

Certification for use of oversized sticks during the seasons 2015-2016 and 2016-2017

The IFF has based on the previous years' experience and the constant demand for possibility for tall players to use oversized sticks decided to continue with the system for the two upcoming seasons 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.

This system is in use for all players over the length of 190 cm, who have applied and been granted the exemption by the IFF and have to provide the written proof of the permission if asked for by referees. The players with the height of 190 – 193 cm may after the permission is granted play with sticks of a total length of 116 cm and players taller than 194 cm may play with 118 cm sticks.

In order for the players to receive the exemption they need to hand in the Application form for use of oversized sticks to the IFF Office including a medical (doctor or medical nurse) certificate of the height of the player. Players who have had the permission to use an oversized stick don't need to hand in a new medical certificate, however an updated application is needed.

In the application the players need to provide information of which oversized stick or sticks they are going to use. The IFF Material function will then based on the applications provide the player with a written certificate, which will be sent to the player after the player has paid the IFF the administrative fee of 50 EUR for the two consecutive seasons. A list with the players granted the permission will be published on the IFF web page.

Proactive follow-up of use of non-approved Face mask grills

In accordance with the IFF Game Rules 2014 and the IFF Material Regulations 2014 all grills of the goalkeeper face masks produced after the 1st of July 2014, shall have an IFF plate included on the grill. As most goalkeepers still use older grills, they are still without this IFF plate, making it hard to distinguish, which are in accordance with the rules and which are not.

There is a problem with the grills used which have holes bigger than the allowed 70 x 8 mm openings. In order for the National Associations and the IFF to run all competitions smoothly, we would like to advise the National Associations that they are requested to ensure that all goalkeepers are using correct grills in the face masks, since the oversized holes are a clear security risk and places the manufacturers in an unequal situation, when someone are following the rules, but others not.

We would like to propose that you would take a positive approach to this issue and proactively inform the league teams well in advance of the national series and the referees about this issue. This would help to avoid situations where the referees would have to measure the openings of face masks during the regular matches.