

Manitoba Soccer Association



Rules of Indoor Soccer

Half-Field Competitions

2019-2020

Rules of Indoor Soccer

Preface

The rules contained within this document shall be applicable for all competitions sanctioned by the Manitoba Soccer Association which play using the indoor half-field configuration. This includes Senior, Coed and Youth competitions. When a situation is not mentioned in these rules the applicable FIFA Laws of the Game 2017/18 (LOTG) interpretation shall apply.

Competition Specific Rules and Modifications

Provided the principles of these Rules are maintained, the Rules may be modified in their application for matches for players of under 12 years of age, for women footballers, for veteran footballers (over 35 years) and for players with disabilities.

Any or all of the following modifications are permissible:

- size of the field of play
- size, weight and material of the ball
- width between the goalposts and the height of the crossbar from the ground
- duration of the periods of play
- substitutions

Further modifications are only allowed with the consent of the Manitoba Soccer Association.

Competition Specific Rules and Modifications shall be made available separately, outside of information provided within this document.

Male and Female

References to the male gender in the Rules of Indoor Soccer (herein "Rules") in respect to referees, referee assistants, players and team officials is for simplification and applies to both genders.

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RULES OF INDOOR SOCCER

RULE 1: THE FIELD OF PLAY

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. The playing area shall conform to the field plan (See Appendix A).
2. The playing area shall be marked with clearly visible lines, which measure from 5.1 to 10.2 centimetres (2 to 4 inches) in width. Whichever size is used, all shall have the same dimensions. The lines belong to the areas of which they are boundaries.
3. The goals shall be placed on the centre of each goal line. The width of the goals shall be 5.64 metres (18 feet 6 inches) measured from the inside of each goalpost. The height shall be 1.98 metres (6 feet 6 inches), measured from the floor to the underside of the crossbar. The thickness of the goalpost, the crossbar and the lines shall be the same. Nets shall be attached to the goalposts, crossbar and the ground behind the goals, and properly supported to not interfere with the goalkeeper.
4. For matches where offside will be enforced, flagposts, not less than 1.5 m (5 ft. high, with a non-pointed top and a flag must be placed on a designated spot, located 15 metres from the nearest goal line, not less than 1 m (1 yd.) outside of each touch line.

Note: The bench and warm-up areas are for players, substitutes and registered team personnel only. Spectators are not permitted to use or watch from these areas.

RULE 2: THE BALL

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. Game balls are to be supplied by the home team.
2. Should the ball become defective, the game shall be stopped. Play shall be restarted with a dropped ball in accordance with Rule 8.5 (FIFA Law 2.2).
3. All indoor matches shall be played using game balls designed for outdoor soccer unless facilities dictate that the use of outdoor balls is prohibited.
4. A size 5 ball will be used.

RULE 3: THE PLAYERS

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. The game shall be played by two teams, each consisting of not more than 9 players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. A game shall not commence or continue if either team has less than 7 players.

2. Teams may have a roster of 25 players and can dress a maximum of 20 players. Teams may have up to four (4) registered non-playing personnel (team officials) on their team's bench, e.g. coach, manager. All players listed on the game sheet, along with the non-playing personnel, shall be under the jurisdiction of the referee.

In order to participate in a match, all players are required to have valid identification cards unless an official "Permission to Play" letter from the MSA or the specific Member League has been issued for any given match for a specific player. Cards must be submitted to the referee prior to the start of each game. All players on a given team must appear as an approved player on a team's approved roster unless they are a guest player.

3. Registered team officials are responsible for the conduct of team members and supporters. They must bring such individuals under control when asked to do so by the match official. Failure to do so will result in termination of the game with possible disciplinary action against the team.

All team officials are required to have identification cards. Only team officials with a valid identification card are allowed in the team's bench area. Cards must be submitted to the referee prior to the start of each game.

4. A player, who is sent off from the playing area or its vicinity in accordance with Rule 12, may not re-enter the game. The team of the offending player shall play one (1) player "short" for the remainder of the match.

5. SUBSTITUTIONS

- a) The rules of the competition must state how many substitutes may be nominated from three up to a maximum of twelve.
- b) Unlimited substitutions will be permitted during matches including at half time. All substitutions shall take place at a stoppage in play with the referee's permission. There is no limit to the number of players that can be substituted during a substitution. The use of return substitutions is permitted.

