



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS



2016 SOCCER GUIDE

(INTERCOLLEGIATE EDITION)

By

Don Dennison

NISOA National Clinician and National Assessor

George Wescott

NISOA President

Based Upon:

- *NCAA Soccer Rules and Interpretations – 2016-2017*
- *National Federation Soccer Rules Book – 2016-2017*
- *[USSF] FIFA Laws of the Game – 2016-2017*

and Other Officially Authorized Supplemental Materials

Originally prepared March 3, 2006

Revised – March 25, 2016



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

Many NISOA members officiate soccer matches using Rules and Laws of soccer organizations and rule-making bodies other than the NCAA. As is to be expected, officials on occasion have some confusion regarding a specific rule or interpretation. For these reasons a study guide is needed for the officials to have easy references to the differences between NCAA, High School Federation and FIFA Laws and Rules. Over the past twenty-five years the more significant rules have been brought generally into conformity by the three groups. Nevertheless, there are distinct differences in language and interpretation that still exist and each group has adopted specific rules that are believed to be more appropriate for their players and their ages.

This guide is not an all-inclusive listing of each difference between the sets of Rules and Laws, but rather only lists the more important differences where such differences exist. Many technical and administrative rules such as player eligibility and accumulated cautions do not generally and directly concern the referee but rather the match administrators and have therefore been omitted from this study.

The guide has been designed by the author for easy reference and many officials have carried this guide in their kit or in their cars for quick review prior to a match. It is also useful as a teaching aid for NISOA entry level and in-service clinics. Changes for the current year are shown in *italics* for easy reference.

The comparisons are in tabular form following the particular topic and are in order of the specific Laws or Rules to which they are relevant except for the listing on page 3 which compares general Topics not referred to in specific Rules or Laws and several miscellaneous topics which are referred to on page 15.

It should be noted that the three sets of Rules and Laws are constantly changing and the different bodies publish their changes at different times of the year. Generally the FIFA Laws are published in May and take effect the following July. The NCAA Rules are enacted early in the year, but are not normally published until early or mid summer. High School Federation rule changes are enacted by their Rules Committee each January and are distributed in early summer. The NCAA Rule Book is only published every other year. A new edition was published last year. Accordingly, this Guide is current only up to the date of its publication and includes all rules changes for the year as presently known by the author. If any errors are noted, it would be appreciated if they are brought to attention of Don Dennison at donsar@comcast.net


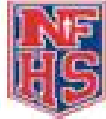
NOTE: Modifications for the 2016 season are shown in *italics*



