

## **NEW RULES JAN 2017 (for implementation in our leagues from September 2017)**

You will receive new rule books either at the AGM, or in time for the new season. Changes are in red.

Rule 1.10: Goals are positioned outside the field of play at the centre of and touching each back line. **No equipment or items, such as helmets, face masks, hand protectors, towels, water bottles etc , may be placed inside the goal.**

Rule 2.1: If a team has more than the permitted number of players on the field, time should be stopped to correct the situation. A personal penalty may be awarded against the Captain of the team involved, if inadvertently having too many players on the pitch occurs for a very short period of time and does not materially affect the match. In cases where this occurs and materially affects the match, a personal penalty must be awarded against the Captain of the team involved. **Decisions taken prior to correcting the situation cannot be changed, if time and/or play has already been re-started.**

Rule 2.2: There are 3 indented paragraphs of explanation with this rule. Add another paragraph (which is part of the rule). **Any change between these options, or between field players with goalkeeping privileges who are either on or off the pitch, must take place as a substitution.**

Rule 4.2: The first indented paragraph should now read:

- Are permitted to wear hand protection which does not increase the natural size of the hands significantly; **any hand protection used, both for normal play and to defend penalty corners, must fit comfortably (without the need for compressing it) into an open-ended box of internal dimensions 290mm long x 180mm wide x 110mm high;**

There is a new third indented paragraph:

- **Are permitted to wear any form of body protection (including leg protection, or knee pads, when defending a penalty corner) underneath normal playing clothing; knee pads, used for this purpose may be worn outside the socks provided that their colour is exactly the same as the colour of the socks;**

Rule 4.3: This rule used to say that a goalkeeper had to wear a single coloured shirt or garment. The word "single" has been removed.

Rule 9.8: A ball is **also** considered dangerous when it causes legitimate evasive action by players.

Rule 9.16: There is new indented advice on this rule, which reads as follows:

**Following a penalty corner, if the ball hits any discarded equipment, such as a hand protector, knee pads or face mask, a free hit should be awarded if this occurs outside the circle, and a penalty corner awarded if this occurs inside the circle.**

Rule 13.2: This simply writes the rules about free hits close to the circle that we have been using for a season now into the rule book.

Rule 13.7(d): The third indented paragraph is replaced by:

A penalty corner is considered as re-taken until any of the conditions of rules 13.5 (for penalty corners in normal time) and rule 13.6(for penalty corners at half time and full time) for its completion are met.

Rule 13.8(e): This rule should state:

The player defending the stroke must stand with both feet on the goal line and, **once the whistle has been blown to start the penalty stroke**, must not leave the goal-line or move either foot until the ball has been played.

Rule 13.10(d): The first indented paragraph of this rule should say:

If the player defending the stroke prevents a goal being scored but moves either foot before the ball has been played, this player must be **cautioned, and for any subsequent offence must be suspended (green card, and, for further offences with a yellow card)**.

Umpiring signals, section 4.3(c), the signal for a long corner:

**Ball out of play over the back line unintentionally by a defender: using right or left arm as appropriate, with the arm well below shoulder level, draw an imaginary line from the point where the ball crossed the back line to the point on the 23m line from which the re-start should be taken**