RULE 4: THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. Only indoor soccer shoes or shoes specifically designed for artificial turf shall be allowed. Molded soccer shoes may only be worn on FIFA approved third generation turf. Screw-in or metal studded soccer shoes are not permitted unless facilities permit their use.
2. Goalkeepers may wear tracksuit type bottoms.
3. When the referee believes a colour conflict exists the Home team must change their jerseys.

4. All players' uniforms should have a different number on the back, including scrimmage vests when used. Each player must have a different number than his teammates. The number on the jersey or shirt shall be distinct and visible.
5. A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous. All items of jewellery, bands or rings must be removed. Taping is not allowed. Knee and leg braces must be completely covered by a protective sleeve (e.g. Neoprene or similar material). The referee shall decide on player participation relating to all matters of safety.

Exception: Players are permitted to wear a plastic ear retainer, which is deemed safe, that is taped over and covered as per the MSA Directive Regarding Stretched Ear Holes.

6. Under shirts must be the same colour as the main colour of the shirt sleeve. Undershorts/tights must be the same colour as the main colour of the shorts or the lowest part of the shorts - players of the same team must wear the same colour.
7. If tape or any similar material is applied or worn externally it must be the same colour as that part of the sock it is applied to or covers.
8. Slogans, statements, images and advertising. FIFA Law 4.5

RULE 5: THE REFEREE

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. Only MSA certified officials will be assigned.
2. In cases of emergency where no official is available, the teams may agree on a having a non-certified person officiate the game. Once both teams agree and the game commences, the game and the result shall be considered valid.
3. Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Rules in connection with the match to which he has been appointed. This includes any incident that occurs before, during or after the match.
4. The referee may only change his decision on realizing that it is incorrect or, on the advice of the neutral assistant referees, provided he has not restarted play or terminated the match.
5. Referees and assistants are prohibited from wearing jewellery, or other use unapproved electronic equipment including cameras and cell phones.

RULE 6: THE OTHER MATCH OFFICIALS

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. An MSA certified official may be appointed in the role of Assistant Referee (AR). The AR shall be under the jurisdiction of the referee.
2. For competitions where no MSA certified official is appointed, each team is responsible to supply one individual to assist the referee. They shall not perform all the duties of an appointed AR but will be asked to perform only those tasks assigned by the referee.

RULE 7: THE DURATION OF THE MATCH

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. The duration of the game shall be two equal periods of 30 minutes unless otherwise mutually agreed between the referee and the two teams. Any agreement to alter the duration of the periods of play (e.g. to reduce each half because of unexpected delays or facility issues) must be made before the start of play and must comply with competition rules. A maximum half time interval of four (4) minutes will be permitted.

If a team does not have the minimum number of players required to start after the seven (7) minute grace period of the scheduled kick-off, the match will not be played. If a team arrives late for the game but within the grace period, the game may be shortened to allow the following games to begin on time.

2. No allowance is made in either period for set time lost. However, the referee may, at his discretion, stop his watch as he deems fit in cases such as serious injury or time wasting. Time shall be extended at the end of any half of play to allow the taking of a penalty kick to be completed.
3. The referee may, at his discretion, start the time on his watch, if in his opinion one or both teams are delaying the kick-off. The kick-off will not be delayed any longer than seven (7) minutes past the scheduled kick-off time.
4. The public clock at the facility governs time of day.
5. If for any reason a game is not completed, the League or Competition Coordinator shall determine the outcome of the game.

RULE 8: THE START AND RESTART OF PLAY

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. At a kick-off, all players, except the player taking the kick-off, must be in their own half of the field of play. The opponents of the team taking the kick-off must be at least 6 metres (6.6 yards) from the ball until it is in play. The game shall be started by the referee giving a

signal; the ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.

2. If a player taking the kick-off touches the ball again before it has touched another player, an indirect free kick, or for a deliberate handball a direct free kick, is awarded. For any other infringement of this procedure the kick-off is retaken.
3. A goal may be scored directly against the opponents from the kick-off.
4. For any stoppage not mentioned elsewhere in these rules, the referee shall restart the game with a dropped ball. The ball shall be dropped closest to the place where the ball was when play was stopped unless play was stopped inside the goal area, in which case the referee drops the ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when play was stopped. The ball shall be dropped again if the ball is touched by a player before it touches the ground or the ball leaves the field of play after it has touched the ground, without a player touching it.