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC ABOUT THE RULES AND LAWS | NCAA-NISOA  | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION  | FIFA – USSF  |
|---|--|---|---|
| Terminology - (It is important to use the proper terminology, especially in writing game reports) | Rules Ejection Drop Ball Game Overtime Penalty Coaching and Team Area Terminated Game Alternate Official Illegal Obstruction | Rules Disqualification Drop Ball Game Overtime Penalty Coaching and Team Area Terminated Game 4 th Official Obstruction | Laws Send Off Dropped Ball Match Extra Time Sanction Technical Area Abandoned Match 4 th Official Additional Assist. (AAR) Impedes Progress of Opponent |
| Where the Rules or Laws are Employed | NCAA, NAIA, NJCAA, NIRSA and NCCAA | Most public high and intermediate schools and some private schools | International matches, professional leagues, most club and semi-pro matches, and some private schools |
| Interpretations | Approved Rulings (A,R.) appearing in the Rule book are official decisions of the NCAA. The NCAA secretary/rules editor can be contacted for interpretations . Generally it is preferable to first go through the local NISOA Chapter Clinician. The NCAA Rules Book does NOT contain the description of standardized procedures for the Diagonal System of Control (DSC). NISOA describes this system for its members in other publications. | Play Rulings in the Rules book are interpretations approved by the NFHS Soccer Rules Committee. Member state associations of the NFHS independently make decisions regarding compliance with or modifications of the playing rules for the student athletes in their respective states. The Rules describe 3 systems of mechanics that may be used; the Dual Officiating System, The Diagonal System of Control (DSC) and the Double-Dual System. | Decisions of the Int'l. F.A. Board are official interpretations. Additional Interpretations in the U.S. can be obtained initially through the State Director of Instruction (SDI). The USSF Advice to Referees and Questions and Answers on the Laws of the Game are also official sources in the U.S. The Diagonal System of Control (DSC) is described in other FIFA and USSF publications. |
| FIELD OF PLAY 11 Yd. Encroachment Hash Mark Penalty Kick Mark Goal Nets | RULE 1 Mandatory – Correct before match, if not possible, begin game and file report 2 foot Line or 9” diameter spot Mandatory | RULE 1 Optional Same as NCAA Same as NCAA | LAW 1 Optional penalty mark (no fixed size) Not mandatory – may be used |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA - USSF |
|---|--|---|---|
| Coaching and Team Area | 20 yards long and 10ft from touchline Caution to coach who leaves the area <u>after</u> a first verbal warning and IFK where ball was if game stopped. Ejection for 3 rd offence. R 12.14 | Same size as NCAA. Caution to coach who leaves this area. R 1, Sec. 5. Benches should be on same side of field – if not, benches should be diagonally opposed from each other | Not specified in the Laws, but technical area may be used |
| Coach communication | Coaches on roster and on site may communicate with each other electronically | No provision but no phones or radios allowed during play. Communication devices on sideline only. Cannot communicate with players | No provision |
| Padded Goal Posts | Not Sanctioned | A white commercially made pad at least 72” in height and a max. of 1” thick may be placed on the vertical posts | Same as NCAA |
| Goal Post Placement | Goal lines must be the same width as the goal posts and crossbars | Rear of each goal post shall be on the <u>outer</u> edge of the goal line. R 1, Sec. 4, Art. 1 | Same as NCAA |
| Field Conditions for play to start and continue | Determination made by referee | Prior to start of game, host institution representative determines; thereafter determination is made by referee | Same as NCAA |
| Games played indoors | Match may be played indoors | No provision | No provision |
| Turf Fields | Permitted – no restrictions | Same as NCAA | Artificial surfaces must be green |
| THE BALL | RULE 2 | RULE 2 | LAW 2 |
| Number of Balls | No fewer than 5, identical balls. At least 4 ball persons at least 10 yrs. of age. Recommended to wear colored vests. Use manufacturers suggested pressure | 3 or more of similar quality. Must have NFHS logo displayed, supplied by home team or referee can select from visitor if unavailable. At least 2 ball holders. | 1 required, others may be used if available. For major international matches – FIFA marking required USSF – up to 6 suggested |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC PLAYERS AND SUBSTITUTES | NCAA-NISOA RULE 3 | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION RULE 3 | FIFA – USSF LAW 3 |
|--|---|--|--|
