

**INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL
ASSOCIATION BOARD**

1937

**MINUTES
of the
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The International Football Association Board.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT IMPERIAL HOTEL, LLANDUDNO, JUNE 12th, 1937.

The undermentioned representatives constituted the Board :—

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF WALES :—Lt.-Col. J. Ll. Williams J.P. (Presiding), Mr. B. Watts Jones and Mr. T. Robbins (Secretary), who acted as Secretary to the Meeting.

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION :—Messrs. W. Pickford and Chas. E. Sutcliffe, with Mr. S. F. Rous (Secretary).

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION :—Messrs. D. Bowie and D. Gray, with Mr. Geo. G. Graham (Secretary).

THE IRISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION :—Messrs. J. MacBride and J. Ferguson, with Mr. Chas. Watson (Secretary).

LA FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION :—Dr. P. J. Bauwens and Mr. H. Delaunay, with Dr. I. Schricker (Secretary).

Also present :—Messrs. H. J. Huband, J.P. (Hon. Treasurer) The Football Association, J. Bogie (Hon. Treasurer) and D. Martyn, Scottish F.A., and J. M. Small (Hon. Treasurer) Irish F.A.

Minutes of Meeting held at Troon on 13th June, 1936, were confirmed.

It was agreed that the following telegram be sent to their Majesties the King and Queen :—

“The International Football Association Board and La Federation Internationale de Football Association, representing fifty-four Countries, meeting to-day at the Imperial Hotel, Llandudno,

desire to express their sincere congratulations and good wishes to their Gracious Majesties on their Coronation and trust that they will enjoy a long and happy reign."

The following telegram was received in reply :—

" The King and Queen desire me to express to all who joined in your message their best thanks for your kind congratulations and good wishes on the occasion of their Majesty's Coronation.—

ALEXANDER HARDINGE."

The Chairman on behalf of the Board welcomed Mr. Chas. E. Sutcliffe and Mr. D. Gray as new Members to the Board.

The Board passed a Resolution of Congratulation to Sir Charles Clegg, J.P., President of The Football Association, on the occasion of the 87th anniversary of his birthday—June 15th.

LAWS OF THE GAME.

The following Proposals by The Football Association were unanimously adopted :—

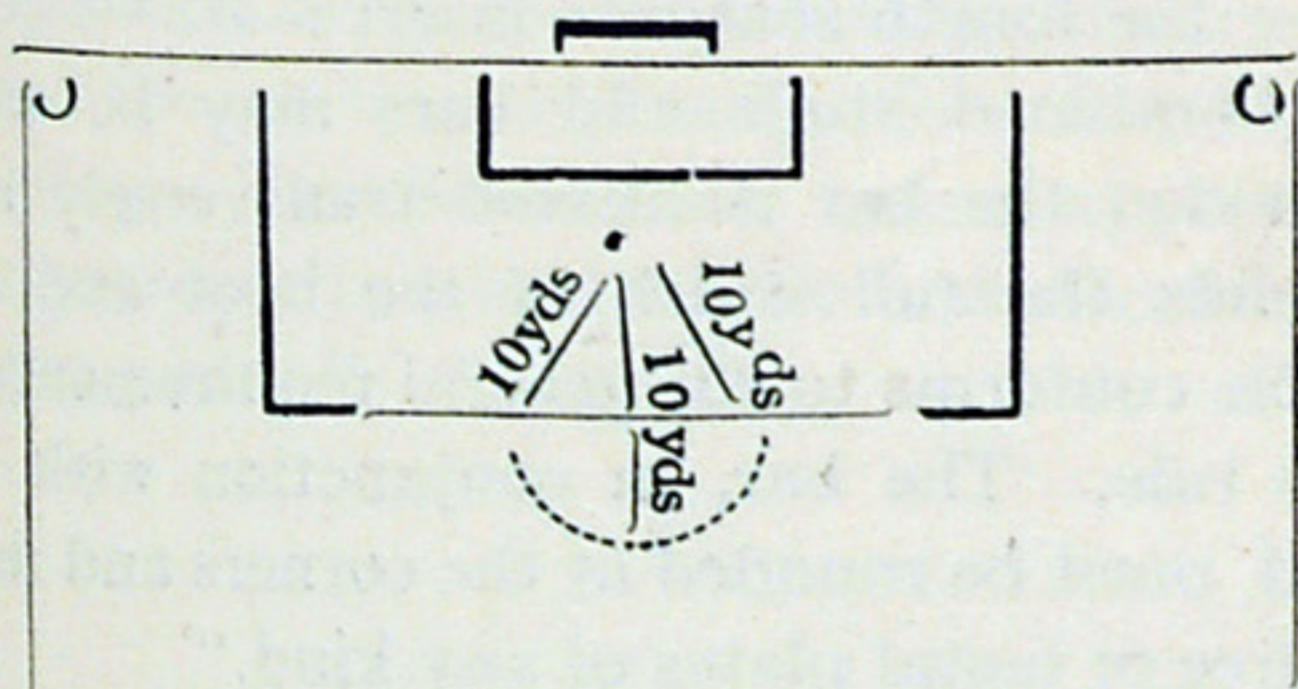
PRESENT LAW.

