

MANITOBA SOCCER ASSOCIATION



2023-2024 Rules of Indoor Soccer Quarter-Field Competitions

RULES OF INDOOR SOCCER

Quarter-Field Competitions

Preface

The rules contained within this document shall be applicable for all competitions sanctioned by the Manitoba Soccer Association (“MSA”) which play using the indoor quarter-field configuration. This includes Senior, Coed and Youth competitions. When a situation is not mentioned in these rules of indoor soccer (the “Rules”) the applicable FIFA Laws of the Game 2023/24 (“FIFA LOTG” or “Law”) interpretation shall apply.

Quarter-field Indoor Soccer competitions are played predominantly using the FIFA LOTG for outdoor soccer, with a few modifications. These changes maintain the spirit of the FIFA LOTG for the outdoor game but adjust for some of the constraints of playing soccer indoors (on smaller fields, in facilities with ceilings, etc.).

Each Rule includes a reference to the corresponding Law, along with any modifications needed. For simplicity’s sake, only the specific clause to be amended is included; other provisions of the FIFA LOTG apply, even if not explicitly included in the Rules.

As noted in the FIFA LOTG, the Laws cannot deal with every possible situation that could occur during a match, and this principle extends to these Rules. The referee should make decisions within the ‘spirit’ of the game.

Competition-specific Rules and Modifications

The FIFA LOTG explain the benefits of having uniform Laws (Rules) at all levels of soccer, while recognizing that some organizational modifications can be beneficial for the development of the game. The following may be modified for indoor games:

- 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
- Offside

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

Competition-specific rules and modifications are available separately, outside of information provided within this document.

2023-2024
Rules of Indoor Soccer Quarter-Field Competitions

Table of Contents

Rule 1:	<i>The Field of Play</i>	1
Rule 2:	<i>The Ball</i>	1
Rule 3:	<i>The Players</i>	1
Rule 4:	<i>The Players' Equipment</i>	2
Rule 5:	<i>The Referee</i>	3
Rule 6:	<i>The Other Match Officials</i>	3
Rule 7:	<i>The Duration of the Match</i>	4
Rule 8:	<i>The Start and Restart of Play</i>	4
Rule 9:	<i>The Ball In and Out of Play</i>	4
Rule 10:	<i>Determining the Outcome of a Match</i>	5
Rule 11:	<i>Offside</i>	5
Rule 12:	<i>Fouls and Misconduct</i>	5
Rule 13:	<i>Free Kicks</i>	5
Rule 14:	<i>The Penalty Kick</i>	6
Rule 15:	<i>The Throw-in</i>	6
Rule 16:	<i>The Goal Kick</i>	6
Rule 17:	<i>The Corner Kick</i>	6
Appendix A:	<i>The Playing Area - Winnipeg Soccer Federation (WSF)</i>	7
Appendix B:	<i>The Playing Area - U of Winnipeg RecPlex</i>	8

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RULE 1: THE FIELD OF PLAY

FIFA LOTG Law 1 applies, with the following modifications:

1. The playing area shall conform to the field plan (see appendices).
2. The goals shall be placed on the centre of each goal line. The width of the goals shall be 3.51 metres (11 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.

RULE 2: THE BALL

FIFA LOTG Law 2 applies without modification.

RULE 3: THE PLAYERS

FIFA LOTG Law 3 applies, with the following modifications:

1. The game shall be played by two teams, each consisting of not more than six (6) players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. A game shall not commence or continue if either team has less than four (4) players.

SUBSTITUTIONS

FIFA LOTG applies, with the following modifications:

1. A substitution may be made at any time, whether the ball is in play or not (i.e. “on the fly”).

PROCEDURE

- The player being substituted leaves the field within 2 m of their team's bench, unless otherwise directed by the referee (such as in case of injury).
- The player being substituted does not need to obtain the referee's permission to leave the pitch.
- The referee does not need to authorize the substitute to enter the field.
- The substitute only enters the field after the player being replaced has left.
- The substitute enters the field within 2 m of their team's bench.
- The substitution is completed when the substitute enters the field.
- From that moment, the substitute becomes a player and the player who has been replaced becomes a substitute.
- Permission to proceed with a substitution may be refused under certain circumstances, e.g. if the substitute does not have their equipment in order.
- The player replaced may take further part in the match.