| Team Roster | REQUIRED to be presented to referee, scorekeeper and other coach 15 mins. prior to game. Copy for referee should not show total cautions and ejections. Terminate if not given | REQUIRED to be presented by coach or player to referee 5 mins. prior to game. Names may be added to roster after start of play. Player numbers required on roster | Names of subs given to referee prior to match (no more than 6 in National A team matches). No other roster requirement |
| When Substitutions Allowed | <u>Either Team:</u> End of period; goal; goal kick; player removed for equipment change (other team may sub equal number); injury or caution (only players involved – other team may sub like number); bleeding injury; blood on uniform; or signs of concussion must be subbed and can return on any stoppage if cleared by medical personnel (not charged with reentry) GK ejected (team plays short but may sub for GK-no sub for other team. <i>Player leaves field for equipment change without sub, may return at next stoppage</i> | <u>Either Team:</u> Unlimited at end of period; goal; goal kick(players must have already reported to scorer); caution (player must go out); injury if referee stops clock, player must go out including. goalkeeper; disqualification (but not for disqualified player); blood on player or uniform or any sign of concussion (may not return until cleared by health care professional. When Bench player carded and subs have already reported. All subs must be beckoned onto field except before start of a period. | At any stoppage with permission of referee.(Many local leagues have set times for substitutions – consult |
| When Substitute Becomes A Player of Record | <u>Team in Possession:</u> Throw-in or corner kick (if sub, other team may also sub). Players must have reported to scorer prior to ball going out of play | <u>Team in Possession::</u> Same as NCAA | - When the substitute actually enters the field (must be at the halfway line) |
| Restrictions of Substitution | <p>When beckoned on by referee during first 85 mins. of match. During last 5 mins., when referee signals the clock to stop if the leading team substitutes</p> <p>During 1st half and in each overtime period – no reentry. One reentry in 2nd half (R3,Sec5). GK allowed one reentry in each period and each overtime</p> | <p>When beckoned onto field by the referee</p> <p>A player substituted for may reenter an unlimited number of times in the match</p> | Player replaced may not reenter the match (this differs in many local competitions and youth matches. (Refer to local league laws) |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA – USSF |
|--|--|--|--|
| Changing of Goal Keeper with Field Player | During any stoppage with referee's permission. Verbal warning to both players at next stoppage for violation. No sub from the bench for GK during a penalty kick | Whenever clock is stopped or at a substitution time with after notifying referee.. Both players verbally warned for any violation | During any stoppage with referee's permission. Caution both players for violation when ball is out of play |
| Withdrawing a Reported Substitute | Sub is not required to enter but is charged with a reentry | Once beckoned onto field by referee, sub must enter | No requirement |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>PLAYER's EQUIPMENT</u></p> Casts, Facemasks, "Ankle Braces" and Monitoring Devices | <p style="text-align: center;">RULE 4</p> Casts permitted if covered and not considered dangerous by referee. Facemasks permitted. Players may wear a device to monitor data which can be used during the match, | <p style="text-align: center;">RULE 4</p> Hard casts or splints must be padded with closed cell foam at least 1/2 " thick. Facemask, if worn, must be molded to the face with no protrusions; player must have a medical release at game site signed by a physician for use of mask; Metal ankle braces must be worn inside socks; non-metal may be worn outside of sock. <i>Soft padded headbands allowed. Capt. armband, if worn, must be on arm</i> | <p style="text-align: center;">LAW 4</p> Referee's discretion – check for safety and require padding if cast is hard or dangerous. Soft facemasks permitted if referee deems them not dangerous. Head covers allowed if black or same color as jersey. May not be attached to jersey. Monitoring devices (EPTS) allowed but may not be received or used during the match In the technical area |
| Uniform Numbers | 8" number of back of jersey and 4" number on front of jersey <u>including</u> GK | 6" number of back of jersey <u>including</u> GK, 4" number on front of jersey or on shorts | Nothing specified in Laws |
| Visible Apparel Under Uniform and Stockings | If worn under shirt or shorts, must be a solid color <i>and recommended that it matches dominant color of the garment Same color must be worn by all team mates wearing undergarments</i> | If worn under shorts, all on team must be alike and similar length and solid color. If under jersey, all alike and similar length and of a solid color. Both socks must be of similar dominant color. If tape is applied over sock, it must be of similar color as that part of the sock. | All visible undergarments (shirt or shorts) must be same main color as uniform shirt or shorts. Shirts must have sleeves. Any tape applied over the stockings must be the same color as that part of the stocking |
