XII 5(b)

The Football Association feels that, in conjunction with The Scottish Football Association's proposal to discuss the application of Law XII 5(a) – the four-step rule, there should be discussion of section 5(b) also, with particular reference to the FIFA Circular No. 315(b) issued immediately following the 1983 meeting of the Board, viz:-

“It is important to signal here that Law XII 5(b) remains in force (playing to waste time).”
and The Football Association suggests that an even more rigorous implementation of this section on the field of play is highly desirable.

In general terms, it was agreed that it would be helpful if F.I.F.A. were to send out another circular, the wording of which should be composed by the Editorial Board, emphasising the necessity for referees to ensure that the terms of section 5(b) of Law XII are observed.

7. The FIFA Memorandum on Instructions for Referees and Resolutions Affecting Team Managers and Players

The Football Association wishes to discuss this document, which was issued for the World Youth Championship in Mexico, 1983, with particular reference to Section 5 – Obstruction.

The International Board acknowledged the worth of this set of guidelines which had been drawn up by F.I.F.A. and it was agreed that their continued use in certain international competitions would be beneficial, with the proviso that the expression “legal obstruction” should be deleted therein.

Submitted by The Scottish Football Association:

Law XII 5(a) – “The Four Step Rule”

If a goalkeeper, within his own penalty area, receives the ball into his hands, takes four steps, drops the ball to his feet and advances with it to the 18 yards line, then takes one step over the 18 yards line, still with the ball at his feet, and then steps back into the penalty area with the ball at his feet, may he now take the ball into his hands again? The point is that paragraph 5(a) of the Law describes the limitations imposed upon a goalkeeper when he is “within his own penalty area”. Does the fact that he has stepped out of the penalty area and then returned into it again, break the normal sequence of events and permit him to start on a fresh sequence by picking up the ball, taking four steps, etc? The Scottish Football Association is in no doubt that this was not the intention when this section of the Law was amended in 1983, but it is felt that the situation is worthy of discussion, perhaps with a view to tightening up the Law.

The International Board expressed the opinion that for a goalkeeper to act in the manner described would be a clear breach of the intention of Law XII 5(a) and that he should be penalised by the award of an indirect free-kick to the opposing team.

MEETING 1985—DATE AND VENUE

The Irish Football Association invited The International Football Association Board to meet in Northern Ireland in 1985, on a date which should be decided upon by the Editorial Board.

VI OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Havelange intimated that he was delighted to be present at this meeting and expressed his appreciation of the work carried out by The International F.A. Board and of the care and attention which the Board devotes to matters relating to the Laws of the Game. Dr. Havelange concluded his remarks by thanking The Scottish Football Association for the arrangements which they had made in connection with the meeting and by thanking Mr. Will for the manner in which he had chaired the proceedings.

Harry H Gavett
15th June 1985

Secretary E Walker

Patron H M The Queen

Our Ref

Reg No 5453 Scotland

Your Ref

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INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING
SCOTLAND - 2ND JUNE, 1984

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Mr. D. H. Will

Mr. P. Gardiner

Mr. W. H. Dickie

Mr. E. Walker

Mr. P. Donald (Staff)

[Handwritten signatures: D. H. Will, P. Gardiner, W. H. Dickie, E. Walker, P. Donald]

F.I.F.A.

Dr. J. Havelange

Mr. O. Sey

Mr. T. Wharton

Mr. J. S. Blatter

[Handwritten signatures: J. Havelange, O. Sey, T. Wharton, J. S. Blatter]

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Mr. F. A. Millichip

Mr. A. D. McMullen

Mr. J. J. Dunnett

Mr. E. A. Croker

[Handwritten signatures: F. A. Millichip, A. D. McMullen, J. J. Dunnett, E. A. Croker]

Address all correspondence to 'The Secretary' Telegrams 'Executive' Telex: 778904

Secretary E Walker

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Mr. S. Walker

Mr. E. N. Barry

Mr. D. I. Bowen

H H Cavan
S Walker
E N Barry
David I Bowen

FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES

Mr. S. Jenkins

Mr. T. Jarman

Mr. E. M. Danter

Mr. A. E. Evans

Selwyn Jenkins
Thomas Jarman
E M Danter
A E Evans

GUEST OF HONOUR

Sir Stanley Rous

Stanley Rous

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