

1983

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING





The Football Association

THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD
MINUTES of the ANNUAL MEETING
held at
CHEWTON GLEN HOTEL, NEW MILTON, HAMPSHIRE
on **SATURDAY, 9th JULY 1983**

**THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
THE INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING**

held at
Chewton Glen Hotel, New Milton, Hampshire,
on Saturday, 9th July 1983.

PRESENT

Fédération Internationale de Football Association:

Dr. J. Havelange, Dr. A. Franchi, Messrs. R. Machin, T. Wharton, J.S. Blatter and P. Pullen (Interpreter).

The Football Association:

Messrs. F.A. Millichip (in the Chair), A.D. McMullen, J.J. Dunnett, E.A. Croker, K.W. Ridden and Miss P. Smith.

The Football Association of Wales:

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

The Irish Football Association:

Messrs. H.H. Cavan, S. Walker, E. Barry and W.J. Drennan.

The Scottish Football Association:

Messrs. D.H. Will, D. Letham, P. Gardiner and E. Walker.

I. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Mr. Millichip welcomed the Delegates and said how pleased he was that Dr. Havelange was leading the FIFA Delegation. He made special reference to Messrs. Dunnett, Evans, Gardiner and Machin, who were attending their first Meeting of the International Board and asked the Scottish Delegation to convey to their President, Mr. T. Younger, the good wishes of the Members of the Board for a speedy recovery following his recent operation.

Mr. Millichip also asked the Scottish Delegation to convey the congratulations of the Board to Mr. W.J. Harkness, a former Member of the Board, who had been awarded the C.B.E. in The Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Mr. Millichip then referred to a letter of thanks which had been received from Mr. Trevor Morris, for the gift from the Board on his retirement as Secretary of The Football Association of Wales.

Mr. Millichip informed the Members that Mr. Drennan was attending his last Meeting of the Board, as he would be retiring as Secretary of the Irish Football Association in October 1983 and, on behalf of the Members, wished him a long and happy retirement.

In conclusion, Mr. Millichip reminded the Members that it was the duty of the Board at all times to ensure that the Laws of the Game met the requirements of present day football.

II. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held at the Palacio de Congresos, Madrid, on 6th July 1982, were confirmed and signed.

III. LAWS OF THE GAME AND DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

Proposals and amendments submitted under Rule 3.

(1) LAW II – THE BALL

The Fédération Internationale de Football Association

Present Text

The ball shall be spherical; the outer casing shall be of leather or other approved materials. 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 in. and not less than 27 in. The weight of the ball at the start of the game shall not be more than 16 oz. nor less than 14 oz. The pressure shall be equal to 0.6-0.7 atmosphere, which equals 9.0-10.5 lb./sq.in. (=600-700 gr/cm²) at sea level. The ball shall not be changed during the game unless authorised by the Referee.

Proposed Alteration

(First paragraph of Present Text to remain unchanged.)

Second paragraph to become:

The circumference of the ball shall not be more than 28 in. and not less than 27 in. The weight of the ball at the start of the game shall not be more than 16 oz. nor less than 14 oz. *The pressure shall be equal to 0.6-1.1 atmosphere, (=600-1,100 gr/cm²) at sea level.* The ball shall not be changed during the game unless authorised by the Referee.

Reason:

Pressure of footballs used at FIFA World Cup in Spain varied from 0.9-1.1 atmosphere with excellent results and no complaints. Moreover, other football manufacturers recommend a higher pressure than indicated in the Laws of the Game.

As a result of the notable improvement in the quality of the material in the past years, the ball pressure has considerably increased.

Indeed, our proposal is only a modification of the Law to current practice.

The Proposal was adopted.

(2) LAW XII – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

(a) (i) The Football Association

Present Text

5. When playing as a goalkeeper and within his own penalty-area:
- (a) from the moment the ball comes under his control, he takes more than 4 steps without releasing the ball into play and – having released it – he touches the ball again before it has been touched or 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

shall be penalised by the award of an indirect free-kick to be taken by the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred, unless the offence is committed by a player in his opponents' goal area, in which case, the free-kick shall be taken from a point anywhere within that half of the goal area in which the offence occurred.

Reason:

The Editorial Committee recommend that the Law be amended in order that there may be no misunderstanding concerning the interpretation of the Law.

This Proposal was withdrawn in favour of the amendment submitted by The Scottish Football Association.