| Uniform Colors | Home team responsible to ensure their uniforms (shirt and socks) contrast to those of the visitor | Home Team – Jerseys and socks must be solid white; visitors - dark jerseys and socks. Applies to varsity only | Nothing specified in Laws; no political, religious, or personal statements permitted |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA – USSF |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Jerseys Tucked-In | Not specified but generally required | Mandatory | Not specified |
| Goal Keeper’s Jersey and Socks | Jersey must differ from all field players and stockings must differ from opponent | Must differ from all other players, but Jersey can be same color as opponent’s GK. Socks must differ from opponents’ socks | Must differ from all players and officials |
| Jewelry | Not permitted except for “Medic Alert” bracelets or necklaces if taped to player’s body. Sanction is clock to be stopped, player ordered off field (no sub) until next sub opportunity | Not permitted, except medical or religious medals which must be taped under uniform. “Medical Alert” bracelet must be taped and visible. Colored mouth protectors allowed | Not permitted |
| Shin guards | NOCSAE standard required | NOCSAE standard required. Seal and height range of player must be stamped on outside | Shin guards required – no standard specified |
| <u>THE REFEREE</u> | <u>RULE 5</u> | <u>RULE 5</u> | <u>LAW 5</u> |
| System of Match Control | Diagonal System of Control (DSC) shall be used. If 1 official fails to appear, the dual system may be used | DSC, Dual (2 referee) or Double Dual (3 referee) systems authorized | DSC Only – may use club linesmen if necessary. May use Additional Assist. Referees (AAR) |
| Power to Forfeit or Terminate Match | Terminate if coach will not end discussion or leave the field; team refuses to return to field with 3 mins; ejected or ineligible player enters field; failure to submit roster prior to match. If a team is not on field within 15 mins of game time it is declared “no contest”. Referee can suspend game. If game is terminated less than 70 mins into match, it is declared “no contest” | Forfeit if less than 7 players, however, if below 7 due to equipment problem, minor injury or blood, wait for treatment or correction. Referee can <u>terminate</u> if team refuses to play, no cross-bar, etc. | Referee has no power to declare a forfeit but may suspend or terminate a match |
| Authority Begins and Ends | Begins when referee arrives at site and referee must arrive at least 30 minutes. prior to scheduled game time and authority ends when officials leave the game site | Begins when referee enters field or surroundings and at least 15 mins. prior to start of game and ends when officials leave the field and its immediate surroundings | Begins when officials enter the field area and ends when they leave |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA – USSF |
|--|---|---|--|
| Referee Uniform | Gold, orange, blue, or green with checkered grid pattern or black with white striping. Socks – black with 3 bands of white, gold, blue, orange or green, all dressed alike. Cap permissible, Shoes-mainly black. No jewelry except for watch | As set by State Association, but usually the same shirt as USSF. Black shorts or long trousers, black stockings with white top stripes. In some states black and white striped shirts are worn. Solid black cap may be worn. Shirt must differ from field players, but not goalkeepers | Shirts – Gold, black, green, red or blue, all with vertical striping. Socks- black with three white top bands or solid black with USSF logo. Caps not specified but generally permitted if conditions warrant in club matches. Not generally worn in top matches |
| Whistles and Hand Signals | Whistle used for kickoff, penalty kicks, and to signal play stoppage. Other whistles discretionary. Signals are used for throw-in direction, indirect and direct free kick, goal corner kicks, corner and goal kicks, advantage with verbal “play-on” Timeout signal is specified | Whistles same as NCAA, used also to signal restarts after substitutions, injuries and time stoppage; when a card is given and on encroachment; discretionary and if needed when ball goes out of play. Hand signals – same as NCAA but adds a wind-up motion to start clock after time has stopped; goal signal | Whistle used for kick-off, penalty kick, restarts and stoppages as necessary. Signals – same as NCAA except no specific signal for clock stoppage. |
