

SOCCER NB



SOCCER NEW BRUNSWICK

Referee Department 2021

Tuesday January 8th.

Introduction

To adjust to our current situation in NB with the COVID 19 pandemic, and after applying some changes during the summer and fall seasons, Soccer NB has added a few changes which will be applied starting January 9 , 2021.



Why?

- Minimize the Frequency of the contact
- Reduce the duration of contact
- Lower / Decrease the intensity of the contact
- **Reduce the risk of injuries**

Fouls

~~ALL fouls will result in an Indirect Free Kick regardless of the severity of the foul.~~

- Fouls will be played as they are outlined within the 2019-20 IFAB Laws of the Game.
- A COVID 19 foul is NOT a penalty kick

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COVID 19- Offences

The following offences will result in a Free Kick regardless of where they are committed in the field:

- Shielding the ball - **You must be actively playing the ball (Indirect FK)**
- Running in the path of a player to slow them down from getting to the ball: IDFK
- Jumping at an opponent (From the Side, Behind or Front): DFK
- “Fighting” for position away from the ball: IDFK
- Obstructing player from playing the ball: IDFK, With contact: DFK
- Sliding **at an opponent** : IDFK, and PK if the offence accrued inside the PA except for the Gk when he/she slides in his own PA.
- Heading the ball – no headers are allowed: IDF.

Advantage

- ADVANTAGE will be played if a COVID foul is committed and a Promising Attack or An Obvious Scoring Opportunity is present. A verbal address must be given to the player that committed the offence.

Penalty Kick

- All Penalty Kicks are Dead balls.... no rebounds. (Dome rule)
- The kicker may only take 1.5 step on the approach to the ball. (Dome rule)
- If the keeper saves the ball and the ball remains in play, or saves it and ball goes out of the field the play is considered dead and a Goal Kick is awarded.



Although breaches in COVID rules do not result in a caution (yellow card) or send off (red card).

SPA & DOGSO

- If the referee deems that a player breached a COVID rule in order to Stop a Promising Attack (SPA) or Deny an Obvious Scoring Opportunity (DOGSO), the player will be issued a yellow card (caution) for Unsporting Behaviour.
- Further breaches could result in a directed removal from the field of play (no red card and team does not play short) or if the subsequent breach is a SPA or a DOGSO, then a second yellow card will be shown followed by a red card (send off) issued and the offending team plays down a player.

Throw ins / Kick ins

~~Kick-Ins will replace the traditional Throw-In.~~

- ~~• Kick-ins must enter the field of play below the knees (the knee height will be based on the knee height of the referee)~~
- ~~• The team defending the Kick-In must provide a distance of 10 yards from the ball. It is not an offence if the attacking team plays the ball quickly, not allowing the defending team to provide the ten yards—play will continue regardless of the outcome (unless the ball is kicked above the knee)~~
- ~~• An Indirect Free Kick will be awarded to the opposing team if the ball enters the field of play above the knees—the Indirect Free Kick may be kicked without limitation of height.~~
- **No Restrictions on Kick ins**
- **The defending team must provide a distance of 3 (Three) yards.**



Corner Kick

- ~~• Corner Kicks must enter the field of play below the knees (the knee height will be based on the knee height of the referee)~~
- **No Restrictions on corner kicks**
- The team defending the Kick-In must provide a distance of 3 yards from the ball. It is not an offence if the attacking team plays the ball quickly, not allowing the defending team to provide the three yards .
- ~~• A Goal Kick will be awarded to the defending team if the ball enters the field of play above the knees.~~

Goal Kick

- Ball is in play when it leaves the PA.
- All players must be out of the PA unless the kick is taken quickly.



Challenge / Contact between players

- Contact between players can occur or is permitted when no player has clear possession and two players are challenging for the ball (i.e. 50/50 ball) – shoulder to shoulder contact is permitted (players **MUST** maintain their lanes towards the ball and “shoulder checking” is not permitted) **ALSO** the use of hands or arms are **NOT** permitted
- Once clear possession of the ball by one player has been established, the initial contact by the defender **MUST** be on the ball and then light contact can occur **BUT** the use of hands or arms, by either player, are **NOT** permitted



Drop Ball

- As a referee, do not manipulate the ball with your hands. If needed (to Pump the ball) immediately sanitize your hands.
- If the referee stops the play for any reason (No offence has occurred) and the restart is a drop ball, ball is given to the team that had possession at the time of stoppage.
- The ball will be played where the ball is at the time of the stoppage of play.
- **All** players must be 3 meters from the ball.

**Prior to blowing your whistle where a drop ball would be the restart, it is important that you consider the location of the ball as to the restart not becoming advantageous to the team getting possession. As no foul was committed, sportsmanship should be observed.



Sanitization

- ~~• The ball requires sanitization if a person manipulates the ball with their hands, the ball strikes a person's forearm or the ball strikes the player directly in the facial area (face and forehead).~~
- Balls must be sanitized before the game, at the half time and at the end of the game.
- Player who touches the ball with his hand must leave the field for sanitization.

Thank You

Enjoy your games