Law 1. Last sentence :—

In International Matches, the dimensions of the field of play shall be—maximum length, 120 yards; minimum length, 110 yards; maximum breadth, 80 yards; minimum breadth, 70 yards; and at the commencement of the game the weight of the ball shall be from 13 to 15 ounces.

Law 1. 13th and 14th sentences :—

Lines shall be marked 18 yards from each goal-post at right angles to the goal-lines for a distance of 18 yards, and these shall be connected with each other by a line parallel to the goal-lines; the space within these lines shall be the penalty area. A suitable mark shall be made opposite the centre of each goal, 12 yards from the goal line; this shall be the penalty kick mark.



Law 5. Second sentence :—

The player throwing the ball must stand on both feet on or outside the touch-line, facing the field of play, and shall throw the ball in over his head with both hands in any direction, and it shall be in play when thrown in.

PROPOSED ALTERATION.

Substitute "14 to 16 ounces" for 13 to 15 ounces."

Add at the end of the 14th sentence :—

An arc of a circle, with radius of 10 yards from the penalty spot, shall be marked outside the penalty area (see sketch).

Substitute the following :—

"At the moment of throwing, the player must stand on both feet facing the field of play and part of each foot shall be either on or outside the touchline. He shall throw the ball in over his head with both hands in any direction, and it shall be in play when thrown in."

Law 7.—(a) Decision of the International Board :—

It is not permissible for the goalkeeper to receive the ball into his hands from a goal-kick by another player in order that he may thereafter kick it into play ; the ball must be kicked direct from the goal area into play and if not kicked beyond the penalty area the kick shall be re-taken.

Law 8. First sentence :—

The goal-keeper may within his own penalty area use his hands, but shall not carry the ball.

Law 10. Last sentence :—

The kick-off (except as provided by Law 2) corner-kick and goal-kick shall be free-kicks within the meaning of this Law.

Law 12. Fourth sentence :—

Studs shall be round in plan, not less than half an inch in diameter, and in no case conical or pointed.

Law 16. In the event of any temporary suspension of play from any cause, the ball not having gone into touch or behind the goal-line, the Referee shall drop the ball where it was when play was suspended, and it shall be

After the word "goal-kick" in line two add the following :—

"or a free-kick taken by the defending side within the penalty area."

After the word "goal" in line four add the words "or penalty."

After the word "hands" add the following—
"except as provided by Laws 7 and 10."

Delete the words "and goal-kick" and insert "and" before "corner-kick."

Add after the last sentence the following :—

" All free-kicks taken by the defending side within the penalty area must conform with Law 7."

After the fourth sentence insert :—

"Combined studs and bars may be worn provided the bar is affixed transversely and extends the full width of the boot and the whole conforms to the general requirements of this rule. The bar, in conjunction with the stud, must be rounded at the corners and must be free of metal plates of any kind."

in play when it has touched the ground. If the ball goes into touch or behind the goal-line before it is played by a player, the Referee shall again drop it. The players on either side, shall not play the ball until it has touched the ground. A free kick shall be given for an infringement of this Law.

Law 17. Fourth sentence :—

The opponents' goal-keeper must stand on his own goal-line until the ball is kicked.

Delete the last sentence as follows :—

“A free kick shall be given for an infringement of this Law.”

After the word “goal-line” add the following :—

“ between the goal-posts.”

The following Proposals of the Federation Internationale de Football Association were adopted :—

PRESENT RULES.