(ii) Present Text

5. When playing as a goalkeeper and within his own penalty-area:
- (a) from the moment the ball comes under his control, he takes more than 4 steps without releasing the ball into play and – having released it – he touches the ball again before it has been touched or 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

shall be penalised by the award of an indirect free-kick to be taken by the opposing team from the place where the infringement occurred, unless the offence is committed by a player in his opponents' goal area, in which case, the free-kick shall be taken from a point anywhere within that half of the goal area in which the offence occurred.

Proposed Alteration

- 5.. When playing as a goalkeeper and within his own penalty-area:
- (a) from the moment he takes control of the ball with one or both of his hands, he takes more than 4 steps whilst holding, bouncing or throwing the ball in the air and catching it again, without releasing the ball into play – or, having released it during or after the 4 steps – he touches the ball again with one or both of his hands, before it has been touched or played by another player, or

(Paragraph (b) and remainder of Present Text to remain unchanged.)

Amendment submitted by The Scottish Football Association

5. When playing as a goalkeeper and within his own penalty-area:
- (a) from the moment he takes control of the ball with one or both of his hands, he takes more than four steps in any direction whilst holding, bouncing or throwing the ball in the air and catching it again, without releasing it into play, or, having released it into play before, during or after the four steps, he touches it again with one or both of his hands, before it has been touched or played by another player, or

(Paragraph (b) and remainder of Present Text to remain unchanged.)

This Proposal was adopted with the deletion of the words "one or both of" in lines 2 and 8 of (a).

(b) The Fédération Internationale de Football Association

FIFA proposes that the explanatory provisions and application published by FIFA in Circular No. 299 on 4th August 1982 and Circular No. 299A of 12th November 1982 be adopted by the Board as decisions of the International F.A. Board.

Reason: This application has had very positive results on all continents and has carried out the intention behind the 1982 decision of the International F.A. Board: to speed up the game.

Enclosures: Circular Nos. 299 and 299A (see Appendix A).

This Proposal was withdrawn in favour of the amendment submitted by The Scottish Football Association.

(3) LAW XIII – FREE-KICK

The Football Association

Present Text

Free-kicks shall be classified under two headings: "Direct" (from which a goal can be scored direct against the offending side), and "Indirect" (from which a goal cannot be scored unless the ball has been played or touched by a player other than the kicker before passing through the goal).

When a player is taking a direct or an indirect free-kick inside his own penalty-area, all of the opposing players shall be at least ten yards (9.15 m) from the ball and shall remain outside the penalty-area until the ball has been kicked out of the area. The ball shall be in play immediately it has travelled the distance of its own circumference and is beyond the penalty-area. The goalkeeper shall not receive the ball into his hands, in order that he may thereafter kick it into play. If the ball is not kicked direct into play, beyond the penalty-area, the kick shall be retaken.

When a player is taking a direct or an indirect free-kick outside his own penalty-area, all of the opposing players shall be at least ten yards from the ball, until it is in play, unless they are standing on their own goal-line, between the goal-posts. The ball shall be in play when it has travelled the distance of its own circumference.

If a player of the opposing side encroaches into the penalty-area, or within ten yards of the ball, as the case may be, before a free-kick is taken, the Referee shall delay the taking of the kick, until the Law is complied with.

The ball must be stationary when a free-kick is taken, and the kicker shall not play the ball a second time, until it has been touched or played by another player.

Proposed Alteration

(First paragraph of the Present Text to remain unchanged.)

Second paragraph to become:

When a direct or an indirect free-kick is awarded to a team within its own penalty-area, all of the opposing players shall retire immediately outside the penalty-area and to a distance of at least ten yards (9.15 m) from the ball. They shall remain outside the penalty-area and at least ten yards (9.15 m) from the point at which the free-kick is to be taken until the ball is in play. The ball shall be in play immediately it has travelled the distance of its own circumference and is beyond the penalty-area. The goalkeeper shall not receive the ball into his hands, in order that he may thereafter kick it into play. If the ball is not kicked direct into play, beyond the penalty-area, the kick shall be retaken.

Third paragraph to become:

When a direct or indirect free-kick is awarded to a team outside its own penalty-area, all of the opposing players shall retire immediately to a distance of at least ten yards (9.15 m) from the ball, until it is in play, unless they are standing on their own goal-line, between the goal-posts. The ball shall be in play when it has travelled the distance of its own circumference.

(Fourth paragraph to be deleted.)

(Fifth paragraph of the Present Text to remain unchanged.)

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.

