

Umpiring Update

23/09/18

BLK

 **sport**
Northern Ireland

Rule book sections

There are now 15 sections in the rule book:

1. Introduction
 2. **Definitions**
 3. Technical Specifications
 4. Match Duration
 5. Match Personnel
 6. Match Procedures
 7. **Sanctions**
 8. Starting Play
 9. During the match
 10. Scoring a goal
 11. Obstruction
 12. Contact
 13. **Game Management**
 14. Hand Signals
 15. Variations for levels of play
- NB: the term **penalty** has been replaced with **Sanctions**

Sanctions may be: penalty pass for major infringements

free pass for minor infringements



Rule References & Changes

Section 1: Introduction

- Rules are for International play
- Variations can be made locally for particular rules as long as principles are maintained(see section 15)
- Defines responsibilities of; players, coaches, umpires & controlling bodies
- Removal of: The game is for single sex competition

Section 2: **Definitions**

- Placed at the front of the rule book for ease of reference
- Eg. Substitution: when a player moves from the team bench to replace a player on the court



Rule References & Changes

Section 3: Technical Specifications

- New court terminology:
 1. Field of play
 2. Court Surround
 3. Playing enclosure
 4. Bench Zone
 5. Zone for media & other technical officials
- Clear descriptions of goal posts, court (preferable) & ball pressure added

Section 4: Match Duration

1 st Quarter	interval	2 nd quarter	Half-time	3 rd quarter	interval	4 th quarter
15 minutes	4 minutes	15 minutes		15 minutes	4 minutes	15 minutes

Full-time draw	interval	1 st half	Half-time	2 nd half
Winner is required		Not exceeding 7 minutes	1 minute	Not exceeding 7 minutes

Please note – these are for international matches and are not being recommended by NNI for domestic competition. See section 15



Rule References & Changes

Section 5: Match personnel

- Players – hair must now be suitably tied back
- Captain – no longer a team official.
- Team officials – a team may have up to 5, these will include a coach & at least 1 primary carer
- Primary Carer – defined and must be suitably recognisable
- Match officials – umpires & technical officials – should wear clothing that is distinct from the teams' playing uniforms and suitable sports footwear. UOC recommend NNI umpires continue to wear white.

Section 6: Match Procedures

- Covers: umpires & technical officials
- No whistle when a goal is scored – controlling umpire to raise 1 arm vertically to signal
- No whistle is required if it is clear the ball is out of court – if unclear, a whistle may be used. Controlling umpire will indicate direction of play for throw in

Research suggests this will reduce the amount of whistle by 30%



Rule References & Changes

Section 7: Sanctions

- Terminology: **Sanctions** includes free pass & penalty pass
- Actions: throw in & toss up
- **Once a player taking a penalty pass is in the correct position, the player may choose to play the ball immediately or wait for the infringer to stand out of play – 3 secs is measured from the time BOTH players are in position.**

Section 8: Starting Play

- Must have taken the court within 30 secs of start time (NNI league matches 5mins)
- Delaying play after a stoppage – penalty pass can be awarded and may be advanced
- **Throw in – immediately behind replaced for clarity – within 6 inches / 15cms of the line**
- Clearer definition of **'ball out of court'** i. it touches the ground outside the court ii. It touches any object or person in contact with the ground outside the court
- Toss up – Umpire responsible for ensuring players are correctly positioned.



Centre Pass

The Centre in possession of the ball stands with a least one foot wholly within the centre circle.



Rule References & Changes

Section 9: During the match

Stoppages

- All stoppages for illness/injury or blood on a player are now 30 secs and the player concerned must leave the court.
- Primary carer may advise if player cannot be removed safely in the 30 secs and umpires will extend the stoppage time
- If the position is left vacant the player concerned or a substitute may subsequently after advising the umpire take the court immediately after 1 of the following: a) a goal has been scored , b) a stoppage for injury / illness or blood, c)an interval
- NB: the player must play in the vacant position

Playing the Ball

- A player may not throw or bat the ball deliberately at another player and must not infringe the footwork rule
- A player may not use the goal post to regain balance or as a support **to recover the ball**

Short Pass

- When a player passes the ball there must be sufficient space for an opposing player on the court to be able to intercept the ball as it moves from the hands of the thrower to those of the receiver.
- The rule now takes into account the **passage of the ball** – eg off the post at a Goal line throw in
- If 2 players from the same team gain possession of the ball in quick succession, the seconds player's hands must be removed or it will be deemed a short pass.

Section 10: Scoring a goal

- A defending player may not cause the goalpost to move so as to interfere with a shot at goal **and cause it to miss**
- Deflect a ball on its downward path towards the ring, **including touching the ball up through the net**

Rule References & Changes

Section 11: Obstruction

Obstruction of a player in possession of the ball

- A defending player may be within 3 feet of an opponent with the ball **provided no effort is made to intercept or defend the player with the ball and or there is no interference with the throwing or shooting action of this player** (new wording)



Section 12: Contact

Contact & Contest

- When attacking, defending or playing the ball, opposing players may come into physical contact with each other. Provided the players do not **interfere** with each other's play or use their bodies to gain an unfair advantage over their opponent, it is deemed to be 'contest' and play continues. 'Contact' occurs when a player's actions **interfere** with an opponent's play whether these are accidental or deliberate.
- Descriptions of Interference, Moving into Player's Space, Inevitable Contact and Simultaneous Contact

Contact vs Contest

- Game has changed
- Players must be allowed to challenge
- When does contest become contact?
- How do we recognise the signs of contact?



Rule References & Changes

Section 13: Game Management

Discipline section has been revamped to provide clearer structure for umpires to use & to help coaches & players to understand the likely consequences of certain behaviours including actions that may be taken by umpires – a structured approach to various occurrences of foul play

- Penalise with a sanction
- Caution a player
- Issue an official warning to a player
- **Suspend a player for 2 mins**
- Order a player off

A decision to give an official warning, to suspend a player, or order off will be considered to have been made jointly by both umpires and is thus binding on the co umpire

Advancing a sanction is restricted to 'delaying play' only

Delaying play (either accidentally or deliberately) is considered foul play, thus a penalty pass is now awarded (previously a free pass) and the sanction is advanced.

Definitions of: Foul Play, Unfair Play, Dangerous Play & Misconduct. Intimidation is now included as 'unfair play'.



Sanctions for unfair play

Quiet Word



Caution



Warning



Suspension



Ordering off

Disciplinary procedures for foul play

Procedure:

1. Quiet word can be issued without holding time
2. From caution, warning or suspension, hold time.
3. Advise player/ official for reason for sanction.
4. Warning can issued without prior caution if deemed serious infringement e.g. Dangerous
5. May advise on next step if behaviour does not change
6. Use consistent precise language e.g. Persistent, intentional, etc
7. Signal to official table
8. Restart play and signal direction of play
9. Warning, suspension and ordering off are considered to have been made jointly by 2 umpires
10. After the match, disciplined parties' name(s) documented on match results sheet and included in separate umpire reports



Section 14: Hand signals

9 New hand signals:

- Throw in from goal line (attacking team)
- Goal scored
- Goal not scored
- Incorrect playing the ball
- Intimidation
- Official warning
- Suspension
- Ordering off
- Centre positioned incorrectly

4 revised hand signals

- Start of play
- Hold time
- Incorrect entry (eg; offside, breaking)
- Contact

Questions and Answers