If a dropped ball enters the goal without touching at least two players play is restarted with:

- A goal kick if it enters the opponents' goal
 - A corner kick if it enters the team's goal
5. When the ball makes contact with the ceiling or fixtures above the playing surface, play shall be stopped and the match shall be restarted with a dropped ball from the location closest to where the ball struck the ceiling or fixture when play was stopped, unless play was stopped inside the goal area, in which case the referee drops the ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when play was stopped.

RULE 9: THE BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. The ball is out of play when:
 - it has wholly passed over the goal line or touchline on the ground or in the air
 - it has made contact with any part of the ceiling or fixtures above the field of play
 - play has been stopped by the referee
2. The ball is in play at all other times including when:
 - it rebounds off a goalpost, crossbar or corner flagpost and remains in the field of play
 - it rebounds off either the referee or an assistant referee when they are on the field of play
 - an alleged infringement of the Rules awaits a decision

RULE 10: DETERMINING THE OUTCOME OF A MATCH

FIFA LOTG apply including:

GAMES REQUIRING A WINNER

Extra time and kicks from the penalty mark are the two methods approved for determining the winning team where competition rules require there to be a winning team after a match has been drawn.

Extra time:

Competition rules may provide for two (2) further equal periods, not exceeding 15 minutes each, to be played. The conditions of Rule 8 will apply.

Procedure for kicks from the penalty mark:

- Unless there are other considerations (ex ground conditions, safety etc.) the referee tosses a coin to decide the goal at which the kicks will be taken which may only be changed for safety reasons or if the goal or playing surface becomes unusable
- The referee tosses a coin again and the team that wins the toss decides whether to take the first or second kick
- With the exception of a substitute for a goalkeeper who is unable to continue, only players who are on the field of play or are temporarily off the field of play (injury, adjusting equipment etc.) at the end of the match are eligible to take part in the kicks (except as outlined below)
- Each team is responsible for selecting from eligible players the order in which they will take the kicks. The referee is not informed of the order
- If at the end of the match and before or during the kicks one team has a greater number of players than its opponents, it must reduce its numbers to the same number as its opponents and the referee must be informed of the name and number of each player excluded. Any excluded player is not eligible to take part in the kicks (Except as outlined below)
- A goalkeeper who is unable to continue before or during the kicks may be replaced by a player excluded to equalise the number of players or, if their team has not used its maximum permitted number of substitutes, a named substitute, but the replaced goalkeeper takes no further part and may not take a kick.
- If the goalkeeper has already taken a kick, the replacement may not take a kick until the next round of kicks.
- Only eligible players and match officials are permitted to remain on the field of play

- All eligible players, except the player taking the kick and the two goalkeepers, must remain within the centre circle
- The goalkeeper of the kicker must remain on the field of play, outside the penalty area, on the goal line where it meets the penalty area boundary line
- An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper
- The kick is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play or the referee stops play for any offence; the kicker may not play the ball a second time
- The referee keeps record of the kicks
- If the goalkeeper commits an offence and, as a result, the kick is retaken, the goalkeeper must be cautioned.
- If the kicker is penalised for an offence committed after the referee has signalled for the kick to be taken, that kick is recorded as missed and the kicker is cautioned
- If both the goalkeeper and kicker commit an offence at the same time:
 - If the kick is missed or saved, the kick is retaken and both players cautioned
 - If the kick is scored, the goal is disallowed, the kick is recorded as missed and the kicker cautioned

If for any reason a game is not completed, the League or Competition Coordinator shall decide on the outcome of the game.

RULE 11: OFFSIDE

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. Offside offences shall only be in effect in the attacking third of the field. The attacking third of the field is defined as the area of the field, from touchline to touchline extending 15 metres from the goal line as indicated by flagposts placed 1 m (1 yd.) outside the touch lines (see Appendix A).

RULE 12: FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

FIFA LOTG shall apply as follows:

Direct and indirect free kicks and penalty kicks can only be awarded for offences committed when the ball is in play.

1. A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following offences against an opponent in a manner considered by the referee to be

careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- charges an opponent
- jumps at an opponent
- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- pushes an opponent
- strike an opponent (including head-butt)
- tackles an opponent
- trips or attempts to trip an opponent

If an offence involves contact it is penalized by a direct free kick or penalty kick

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following four offences:

- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- holds an opponent
- impedes an opponent with contact
- bites or spits at someone
- throws an object at the ball, opponent, or match official, or makes contact with the ball with a held object.

