

**LAW AMENDMENTS from INTERIM MEETING of COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 2004**

To take effect from 1st January 2005 for matches played in the northern and southern hemispheres

Law 1

Delete: 1.1(c) Artificial grass

Rewrite: 1.1(b)

Type of surface. The surface should be grass but may also be sand, clay, snow or artificial grass. The game may be played on snow, provided the snow and underlying surface is safe to play on. It shall not be a permanently hard surface such as concrete or asphalt. In the case of artificial grass surfaces, they must conform to IRB Regulation 22.

Law 1

Add to 1.3(b) a third paragraph

The 15-metre lines, which link the 5-metre dash lines are 15 metres from and parallel to the touch-lines.

Delete 1.3(c) (ii)

Law 3

Amend: 3.11(c) penalty provision to read:

Penalty: Penalty Kick where play would restart.

Law 3

Delete: 3.11(d)

Law 3

Delete: 3.12. and relocate in 3.4 as 2nd para.

Consequential amendments: Renumber 3.13 as 3.12 and 3.14 as 3.13

A team can substitute up to two front row players and up to five other players. Substitutions may only be made when the ball is dead and with the permission of the referee.

Law 4

Delete: 4.6. 1st paragraph.

Add: 4.4 (k)

A player must not wear any additional item of clothing that does not conform to IRB Regulation 12.

Law 5

Delete: 5.4(a) 3rd paragraph.

Law 5

Amend: 5.6 to read:

A match may last more than eighty minutes if the Match Organiser has authorised the playing of extra time in a drawn match in a knockout competition.

Law 6

Delete: 6.A.3(b).

Law 6

Delete: 6.A.4.

Consequential amendments renumber 6.A.5 to 6.A.14 as 6.A.4 to 6.A.13

Law 6

Delete: 6.A.5(b)

Consequential amendments renumber 6.A.5 (c) to 6.A.5(h) as 6.A.5 (b) to 6.A.5(g)

Law 10

Add: to last sentence of Definition.

which is prejudicial to the Game.

Law 10

Delete: 10.1(g)

Law 10

Rewrite: 10.2(a).

Intentionally Offending. A player must not intentionally infringe any Law of the Game, or play unfairly. The player who intentionally offends must be either admonished, or cautioned that a send off will result if the offence or a similar offence is committed, or sent-off. After a caution a player is temporarily suspended from the match for a period of ten minutes playing time. After a caution, if the player commits the same or similar offence, the player must be sent-off.

Penalty: Penalty Kick

A penalty try must be awarded if the offence prevents a try that would probably otherwise have been scored. A player who prevents a try being scored through foul play must either be cautioned and temporarily suspended or sent off.

Law 10

Rewrite: Law 10.2(c) as amended in April 2004 as follows.

Throwing into touch. A player must not intentionally knock, place, push or throw the ball with his arm or hand into touch, touch-in-goal, or over the dead ball line.

Law 10

Rewrite: 10.3(a) 2nd paragraph.

A player penalised for repeated infringements must be cautioned and temporarily suspended. If that player then commits a further cautionable offence, or the same offence, that player must be sent off.

Law 10

Delete: 10.3(b)

Consequential amendments renumber 10.3(c) as 10.3(b) and 10.3(d) as 10.3(c)

Law 10

Delete: 10.4(e), 5th and 6th paragraphs except for last sentence of para 6, which should be moved to become para 6 after the last penalty provision in 10.4 (e).

Law 10

Delete: 10.4(k) 2nd paragraph.

Law 10

Amend: 10.4(l) Penalty, as follows.

The penalty is the same as for sections 10.4 (a)-(k) except that the penalty kick is awarded at the place where play would restart. If that place is on the touch-line or within 15 metres of it, the mark for the penalty kick is on the 15-metre line, in line with that place.

If play would restart at a 5-metre scrum, the mark for the penalty kick is at the place of the scrum.

Law 11

Delete: 11.8.

Consequential amendments renumber 11.9 as 11.8 and 11.10 as 11.9

Law 12

Delete: 12.1(f)

Law 13

Delete: 13.18(a) 2nd sentence.

Add. ***'Penalty: Free Kick at the place of infringement.'***

Law 15

Delete: 15.4

Consequential amendments renumber 15.5 to 15.9 renumbered 15.4 to 15.8.

Law 15

Delete: 15.6(f) words 'Penalty: Penalty Kick.'

Law 15

Delete: 15.6(h).

Law 16

Delete: 16.5(e)

Consequential amendment to heading of 16.5(c) to 'Players joining or rejoining the ruck'

Law 17

Rewrite: **Definition**

A maul occurs when a player carrying the ball is held by one or more opponents, and one or more of the ball-carrier's team-mates bind on the ball-carrier. A maul therefore consists of at least three players, all on their feet; the ball-carrier and one player from each team. All the players involved must be caught in or bound to the maul and must be on their feet and moving towards a goal-line. Open play has ended.

Law 20

Delete: 20.5(b)

Law 22

Delete: 22.4(f)

Consequential amendments renumber 22.4(g) to 22.4(j) as 22.4(f) to 22.4(i).

Law 22

Amend: 22.16(b)

Foul play by the defending team. The referee awards a penalty try if a try would probably have been scored but for foul play by the defending team. The referee awards a penalty try if a try would probably have been scored in a better position but for foul play by the defending team.

A penalty try is awarded between the goal posts. The defending team may charge the conversion kick after a penalty try.

A player who prevents a try being scored through foul play must either be cautioned and temporarily suspended or sent off.