| Time Keeping | Home team clock is official, referee takes over on malfunction. Game ends when timekeeper’s signal begins or clock shows 0:00. Timer counts down last 10 seconds to zero. During last 5 mins. of game, referee has discretion to allow clock to run or stop when losing team player carded. | Referee keeps time only by agreement of the coaches or state association – otherwise, home team controls clock. Timer counts down last 10 seconds | Referee keeps official time and indicates how much additional time is to be added in half and match for time lost |
| Pre-game Conference | Nothing specified at coin toss | Head coach must attend with captain(s). Referee address sportsmanship and inquires of the coaches if players are properly and legally equipped | Nothing specified in Laws |
| 2 nd Caution Mechanics for Displaying Cards | Display yellow card and then red card sequentially | Same as NCAA – No sub allowed for 2 nd caution to a player | Same as NCAA |
| Articles Worn by Officials | Officials should not wear anything that is not allowed to be worn or carried by players except watches and caps | Same as NCAA | Same as NCAA, however in senior and professional leagues caps are not usually worn |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA – USSF |
|--|--|---|---|
| Post-Game Score Verification | All officials must sign score book. Jurisdiction over the score and statistics ends upon signing. Once score sheet is signed and released for publication, coaches, players and other personnel bear the burden of errors. Protests may be filed only up to 48 hours after game. | Head referee must verify score | A match report to the appropriate authorities is required |
| <u>THE A.R. and OTHER OFFICIALS</u> Other game personnel | RULE 6 A time keeper and score keeper are required. An Alternate Official (AO) may be used. A minimum of 4 ball persons over the age of 10 is recommended | RULE 6 A scored and timer are preferably used designated by home school, but by agreement of coaches, both functions may be performed by the head referee. At least 2 ball holders are provided by home team. A 4th official may be used | LAW 6 A 4 th official may be used and in some leagues, additional assistant referees located beyond the goal lines |
| Signal to Inform Referee that a Foul by Defender was Inside Penalty Area | AR moves smartly to the corner | No signal specified | Same as NCAA |
| <u>DURATION OF GAME</u> Length of periods | RULE 7 2- 45 min. periods. In regular season 2-10 min. sudden victory overtimes. For post-season tournaments, see R 7.1.2, which includes kicks from the penalty mark after the overtime periods. Periods end when clock reaches 0:00 even if no horn sounds.. | RULE 7 2- 40 min. periods or 4-20 min quarters Overtime allowed by state association, up to 20 mins. maximum, sudden victory may be permitted by state. | LAW 7 2-45 min. periods plus allowances for time lost due to subs., injury, time wasting, etc. The local rules of competition may allow for 2 full overtime periods not to exceed 15 mins. each as well as kicks from the penalty mark . |
| Official Game | A suspended game of less than 70 minutes is declared “no contest”. If at least 70 mins. have been played the governing authority may declare it official. | Official game if one half has been played. If suspended during the first half, state association determines if game is to be rescheduled from the beginning or from the point of suspension | If less than full time is played and the match is <u>abandoned</u> , the match must be replayed in its entirety, <u>if terminated</u> competition authorities determine outcome |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA – USSF |
|---|--|--|---|
| Half-time and Overtime (OT) Intervals | 15 mins for half time except post-season by agreement, less by prior consent of coaches and officials. Between end of game and first OT period – 5 mins. Between overtime periods – 2 mins. | 10 minutes for half- time unless otherwise agreed by coaches. Between end of game and first OT period – 5 minutes. Time between overtime periods, 2 minutes. | Players are entitled to a halftime interval. It must not exceed 15 mins. |
| Clock stops | Goal, penalty kick, cards, & at discretion of referee (injury, time wasting, etc.), Subs during last 5 mins. of 2 nd half by leading team and special TV timeouts. Also player shows signs of concussion. | Goal, penalty kick, yellow and red cards, and at discretion of referee, (to assess possible injury, time wasting, etc.) | Referee discretion, e.g. serious injury, time wasting, substitutions. Clock does not technically stop but time is “added on |
| START OF PLAY Coin Toss – winner | <p style="text-align: center;">RULE 8</p> Choice of goal or kick off. Same procedure for 1st sudden-victory overtime period | <p style="text-align: center;">RULE 8</p> Same as NCAA | <p style="text-align: center;">LAW 8</p> Must choose goal to attack. Loser of toss <u>always</u> kicks off |