If, during a substitution:

- A substitute enters the field before the player being replaced has left or
- A substitute enters the field from a place other than within 2m of their team's bench or
- The player being substituted leaves the field from a place other than within 2m of their team's bench (without obtaining the referee's permission to leave elsewhere)

The referee takes the following action:

- The referee stops play (although not immediately if they can apply the advantage)
- The player or substitute is cautioned for unsporting behaviour

RULE 4: THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

FIFA LOTG Law 4 applies without modification.

RULE 5: THE REFEREE

FIFA LOTG Law 5 applies without modification.

RULE 6: THE OTHER MATCH OFFICIALS

FIFA LOTG Law 6 applies, with the following modifications:

1. An official may be appointed in the role of referee assistant. The referee assistant assists the referee in controlling the match in accordance with the Rules but the final decision will always be taken by the referee.

THE REFEREE ASSISTANT

- Starts and stops the time clock when signaled to do so by the referee.
 - Signals to the referee when a contravention of the substitution procedure has occurred.
 - Keeps a record of the match including goals scored and any disciplinary action taken by the referee.
 - Assists with any administrative duties before, during and after the match, as requested by the referee. The AR has the authority to check the equipment of players and substitutes and carry out pre-game roster and identification card checks.
 - Supervises the conduct of the persons situated in the technical area and on the benches, and informs the referee of any inappropriate behaviour
 - Times a team's five-minute time penalty when a player is sent off
 - Indicates the end of each half, either by a score clock horn or whistle
2. For competitions where no MSA certified official is appointed, either team must supply a volunteer as referee or referee assistant. They shall not perform all the duties of an appointed referee assistant but will be asked to perform only those tasks assigned by the referee.

RULE 7: THE DURATION OF THE MATCH

FIFA LOTG Law 7 applies, with the following modifications:

1. The duration of the game shall be two equal halves of thirty (30) minutes unless otherwise mutually agreed between the referee and the two teams. Any agreement to alter the duration 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.
2. If a team does not have the minimum number of players required to start after seven (7) minutes of the scheduled kickoff, that team will forfeit the game. If a team arrives late within seven (7) minutes of the scheduled kick-off, the game may be shortened to allow the following game(s) to begin on time.
3. The referee may, at their discretion, signal for a stoppage of the time clock as they deem fit in cases such as serious injury or wasting time. Time shall be extended at the end of any period of play to allow the taking of a penalty kick to be concluded.
4. The referee may, at their discretion, signal for the start of the time clock, if in their 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.

RULE 8: THE START AND RESTART OF PLAY

FIFA LOTG Law 8 applies, with the following modification:

1. 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. The ball is dropped at the location as provided for in FIFA LOTG Law 8, "Dropped ball" section.

RULE 9: THE BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

FIFA LOTG Law 9 applies, with the following modification:

1. The ball is out of play when it has made contact with any part of the ceiling or fixtures above the field of play.

RULE 10: DETERMINING THE OUTCOME OF A MATCH

FIFA LOTG Law 10 applies without modification.

RULE 11: OFFSIDE

*FIFA LOTG Law 11 does not apply. **There are no offside offences in quarter-field competitions.***

RULE 12: FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

FIFA LOTG Law 12 applies, with the following modifications:

1. Offences listed under the **Indirect free kick** section of Law 12 are penalized with a **direct free kick**; there are no indirect free kicks in quarter-field competition. This includes verbal offences.
 - a) See Rule 13 for the modification to the position of these free kicks.
2. A substitute may replace a player who is sent off after kick-off and enter the pitch after five minutes of playing time have elapsed following the sending-off (i.e. after their team has served a five-minute time penalty)
 - a) Because the minimum number of players is 4, if a team serving 2 time penalties is penalized with an additional time penalty, the time for the additional penalty does not begin until one of the prior penalties has completed.
 - b) Time penalties are calculated from the time remaining once play restarts after a sending-off.

RULE 13: FREE KICKS

FIFA LOTG Law 13 applies, with the following modification:

1. Until the ball is in play, all opponents must remain at least 4.57 metres (5 yards) from the ball, unless they are on their own goal line between the goalposts.
2. Offences listed under the **Indirect free kick** section of Law 12 are penalized with a direct free kick. Free kicks for these offences awarded to the attacking team inside the opponents' penalty area are taken from the dashed line (see appendices). These offences are not penalized with a penalty kick.

RULE 14: THE PENALTY KICK

FIFA LOTG Law 14 applies, with the following modification:

1. The players other than the kicker and the goalkeeper must be at least 4.57 metres (5 yards) from the penalty mark.
2. The location of the penalty mark is provided for in the appendices.

RULE 15: THE THROW-IN

FIFA LOTG Law 15 applies without modification.

