

CHANGES TO EDITION 2010

The International Floorball Federation

Rules of the Game

Rules and Interpretations

To be Valid from 1st July 2010

International Floorball Federation, Rules and Competition Committee

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1 RINK

102 Markings on the rink

- 6) Face-off dots shall be marked on the centre line and on the imaginary extensions of the goal lines, 1.5 m from the long sides of the rink.

The face-off dots shall be marked as crosses. The dots on the centre line may be imaginary.

The face-off dots can also be marked with a round space/advertisement of 30 cm in diameter.

104 Substitution zones

- 1) Substitution zones with a length of 10 m shall be marked along one of the long sides of the rink, 5 m from the centre line, and include players' benches.

The substitution zones shall be marked on both sides of the board. The width of the substitution zones must not exceed 3 m, measured from the board. The players' benches shall be placed at an appropriate distance from the board and have room for nineteen persons each.

The substitution zone can also be marked on top of the rink, using a different colour.

105 Secretariat and penalty benches

- 1) A secretariat with penalty benches shall be placed opposite the substitution zones, by the centre line.

*The secretariat and the penalty benches shall be placed at an appropriate distance from the board. There shall be separate penalty benches for each team, placed on each side of the secretariat. The penalty benches shall have room for at least two persons each. Exemption for the placing of the secretariat and the penalty benches may be given by the administrating authority. *If this is the case there shall be left at least a 2 m space in between the penalty bench and the substitution benches.**

2 GAME TIME

202 Time out

- 1) During ~~the match regular game time~~, each team shall have the right to request one time out, which shall be carried out, and be marked by a triple signal, as soon as play is interrupted. *A time out may be requested at any time, including in connection with goals and penalty shots, ~~penalty shots after limited extra time excluded~~, but only by the team captain or a member of the team staff. A time out requested during an interruption shall be carried out immediately, but if the referees consider that this negatively affects the situation for the opposing team, the time out shall be carried out at the next interruption. A requested time out shall always be carried out, except after a goal, when the team may withdraw the request. A time out starts at the referees' additional signal when the teams are at their substitution zones and the referees at the secretariat. Another additional signal after 30 seconds marks the end of the time out. After a time out, play shall be resumed according to what caused the interruption. A penalized player must not participate in a time out.*

203 Extra time

- 1) If a match, that has to be decided, ends with a tie, it shall be extended until one team scores ~~with a maximum of 10 minutes extra time~~. *Before extra time, the teams have the right to a 2 minute intermission, but no changing of ends shall take place. During extra time the same rules apply to starting and stopping time as during regular game time. Extra time is not divided into periods. Penalty time remaining after regular game time shall continue during extra time. ~~Exemption for 10 minutes limited extra time may be given by the administrating authority~~. If the score after limited extra time is still equal, the match shall be decided by penalty shots.*

3 PARTICIPANTS

301 Players

- 2) During play, at the most six players in each team, including only one goalkeeper or six field players, may be on the rink simultaneously.

For the referees to start a match, each team shall have at least five field players and a properly equipped goalkeeper, or the final score shall be 5-0 to the non-offending team. During play, each team must be able to play with at least four players, or the match shall be stopped and the final score shall be 5-0 to the non-offending team, or the achieved result if this is more advantageous for the non-offending team.

304 Particular regulations for team captains

- 1) Each team shall have a team captain, who shall be marked in the match record.
The marking shall be made with a "C" in the margin. Change of the team captain ~~may~~ shall only take place in case of injury, illness or match penalty, and has to be noted with time in the match record. A replaced team captain must not function again as team captain during the same match.
- 2) Only the team captain is entitled to speak to the referees. He is also obliged to assist them.
When the team captain speaks to the referees, this shall be done according to set conditions. A penalized team captain loses his right to speak to the referees, unless he is addressed by them, and, except when the team staff requests a time out, the team has no possibility to communicate with the referees. Possible discussions shall be taken in the corridors and not in the rink and never inside the referees' dressing room.

305 Team staff

- 1) Each team may note at the most five members of the team staff in the match record.
No other persons than those noted in the match record are allowed to be in their own substitution zone. With the exception of a time out, a member of the team staff must not enter the rink without the referees' permission. All coaching shall take place from the team's own substitution zone. Before the match, a member of the team staff shall sign the match record, and after ~~this~~ the start of the match no amendments shall be allowed except from possible corrections of incorrect numbering. Should a member of the team staff be recorded also as a player, he should always be considered a player in any uncertain situations regarding offences in the substitution zone.