| Kickoff | Ball must be kicked forwardly | Same as NCAA | <i>Ball may be kicked in any direction</i> |
| Drop Ball | Where ball was when play stopped. If in goal area, drop on 6 yd. line nearest to location of stoppage. Does not require 2 opposing players. Goal may be scored from a drop ball | Same as NCAA, but must also be 5 yds. from touch line and <u>must</u> be dropped between two <u>opposing</u> players. | Same as NCAA except goal cannot be scored directly from a dropped ball |
| <u>BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY</u> Restart after injury, inadvertent whistle, replaced cross bar, etc. | <p style="text-align: center;">RULE 9</p> Drop ball where play was stopped by the referee except if in goal area, drop on 6 yd. line nearest to location of stoppage. Does not require opposing players to be at the drop spot, If injury and or other stoppage and GK has possession of ball when play stopped – then IFK to GK’s team, unless stopped for a foul | <p style="text-align: center;">RULE 9</p> If one team is in clear possession, indirect free kick, otherwise drop ball at spot of stoppage. Drop must be between <u>opposing</u> <u>players</u> . Goal can be scored from a drop ball | <p style="text-align: center;">LAW 9</p> Same as NCAA, except no special goalkeeper provision |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA- | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA - USSF |
|---|--|--|--|
| Ball strikes overhead wire or tree extending into field | Considered as an outside agent. Ball is dropped at nearest point where ball landed. (Interpretation from NCAA rules editor) | Local ground rule to be discussed prior to game. No set rule. | Considered part of field. Ball remains in play. (Advise to Referees- 1.8c and 1.8d) |
| <u>SCORING</u> | RULE 10 No differences between the three | <u>RULE 10</u> | <u>LAW 10</u> |
| <u>OFFSIDE</u> | RULE 11 See Footnote on page 16 Same as FIFA | RULE 11 <i>See Footnote on page 16</i> <i>Same as FIFA</i> | LAW 11 See Footnote on page 16 |
| <u>VIOLATIONS AND MISCONDUCT</u> Caution-Reasons (Yellow Card) | RULE 12 Entering or leaving field w/o referee permission; persistent infringement of rules; dissent; incidental profane language; unsporting conduct (includes taunting and excessive celebration); delays restart; encroachment of free kicks and corner kicks; coach may be cautioned for coaching outside of team area. Coach and bench personnel may be carded. (yellow or red) | RULE 12 Same as NCAA – also use of video or communication, etc. to assist in coaching; use of tobacco at game site. Unsporting conduct includes coaching outside of box, faking injury, simulating a foul, excessive goal celebration, reckless play. Cautioned player must go off, if subbed for, may return at next opportunity to sub. Coach may be cautioned for team or bench misconduct that cannot be attributed to specific player. Coach and bench personnel CAN be carded (yellow or red). Coach carded if player illegally equipped and player must go off until next sub time Any subsequent illegal equipment infractions- player is carded, not coach. Note that taunting is a red card. Delayed or excessive acts to focus attention on player or prohibits timely restart. Foul on obvious goal scoring opportunity, but goal scored. | LAW 12 Unsporting behavior (includes removing jersey when celebrating a goal and simulating any action to deceive referee), dissent, persistent infringement of laws, delays restart, encroachment on free kicks and corner kicks, enters, re-enters or leaves the field without referee's permission Coach and bench personnel CANNOT be carded, but subs on bench may be carded |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA - USSF |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Ejection-Reasons (Red Card)</p> <p>Player on field at end of period is ejected or disqualified during the interval</p> <p>Charging Goalkeeper</p> | <p>Serious foul play; violent <i>behavior</i>; fighting; spits at anyone; denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by handling or any offense punishable by a free kick; uses hostile or abusive, language or harassment that refers to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation or national origin, or other threatening or obscene language, behavior or conduct; receives a 2d caution.; 3rd occurrence of coaching outside of team area. Coach and bench may be carded</p> <p>Team plays short in the next half</p> <p>May not be charged or interfered with while in possession of ball within his penalty area</p> | <p>2nd caution (cannot be replaced); violent conduct; taunting; serious foul play; hand ball to prevent goal if ball does not go into goal, foul against an opponent who is moving toward goal with an obvious opportunity to score (DOGSO), spitting at an opponent, teammate or official; using offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures; leaves bench when a fight is taking place. Coach and bench may be carded.