2. An indirect free kick is awarded if a goalkeeper, inside their own penalty area, commits any of the following offences:

- controls the ball with his hands for more than six seconds before releasing it
- touches the ball with his hands after:
 - releasing it and before it has touched another player
 - it has been deliberately kicked to the goalkeeper by a team mate
 - receiving it directly from a throw-in taken by a team mate

An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of an opponent without any contact being made
- is guilty of dissent, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures or other verbal offences
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from the hands or kicks or attempts to kick the ball when the goalkeeper is in the process of releasing it
- commits any other offence, not previously mentioned in the Rules, for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player

3. A player is cautioned if guilty of:

- delaying the restart of play
- unsporting behaviour
- dissent by word or action
- persistent offences (no specific number or pattern of offences constitutes

“persistent”)

- failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in
- entering, re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee’s permission

A substitute or substituted player is cautioned if guilty of:

- delaying the restart of play
- dissent by word or action
- entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee’s permission
- unsporting behaviour

4. A player, substitute or substituted player who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (except to a goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- denying a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender’s goal by an offence punishable by a free kick (unless as outlined below)
- serious foul play
- biting or spitting at someone
- violent conduct
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures.
- receiving a second caution in the same match

A tackle or challenge that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul play.

Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal scoring opportunity by a deliberate handball offence the player is sent off wherever the offence occurs.

Where a player commits an offence against an opponent within their own penalty area which denies an opponent an obvious goal scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned if the offence was an attempt to play the ball; in all other circumstances (e.g. holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball etc.) the offending player must be sent off. A player, sent off player, substitute or substituted player who enters the field of play without the required referee’s permission and interferes with play or an opponent and denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity is guilty of a sending-off offence

When a player is sent off, that player is dismissed from the game as well as the playing field area, including the spectator stands. The player must immediately go to his dressing room. He may not return to the vicinity of the field during the remainder of the game or while the same match official is present, even as a spectator. Failure to comply with this shall result in the immediate abandonment of the game, followed by

possible disciplinary action against the team.

RULE 13: FREE KICKS

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. Direct and indirect free kicks are awarded to the opposing team of a player, substitute, substituted or sent off player or team official guilty of an offence
2. For both direct and indirect free kicks, the ball must be stationary and the kicker must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.
3. All free kicks are taken from the place where the offence occurred, except:
 - indirect free kicks to the attacking team for an offence inside the opponent's goal area are taken from the nearest point on the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal line
 - free kicks to the defending team in their goal area may be taken from anywhere in that area
 - all opponents must remain at least 6 m (6.6 yds.) from the ball until it is in play
 - free kicks for offences involving a player entering, re-entering or leaving the field of play without permission are taken from the position of the ball when play was stopped. However, if a player leaves the field of play as part of play and commits an offence against another player, play is restarted with a free kick taken on the boundary line nearest to where the offence occurred; for direct free kick offences a penalty kick is awarded if this is within the offender's penalty area
 - the Rules designate another position (see Rules 3, 11, and 12)

RULE 14: THE PENALTY KICK

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. The players other than the kicker and goalkeeper must be:
 - at least 6 m (6.6 yds) from the penalty mark
 - behind the penalty mark
 - outside the penalty area
 - inside the field of play
2. Additional time is allowed for a penalty kick to be taken and completed at the end of each half of the match or extra time. When additional time is allowed, the penalty kick is completed when, after the kick has been taken, the ball stops moving, goes out of play, is played by any player (including the kicker) other than the defending goalkeeper, or the referee stops play for an offence by the kicker or the kicker's team. If a defending team player (including the goalkeeper) commits an offence and the penalty is missed/saved, the penalty is retaken.

RULE 15: THE THROW-IN

FIFA LOTG apply including:

The thrower must stand facing the field of play.

RULE 16: THE GOAL KICK

FIFA LOTG apply:

Opponents must be outside the penalty area and at least 6 m (6.6 yds) from the ball until it is in play

RULE 17: THE CORNER KICK

FIFA LOTG apply including:

1. Procedure

- The ball must be placed inside the corner area nearest to the point where the ball passed over the goal line
- The ball must be stationary and is kicked by a player of the attacking team
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves; it does not need to leave the corner area
- The corner flagpost must not be moved
- Opponents must remain at least 6 m (6.6 yds) from the corner arc until the ball is in play

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the kicker deliberately handles the ball:

- A direct free kick is awarded
- A penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

INDOOR SOCCER (Half-Field Competitions)

APPENDIX A: Winnipeg Soccer Federation Facilities 1/2 Field