Punishment

If the kicker, after taking the free-kick, plays the ball a second time before it has been touched or played by another player an indirect free-kick shall be taken by a player of the opposing team from the spot where the infringement occurred, unless the offence is committed by a player in his opponents' goal area, in which case, the free-kick shall be taken from a point anywhere within that half of the goal area in which the offence occurred.

Decisions of the International Board

(1) In order to distinguish between a direct and an indirect free-kick, the Referee, when he awards an indirect free-kick, shall indicate accordingly by raising an arm above his head. He shall keep his arm in that position until the kick has been taken and retain the signal until the ball has been played or touched by another player or goes out of play.

(2) Players who do not retire to the proper distance when a free-kick is taken must be cautioned and on any repetition be ordered off. It is particularly requested of Referees that attempts to delay the taking of a free-kick by encroaching should be treated as serious misconduct.

(3) If, when a free-kick is being taken, any of the players dance about or gesticulate in a way calculated to distract their opponents, it shall be deemed ungentlemanly conduct for which the offender(s) shall be cautioned.

Proposed Alteration

(Sixth paragraph of the Present Text to remain unchanged.)

Punishment

(First paragraph of the Present Text to remain unchanged.)

Add a second paragraph

If a player or players of the offending side deliberately fail to retire the proper distance, or encroach within ten yards (9.15 m) of the ball before the kick is taken, when a free-kick is awarded against their team outside their own penalty-area, the position of the free-kick will be advanced, once only, in a direction towards the centre of the offending team's goal by a distance of ten yards, or to the edge of the penalty-area, if this is nearer than ten yards from the original position.

Decisions of the International Board

(Decision (1) to remain unchanged.)

Decision (2) to become

(2) Players who fail to retire to, or fail to remain at, the proper distance when a free-kick is to be taken from the edge of, or from inside, their penalty-area, or when the position of a free-kick has already been advanced as punishment towards their goal, must be cautioned and on any repetition be ordered off.

(Decision (3) to remain unchanged.)

Reason:

The proposed slight re-wording in the text of the Law is believed to be a helpful clarification.

It is also thought that an effective and immediate punishment as proposed, to be imposed upon the offending side, rather than on an offending player (or players) is more appropriate than a caution and is a stronger deterrent to further similar, unfair actions.

The Proposal was not adopted.

(4) LAW XIV – PENALTY-KICK

The Fédération Internationale de Football Association

Present Text

A penalty-kick shall be taken from the penalty-mark and, when it is being taken, all players with the exception of the player taking the kick, and the opposing goalkeeper, shall be within the field of play but outside the penalty-area, and at least 10 yards from the penalty-mark. The opposing goalkeeper must stand (without moving his feet) on his own goal-line, between the goal-posts, until the ball is kicked. The player taking the kick must kick the ball forward; he shall not play the ball a second time until it has been touched or played by another player. The ball shall be deemed in play directly it is kicked, i.e. when it has travelled the distance of its circumference, and a goal may be scored direct from such a penalty-kick. If the ball touches the goalkeeper before passing between the posts, when a penalty-kick is being taken at or after the expiration of half-time or full-time, it does not nullify a goal. If necessary, time of play shall be extended at half-time or full-time to allow a penalty-kick to be taken.

Punishment:

For any infringement of this Law:

- (a) by the defending team, the kick shall be retaken if a goal has not resulted.
- (b) by the attacking team other than by the player taking the kick, if a goal is scored it shall be disallowed and the kick retaken.
- (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.

If, in the case of paragraph (c), the offence is committed by the player in his opponents' goal area, the free-kick shall be taken from a point anywhere within that half of the goal area in which the offence occurred.

Reason:

If this detail is added, it will prevent the goalkeeper from turning his back to the field of play whilst a penalty-kick is being taken (for example as a sign of protest).

Proposed Alteration

A penalty-kick shall be taken from the penalty-mark and, when it is being taken, all players with the exception of the player taking the kick, and the opposing goalkeeper, shall be within the field of play but outside the penalty-area, and at least 10 yards from the penalty-mark. The opposing goalkeeper must stand (without moving his feet *and facing the field of play*) on his own goal-line, between the goal-posts, until the ball is kicked.

(Remainder of Present Text to remain unchanged.)

The Proposal was not adopted.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Law XI – Off-Side

Prior to the Meeting, The Football Association had circularised a Discussion Paper on Law XI – Off-Side, with a view to considering beneficial alterations to the Law which may be proposed to the Board in 1984.

It was agreed that the Discussion Paper would be referred to the FIFA Technical and Referees Committees for consideration.