4 EQUIPMENT

401 The players' clothing

- 1) All field players shall wear uniforms consisting of jerseys, shorts and knee socks.
Women may wear short skirts or dresses (shirt and skirt in one piece) instead of shorts. All field players in a team shall wear the exact same uniform. A team's uniform may have any colour combination, but the jerseys must not be grey. If the referees consider that the teams can not be distinguished by their uniforms, the visiting team is obliged to change. The socks shall be pulled up to the knees, mutually uniform and, if decided by the administrating authority, distinguishable between the teams.
- 3) All jerseys shall be numbered.
A team's jerseys shall be numbered with different whole numbers in clearly visible Arabic figures on the back and on the chest. The back figures shall be at least 200 mm high and the chest figures at least 70 mm high. The jerseys may carry any number between 1 and 99 inclusive, but 1 is not allowed for field players. If an incorrectly numbered player participates in the match, the match record shall be corrected and the offence shall be reported to the administrating authority.

403 Particular goalkeeper's equipment

- 2) The goalkeeper must wear a face mask, ~~approved by the~~ which is in accordance with the IFF **Material Regulations** and marked accordingly.
This only includes on the rink during play. All tampering with the face mask, except painting, is prohibited.
- 3) The goalkeeper may use any kind of protective equipment, but this must not include parts intended to cover the goal.
Helmet and thin gloves are allowed. All forms of adhesives or friction checking substances are prohibited. No objects must be kept on or in the goal cage. The goalkeeper may not use any kind of protective equipment which covers more than the body of the goalkeeper, for example shoulder pads.

404 Particular team captain's equipment

- 1) The team captain shall wear an armband.
The armband shall be worn on the left arm and be clearly visible. Tape is not allowed as an armband. Incorrect armband shall be reported to the administrating authority.

4 EQUIPMENT

406 Ball

- 1) The ball shall be approved by the IFF and marked accordingly.
The ball surface shall be single coloured in a non-fluorescent colour. Neither the inside colour of the ball can be fluorescent.

407 Stick

- 2) The blade shall not be sharp and its hook shall not exceed 30 mm.
All tampering with the blade, except hooking, is prohibited. The hook shall be measured as the distance between the highest point of the blade's inner side and an even surface on which the stick is lying. Changing the blade is allowed if the blade is approved with the shaft and being of the same brand, but the new blade shall not be weakened. Taping the joint between the blade and the shaft is allowed, but no more than 10 mm of the visible part of the blade shall be covered.

410 Control of equipment

- 1) The referees shall decide about controlling and measuring all equipment.
Inspection shall take place before and during the match. Incorrect equipment, including defective sticks ~~measuring the stick's hook excluded~~, discovered before ~~or during~~ the match shall be corrected by the player concerned, who after this may start/continue the match. ~~With the exception of personal equipment and minor defects to the stick (e.g. small holes or painting, which shall be corrected by the player concerned, who after this may continue the match), all incorrect equipment discovered during the match shall lead to the proscribed penalty.~~ Offences concerning players' uniforms and team captain's armband shall not lead to more than one penalty per team per match. However, all incorrect equipment shall be reported. No other players than the team captains and the player with the equipment being measured may be at the secretariat during the measuring. After measuring, play shall be resumed according to what caused the interruption.
- 2) Measuring of a hook ~~and checking of a shaft/blade combination~~ may be requested by the team captain.
The team captain also has the right to point out to the referees other incorrectness in the opponents' equipment, but in this case the referees decide whether or not to take action. ~~Measuring and checking of shaft/blade combination~~ may be requested at any time, but shall not be carried out until play is interrupted. If ~~measuring checking~~ is requested during an interruption, it shall be carried out immediately, including in connection with goals and penalty shots, unless, in the referees' opinion, it negatively affects the situation for the opposing team. In this case the ~~measuring checking~~ shall be carried out at the next interruption. The referees are obliged to check a hook ~~or shaft/blade~~ at the team captain's request, but only one ~~measuring checking~~ per team per interruption shall be allowed. No other players than the team captains and the player with the equipment being ~~measured checked~~ may be at the secretariat during the measuring. After measuring, play shall be resumed according to what caused the interruption.

5 FIXED SITUATIONS

503 Events leading to a face-off

- 12) When the referees' decision is incorrect.

This includes when the referees by mistake whistles for too many players and it shows that the team is playing without goalkeeper.

506 Free-hit

- 2) The free-hit shall be taken where the offence was committed, but never behind the imaginary extensions of the goal lines, or closer to the goalkeeper areas than 3.5 m. *If, in the referees' opinion, play is not affected, the ball does not have to be entirely still or in exactly the right place. A free-hit closer to the board than 1.5 m may be moved out to this distance. A free-hit behind the imaginary extension of the goal line shall be taken from the nearest face-off dot. A free-hit closer to the goalkeeper area than 3.5 m shall be moved out to ~~this the~~ distance of 3.5 m from the ~~outer line of the goalkeeper area~~ along an imaginary line from the centre of the goal line through the place where the offence was committed, leaving 0.5 m for the wall and then 3 meters free space to the free-hit point. Comment: The distance would then be 4.5 m from the middle of the goal line. In this case the defending team shall always have the right to form a defence line immediately outside their goalkeeper area. If the attacking team prevents or obstructs this, a free-hit shall be awarded to the defending team. The attacking team is not obliged to wait for the defending team to form the defence line, and has the right to place their players in front of the defence line.*

507 Offences leading to a free-hit

- 1) When a player hits, blocks, lifts, kicks ~~an opponent's stick~~ or holds an opponent or opponent's stick. (901, 902, 903, 910, 912)
If the referees consider the player to have played the ball before hitting the opponent's stick, no action shall be taken.