</p> <p>Team does not have to remove a player to start the next period R12.8.2F</p> <p>Keeper cannot be charged in his penalty area unless dribbling ball with his feet or obstructing</p> | <p>Serious foul play (includes any tackle which endangers safety of opponent); violent conduct; spits at anyone; denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by handling or any offense punishable by a free kick; uses offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures; receives a 2nd caution. Red card <u>cannot</u> be shown to coach or non-player, some youth leagues differ.</p> <p>Same as NCAA</p> <p>May be fairly charged if going for the ball other than with his/her hands. May not be charged while holding ball or having possession of the same</p> |
| <p>Addressing Referee Between periods</p> | <p>Only captain permitted unless summoned by referee. 1st. occur. Verbal warning, 2nd occur. Caution, 3rd. occur. Ejection</p> | <p>Only team captain should address referee</p> | <p>No provision</p> |
| <p><u>FREE KICKS</u> Direct free kick Offenses</p> | <p><u>RULE 13</u> Spitting, kicking or attempt to kick, striking or attempt, tripping or attempt, using blood to assault, jumping at, handling ball, holding, pushing, charging violently, violently fouling goalkeeper while in possession of ball in the penalty area, all against an opponent.</p> | <p><u>RULE 13</u> Basically the same as NCAA, but specifies also charging an opponent while the opponent in the act of playing the ball, has both feet off of the ground. Spitting at an opponent.</p> | <p><u>LAW 13</u> Basically the same as NCAA, but specifies also tackling an opponent in a manner deemed careless, reckless or with excessive force .</p> |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA - USSF |
|--|--|---|--|
| Indirect free kick offenses | Playing ball a 2 nd time before it is played or touched by another player at kickoff, throw-in, free kick, corner kick, goal kick or penalty kick; GK holds ball more than 6 secs. sub at improper time or without being beckoned by referee; persons other than players and ARs entering field with referee permission; improper coaching from the touchline after verbal warning; dissent; unsporting behavior (includes excessive celebration) or inappropriate language; dangerous play involving an opponent; offside; charging when ball is not within playing distance unless obstructed; interfering with goalkeeper before release of ball; illegal obstruction; leaving field without referee permission; goalkeeper receives ball in the hands deliberately kicked or thrown by teammate; goalkeeper handles ball after relinquishing possession; use of tobacco; when game is stopped for injury to goal keeper when in possession of ball. Assaulting a game official, team mate or non-player | Same as NCAA, but no mention of restart for 2 nd violation of improper coaching from touchline. Adds that if play is stopped for misconduct of player, coach or bench and no other restart takes precedence, an IFK is awarded. Spitting at team mate or game official. If on field, from spot of offence, if off field, from spot where ball was, when match stopped. Dangerous play may involve <u>opponent or a team mate</u> | Dangerous play, impedes progress of opponent, prevents goalkeeper from releasing ball, commits any offense not sanctioned by a direct free kick for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player; goalkeeper takes more than 6 seconds. before releasing ball; touches ball again with hands after releasing goalkeeper touches ball with hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by team-mate, or handles the ball on a throw in to him by team-mate, offside; assault on official, team mate or non-player |
| PENALTY KICKS Ball Placement Stutter stepping or faking by the kicker | RULE 14 On the 9" spot or 2 foot line Same as FIFA – Player cannot stop completely | RULE 14 Same as NCAA Not permitted – <i>Indirect free kick to defenders</i> | LAW 14 On the penalty spot Permitted – no infraction if during run-up to kick. Cannot stop fully |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA – USSF |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Player taking kick infringes or team-mate encroaches and ball does not go into goal</p> <p>Kicks from the penalty spot/mark (tiebreaker)</p> <p>After kick is taken, but before being touched by another player or hits the goal, necessitating a suspension (i.e outside agent).</p> | <p>If ball goes directly out of play without being touched – goal kick. If ball rebounds into or out of play, an indirect free kick is awarded</p> <p>No player reduction if other team is less than 11. Coach not allowed in center circle during kicks. 