





Laws of the Game

2009/10 Season

Law 1 ~ The Field of Play



Present Text

Matches may be played on natural or artificial surfaces according to the rules of the competition.

The colour of artificial surfaces must be green

Where artificial surfaces are used in either competition matches between representative teams of member associations affiliated to FIFA or International Club competition matches the surface must meet the requirements of the **FIFA Quality Concept for Artificial Turf** or the international Artificial Turf Standard, unless special dispensation is given by FIFA

Revised Text

Matches may be played on natural or artificial surfaces according to the rules of the competition.

The colour of artificial surfaces must be green

Where artificial surfaces are used in either competition matches between representative teams of member associations affiliated to FIFA or International Club competition matches the surface must meet the requirements of the **FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf** or the international Artificial Turf Standard, unless special dispensation is given by FIFA

Law 11 ~ Offside

Interpretation of the Laws of the Game



Present Text

When an offside offence occurs, the referee awards an indirect free kick to be taken from the position of the offending player when the ball was last played to him by one of his team mates

If a defending player steps behind his own goal line in order to place an opponent in an offside position, the referee must allow play to continue and caution the defender for deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission when the ball is next out of play.

Revised Text

When an offside offence occurs, the referee awards an indirect free kick to be taken from the position of the offending player when the ball was last played to him by one of his team mates

Any defending player leaving the field of play for any reason without the referees permission shall be considered to be on his own goal line or touchline for the purposes of offside until the next stoppage in play. It the player leaves the field of play deliberately, he must be cautioned when the ball is next out of play.

Procedures to Determine the Winner of a Match or Home-and-Away



Present Text

If at the end of the match and before the kicks start to be taken from the penalty mark, one team has a greater number of players than their opponents, they must reduce their numbers to equate with that of their opponents and the team captain must inform the referee of the name and number of each player excluded

Revised Text

If at the end of the match and before the kicks start to be taken from the penalty mark, one team has a greater number of players than their opponents, they must reduce their numbers to equate with that of their opponents and the team captain must inform the referee of the name and number of each player excluded. **Any player so excluded may not participate in kicks from the penalty mark.**

The Technical Area



Present Text

- Only one person at a time is authorised to convey tactical instructions **and he must return to his position after giving these instructions.**
- The coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the technical area except in special circumstances, for example, a physiotherapist or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee's permission, to assess an injured player
- The coach and other occupants of the technical area must behave in a responsible manner

Revised Text

- Only one person at a time is authorised to convey tactical instructions **from the Technical Area**
- The coach and other officials must remain within the confines of the technical area except in special circumstances, for example, a physiotherapist or doctor entering the field of play, with the referee's permission, to assess an injured player
- The coach and other occupants of the technical area must behave in a responsible manner