RULE 16: THE GOAL KICK

FIFA LOTG Law 16 applies without modification.

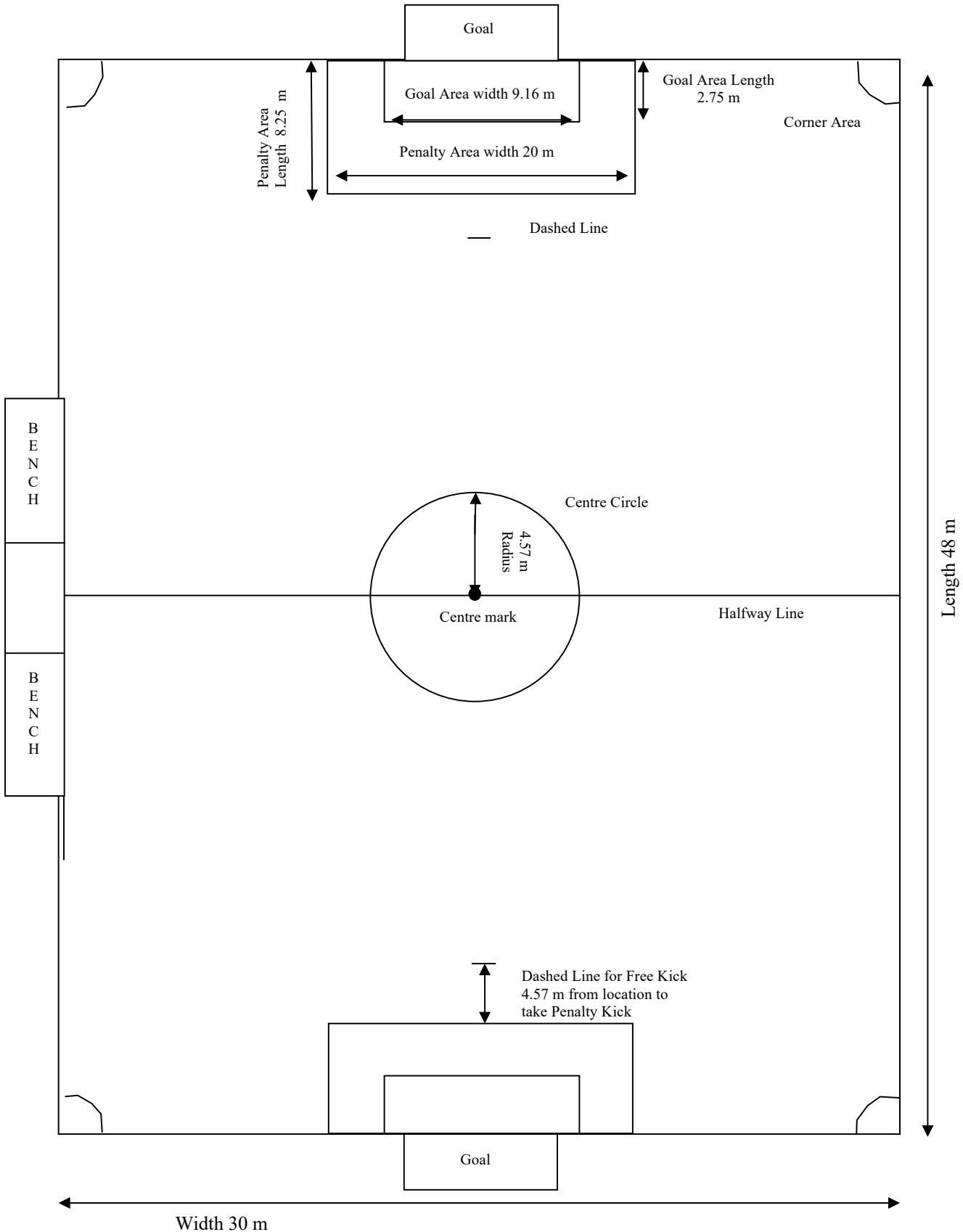
RULE 17: THE CORNER KICK

FIFA LOTG Law 17 applies, with the following modification:

1. Opponents must remain at least 4.57 metres (5 yards) from the corner arc until the ball is in play.

INDOOR SOCCER (Quarter-Field Competitions)

APPENDIX A: Winnipeg Soccer Federation Facilities 1/4 Field



INDOOR SOCCER (Quarter-Field Competitions)

APPENDIX B: U of Winnipeg RecPlex 1/3 Field