508 Penalty shot (806)

- 5) ~~If a~~ A 2 minute bench penalty ~~is~~ imposed in connection with a penalty shot, ~~the 2 minute bench penalty~~ shall be noted in the match record only if the penalty shot does not result in a goal.
The penalized player shall be on the penalty bench during the penalty shot.

6 PENALTIES

601 General regulations for penalties

- 3) If a goalkeeper incurs one or several 2 minute bench penalties, the team captain shall choose a field player, who is not already penalized, to serve the penalty.
A goalkeeper incurring a 5 minute bench penalty or a personal penalty shall serve the penalty himself.
If a goalkeeper incurs one or several 2 minutes bench penalties when serving penalties or in connection with a 5 minute bench penalty or a personal penalty, he shall serve these penalties himself.
*If a goalkeeper serves penalties and a reserve goalkeeper is not available, the team has a maximum of 3 minutes to properly equip a field player, but none of this time may be used for warming up. The new goalkeeper shall be marked in the match record, and the time of the change shall be noted. When the penalty expires, the goalkeeper must not enter the rink until play is interrupted. Due to this the team captain shall choose a field player, who is not already penalized, to accompany the goalkeeper on the penalty bench in order to enter the rink when the penalty expires. **Only the penalized player shall be noted in the match record.** The referees shall together with the secretariat help a goalkeeper, whose penalty has expired during play, to leave the penalty bench as soon as play is interrupted.*

602 Bench penalty

- 2) No more than one bench penalty per player and two bench penalties per team may be measured simultaneously.
All bench penalties shall be measured in the order they are imposed. A player, whose penalty can not be measured, shall be on the penalty bench from the moment his penalty is carried out. If more than one penalty is imposed simultaneously on a team already having a bench penalty, the team captain decides which of the new penalties shall be measured first. Shorter bench penalties shall, in this case, always be measured before longer. ~~If, during a delayed penalty, the team incurs yet another bench penalty, the delayed penalty first imposed on the team shall be the one measured first.~~

603 2 minute bench penalty

- 1) If the opposing team scores during a 2 minute bench penalty that is being measured, the penalty shall terminate, unless the opposing team is outnumbered on the rink or the teams play with equal strength.
The penalty will not terminate if the goal is scored neither during a delayed penalty nor from a penalty shot caused by an offence leading to a penalty. ~~If a 2 minute bench penalty is imposed in connection with a penalty shot or a delayed penalty shot, the rules concerning penalties in connection with a penalty shot shall also be applied.~~

604 Delayed penalty

- 1) All types of ~~bench~~ penalties, ~~including match penalties,~~ may be delayed. A delayed penalty shall be applied when the non-offending team still controls the ball after an offence leading to a penalty. Only one penalty at a time can be delayed except when a goal situation is in progress, in which case a second penalty may also be delayed.
If one or several delayed penalties are imposed in connection with a penalty shot or a delayed penalty shot, the rules concerning penalties in connection with a penalty shot shall also be applied.

6 PENALTIES

605 Offences leading to a 2 minute bench penalty

- 1) When a player, hits, blocks, lifts, kicks **an opponent's stick** or holds an opponent or opponent's stick in order to win a considerable advantage, or with no possibility of reaching the ball. (901, 902, 903, 910, 912)
- 6) When a team captain requests measuring of a hook **or checking of the shaft/blade combination** and the **measured checked** equipment is correct. (no offence sign)
The team captain will serve the penalty.
- 21) When a team systematically delays play. (924)
If the referees consider a team close to being penalized for delaying play, the team captain shall, if possible, be notified before any action is taken. The team captain shall choose a field player, who is not already penalized, to serve the penalty. This also applies when a player of the defending team intentionally moves the goal cage.
- 25) When a player uses incorrect clothing (no offence sign).
~~This includes missing parts of the clothing and offences concerning the team captain's armband.~~
Offences concerning clothing shall only lead to one penalty per team per match. All other instances of incorrect equipment such as team captain's armband or missing chest figures shall be reported to the administrating authority. The referee shall, if possible, notify the player before any action is taken.
- ~~27) When an incorrectly numbered player participates in the match. (no offence sign)
The match record shall be corrected. Offences concerning wrong numbering shall only lead to one penalty per team and match. Other instances of this offence shall be reported to the administrating authority.~~
- 27) When a player deliberately prevents a goal or a goal scoring situation by committing an offence which is usually punished with a free hit. (no offence sign)