V. MEETING 1984 – DATE AND VENUE

On behalf of The Scottish Football Association, Mr. Will invited the International F.A. Board to meet at Gleneagles in 1984.

It was agreed that the date of the Meeting would be decided by the Editorial Committee of the International F.A. Board at its Meeting on 10th July 1983.

VI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (1) Dr. Havelange referred to the statement circulated by The Football Association prior to Season 1982/83 concerning Law Interpretations and reminded The Football Association that any changes to the Laws of the Game or Interpretations of the Laws must have the prior consent of the International F.A. Board.

Mr. Millichip informed the meeting of the circumstances in which the situation had arisen. In order to ensure that a similar occurrence was not repeated The Football Association had instructed all its affiliated organisations that The Association was the only body that was permitted to issue directives relating to the Laws of the Game, in accordance with decisions of the International F.A. Board.

- (2) With regard to item III – Law IV: Players' Equipment – of the Minutes of the Board Meeting in 1982, Mr. Blatter stated that the Report on the experience gained with the material used during the World Cup in Spain had not been available to present to the Editorial Committee at its meeting in December, but it had now been completed and he requested that it be circulated with the Minutes of the Meeting. This was agreed. (See Appendix "A")
- (3) A discussion took place concerning the date of the Annual Meeting of the International Board and the problems which had arisen on occasions notifying any changes to National Associations in sufficient time for them to adopt such changes on and after 25th July each year. It was agreed that this matter should be considered by the Editorial Committee at its Meeting on 10th July 1983.

Mr. Cavan proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the competent and friendly manner in which the Meeting had been conducted. The Meeting was then closed.

APPENDIX "A"

Item III – Law IV – Players' Equipment
Minutes of the 1982 meeting of the International F.A. Board

At the meeting held on 6 July 1982 in Madrid, the International Board requested FIFA to submit a report on the experience gained with the material used during the World Cup in Spain.

Below is an excerpt from the survey carried out by the competent Committees, i.e. Refereeing, Medical and Technical.

"The research undertaken produced hardly anything new which confirms that Law IV fully comprises all the requirements which have to be fulfilled by referees, players and coaches alike. The condition of the grounds used in Spain for the 1982 World Cup was excellent from all aspects and the atmospheric conditions were also good. For this reason there was absolutely no need to make any adjustments to the football shoe studs (leather screw-in studs and metal and synthetic cone-shaped studs) in order to facilitate players' movement, such as stopping or pulling away abruptly.

The football shoes were checked by the refereeing trio in the tunnel giving the players access to the pitch (usually 15 minutes before kick-off). When players were substituted during the game, the same control was carried out by the reserve referee.

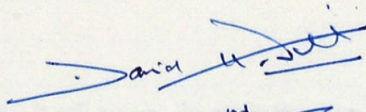
During the 1982 World Cup no noteworthy injury caused by studs was reported by the Medical Committee.

The material used in the present-day manufacture of football shoes leaves nothing to be desired. The metal plates used in the past are now obsolete. Football shoes can therefore only represent a risk of injury if the studs do not comply with the regulations. Non-replaceable studs (molded together with the sole) must be made of rubber, or a similar substance, stipulated in Law IV, para. c. Provided, therefore, that the appropriate studs are used (check by the refereeing trio) no additional instructions are necessary. The referees' control is sufficient.

As a preventative measure against injury by studs, the use of shin-pads should be recommended (both by coaches and the responsible medical officers), both for matches and training purposes.

In any event the exercise of caution should be an essential component of a sportsman's professional conscience."

Zurich, 6 July 1983
JSB/WG/ur-tr:mw


2nd June 1984.

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

LIMITED

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
 President: H.R.H. THE DUKE OF KENT
 Chairman: F.A. MILLICHIP

General Secretary:
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INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING 1983
 ENGLAND - 9.7.1983

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Mr. A.D. McMullen

Mr. J.J. Dunnett

Mr. E.A. Croker

Mr. K.W. Ridden (Staff)

Miss P.F. Smith (Staff)

F.A. Millichip

A.D. McMullen

Jack Dunnett

E.A. Croker

K.W. Ridden

P.F. Smith

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES

Mr. S. Jenkins

Mr. T. Jarman

Mr. A.E. Evans

S. Jenkins

T. Jarman

A.E. Evans

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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D. H. Will
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FIFA

Dr. J. Havelange

Dr. A. Franchi

Mr. R. Machin

Mr. T. Wharton

Mr. J.S. Blatter

J. Havelange
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