10 kickers to be designated from the roster <i>to remain at center circle</i>. Order can be changed if more kicks required. Need not have been on field at end of match. Referee selects goal to be used</p> <p>Kick is retaken</p> | <p>Goal kick if ball goes directly over goal line. If deflected out by goal keeper or ball bounces into play – Indirect free kick to defenders. If saved by goal keeper, play continues</p> <p>Same as NCAA Coach selects the first 5 kickers. If still tied, 5 different players are selected. Any player on the roster may take part. Coach and non-kickers must remain in team area</p> <p>Kick is retaken</p> | <p>Indirect free kick given to defenders at the point of infraction</p> <p>If one team playing short, other team, must reduce number of kickers to equalize, coach not permitted on field. Each team must have same number of kickers. Only players on the field at the end of the match may take part</p> <p>Same as NCAA</p> |
| <p>THROW-IN Position of Defenders</p> <p>Ball never enters field</p> <p>Throw-in by impaired player using only one hand</p> <p>Stickum to enhance grip</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">RULE 15</p> <p><i>Same as FIFA</i></p> <p>Throw-in awarded to opponent</p> <p>No provision</p> <p>Not allowed</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">RULE 15</p> <p>Same as FIFA</p> <p>Same as NCAA</p> <p>Legal – One-handed throw-in allowed in such cases</p> <p>No provision</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">LAW 15</p> <p>All must stand no less than 2 meters (2 yards) from the point of the throw-in, may not jump about or distract</p> <p>Throw-in retaken</p> <p>Same as HS Fed. See USSF Advice to Referees §15.3</p> <p>No provision</p> |
| | | | |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| TOPIC | NCAA-NISOA | HIGH SCHOOL FEDERATION | FIFA – USSF |
|---|--|--|--|
| <u>GOAL KICK</u> Moving ball in goal area after it is spotted | RULE 16 No prohibition unless movement is for purposes of time wasting | RULE 16 Once spotted, ball may not be moved to another part of goal area | LAW 16 Same as NCAA |
| <u>CORNER KICK</u> | RULE 17 No significant differences in the three sets of Rules and Laws | RULE 17 ==== | LAW 17 ==== |
| <u>MISCELLANEOUS</u> Foul indicated by Assistant Referee Coach conveying tactical information to team and coach and player restrictions | Flag held vertically overhead with a slight circular wave Coach cannot leave coaching and team area to give instruction. Cannot instruct during an injury. Coach may use electronic tablet or dry-erase board. No player, coach or team rep. except captain may approach or speak to referee between periods, unless summoned by referee. Coach permitted to view from press box and can communicate with bench electronically but not with players | Flag held vertically overhead until referee acknowledges and then a slight circular wave of the flag is made and point in direction of restart No restriction, coach may give instructions to team during an injury. Coach may use electronic equipment and tablets on sideline, but cannot use them to communicate with players during play. | Same as NCAA, but make eye contact with referee before waving flag Only one person at a time is allowed to convey tactical instructions from the technical area |
| Future Requirements | Rule Book issued every two years - New book issued in 2016 | None presently known | Goal line technology may be used |
| Protest by Coach | Allowed up to 48 hours after end of match | No protests permitted | No Provision |
| Video Replays for Referee | No provision – under review for the future | No provision | <i>May be used</i> |
| Ball in Play on Free Kicks | Ball must be played or touched | Ball must be kicked and <u>visibly moved</u> | Same as HS Fed. |



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

| | | | |
|----------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Restart after Delays | No contest may be started or restarted or resumed that has not been restarted before an additional 90 minutes after the end of a regulation 90 minute game | No similar provision | No similar provision |
|----------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|

Footnote to the FIFA Offside Law 11 concerning interpretation of “INTERFERING” and “GAINING AN ADVANTAGE”.

“Interfering with an Opponent” means preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent’s line of vision or movement for challenging an opponent for the ball.

“Gaining an Advantage” by being in an offside position means playing a ball that (1) *rebounds or is deflected* to him off the goal post, crossbar or an opponent; (2) that *rebounds or is deflected* to him from a deliberate save by an opponent; (3) receiving the ball from an opponent who *deliberately* plays the ball such as a miskick or misdirected header (except for a deliberate save), is not considered to have gained an advantage and is not offside.



National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS





National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RULES AND LAWS