608 Personal penalty

- 2) A personal penalty shall only affect the player, and due to this he may be replaced on the rink during the penalty.
The team captain shall choose a field player, who is not already penalized, to accompany the player on the penalty bench in order to enter the rink when the bench penalty expires. Only the penalized player shall be noted in the match record. When the personal penalty expires, the player must not enter the rink until play is interrupted. The referees shall, together with the secretariat, help a player, whose personal penalty has expired during play, to leave the penalty bench as soon as play is interrupted. A member of the team staff incurring a personal penalty shall be sent to the spectators' stand for the rest of the match, and the team captain shall choose a field player, who is not already penalized, to serve the bench penalty.

6 PENALTIES

611 Match penalty

- 1) A player or a member of the team staff incurring a match penalty shall immediately go to the dressing room and must not take any further part in the match.
The arranging team is responsible for ensuring that the offender goes to the dressing room and does not return to the spectators' stand or the rink during the remaining time of the match, possible extra time and penalty shots included. All match penalties shall be reported.
A player or member of the team staff shall incur only one match penalty per match with exception from a match penalty when not noted in the match record. Subsequent offences leading to a match penalty shall be reported, but no further bench penalty shall be imposed with exception from a match penalty incurred for a player or member of team staff not noted in the match record.
Offences committed before or after the match, which normally lead to a match penalty, shall be reported, but no bench penalty shall be imposed. With the exception of incorrect equipment (which shall be corrected by the player concerned, who may then start the match), offences leading to a match penalty committed before the match shall also lead to the offender's non participation in the match, possible extra time and penalty shots included.
- 2) A match penalty shall always be followed by a 5 minute bench penalty.
The team captain shall choose a field player, who is not already penalized, to serve the bench penalty, and possible other bench penalties concerning the player or member of the team staff incurring the match penalty. Only the penalized player shall be noted in the match record. Possible personal penalties concerning the player incurring a match penalty shall terminate. If a player adjudged a match penalty makes a further offence leading to a match penalty, the offence leading to a severer match penalty will be noted in the match record.

613 Offences leading to a match penalty 1

- 1) When a field player uses a non approved stick, **a stick consisting of a blade and a shaft of two different brands** or a stick with a hook which is too wide.
When a goalkeeper uses ~~a non approved~~ **an incorrect** face mask. (no offence sign)
A stick without approval mark is always considered to be non approved.
- 6) When a player is guilty of **dangerous physical play** ~~a physical offence of misconduct~~. (909)
This includes dangerous, violent or unsportsmanlike offences considered deliberate or unprovoked.

615 Offences leading to a match penalty 2

- 3) When a member of the team staff, is guilty of continued or repeated unsportsmanlike behaviour. (925)
The match penalty replaces the second 2 minute bench penalty + 10 minute personal penalty, but shall still be followed by a 5 minute bench penalty. ~~Continued implies in the same sequence and repeated for the second time in the same match.~~
- 4) When a player, whose equipment is about to be ~~measured~~ **checked**, tries to correct or **exchange** the equipment before the ~~measuring~~ **checking** of the equipment. (925)

617 Offences leading to a match penalty 3

- 3) When a player or a member of the team staff is guilty of **rude misconduct** ~~abusive language~~. (925)
~~Abusive language~~ *Rude misconduct implies grossly insulting referees, players, team staff, officials or spectators.*
- 4) **When a player or a member of the team staff is guilty of violent conduct.**
Violent conduct means a deliberate impact on the physical integrity of a person without causing injury.

6 PENALTIES

618 Penalties in connection with a penalty shot

- 1) If a penalty shot ~~caused by an offence leading to a penalty~~, results in a goal, ~~only~~ the penalty causing the penalty, if a 2-minute bench penalty, ~~shot can be affected~~ shall be terminated.
This includes a delayed penalty shot. ~~If the penalty shot is caused by an offence leading to a 2-minute bench penalty, the penalty shall be cancelled if the penalty shot results in a goal, but all other types of penalties shall be carried out.~~ If during a delayed penalty shot, the offending team commits another offence leading to a penalty shot, the second offence shall be considered the offence causing the penalty shot. If a penalty shot is interrupted due to an offence caused by the goalkeeper, the goalkeeper's offence shall be considered the cause of the new penalty shot. ~~If a 5 minute bench penalty is imposed in connection with a penalty shot or a delayed penalty shot with an already existing 2-minute bench penalty shall be terminated if the penalty shot results in a goal.~~
- ~~2) If a penalty shot, caused by an offence not leading to a penalty results in a goal, no other penalty shall be affected.~~