Rule IV. Fourth sentence :—

“Each Association may send its Secretary to the Board Meetings. The Secretary of the Association or of the Federation, which convened the meeting shall act as Secretary of the meeting. The Secretaries, unless appointed as representatives under Rule I, shall not have voting power.”

Rule IX. :—

“The decision of the Board shall be at once binding on all the Associations, and no alterations in the Laws of the Game shall be made by any Association until the same have been passed by the Board.”

PROPOSED ALTERATION.

Rule IV. Fourth sentence :—

“Each Association may send its Secretary and Treasurer to the Board Meeting. The Secretary of the Association or of the Federation which convened the meeting shall act as Secretary of the Meeting. The Secretaries and Treasurers, unless appointed as representatives under Rule I shall not have voting power.”

Rule IX. :—

“The decisions of the Board shall be binding on all Associations on and after the 25th July following each Annual Meeting, and no alterations in the Laws of the Game shall be made by any Association until the same shall have been passed by the Board.”

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD AGREEMENT.

The Notice of The Football Association to withdraw from the Agreement of the 10th June, 1933, as amended 1935, was discussed, and The Football Association informed that they must give notice in accordance with Rule 3 of the International Board (Decision of Board June 17th, 1901).

TWO REFEREES.

The following request of The Football Association was by leave withdrawn :—

“The Football Association request the International Football Association Board to permit Clubs under the jurisdiction of the Football Association to utilise two referees in their practice matches played in August, 1937, under Rule 26(e) of the Association, instead of one referee as now provided by Law 13 of the Laws of the Game ; and that Leagues duly sanctioned by The Football Association be permitted to vary Law 13 in this respect in three selected matches during Season 1937—38 with the consent of the Clubs concerned.”

PROPOSAL BY THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

The following Proposal by the Scottish Football Association was adopted :—

“The Scottish Football Association suggest that the Board should recommend that in future a fee of £8 be paid to each professional player taking part in an International Match.” (See previous recommendation in Minute of Meeting held 12th—14th June, 1920).

The Proposal by the Football Association of Wales was by leave altered as hereunder and adopted :—

That an Editorial Committee consisting of the Secretary of each British Association and a Representative of the F.I.F.A. be appointed for the purpose of Editing and Co-ordinating the Rules and Laws of the Game including the appropriate Footnotes and Agreements and in the event of any alteration being deemed necessary in any of the said Rules, Laws or Footnotes that the same be brought to the notice of the International Board who shall have the necessary permission to make such alteration under the Provisions of Rule 3.

ADDENDUM.

The Irish Football Association desired a ruling of the Board as to the rights of the Football Association of the Irish Free State to play as 'Ireland' in matches against Continental Nations, and to select players born outside their area.

As notice had not been given in accordance with Rule 3, there was only an informal discussion and no decision was taken by the Board.

(The Representatives of the four British Associations, however, are unanimously of the opinion that, under the Agreement reached at the Liverpool Conference of 18th October, 1923, when representation was given to the F.A. of the Irish Free State, as the body controlling the game in its area, they were not entitled to play International matches as "Ireland," nor to select players for their International matches not possessing a birth qualification within the area of the Irish Free State).

Letter from the F.I.F.A. as to the four British Associations taking part in the World's Cup Tournament in Paris, 1938, was considered. It was agreed that the decision to compete or not should be left to each British Association.

The F.I.F.A. representative thanked the British Associations for sending a team to compete in the Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936, and emphasised that their inclusion had been valuable to Amateur Football generally on the Continent.

The Invitation of the Irish F.A. for the Board to meet next year at Portrush was accepted.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

J. MacBride
11.5 Jan 1938

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BOARD.

ANNUAL MEETING
IMPERIAL HOTEL LLANDUDNO.

12th JUNE 1937.

PRESENT:---

ENGLAND.

W. H. Chapman
Chairman
S. F. Rous. Secretary.
Henry J. Hubbard Hon Treasurer.

SCOTLAND.

Douglas Bennie
David Gray
C. G. Gilham Secretary
M. D. G. Hon Treasurer.

IRELAND.

Mac Bride
J. J. Johnson
C. A. Baker Secretary
P. J. Small Hon Treasurer.

WALES.

J. J. Jones
B. H. Jones
R. J. Roberts Secretary to the Board.

F.I.F.A.

Gen. Williams. Dr 1
H. Delaney
D. Schlicher.