

VICSOCCER

CHECKING YOUR OPPONENTS ID CARDS

All clubs and referees are reminded that clubs are entitled to check the ID cards of their opponents. The following procedure shall apply :

1. If a club wishes to check its opponent's ID cards it must request the cards from the referee prior to the match.
2. If so requested the referee shall count the opponent's ID cards and record the number of cards being handed over. The referee shall then give the ID cards to a club official, properly identified, of the other team.
3. Any team taking possession of its opponents ID cards shall retain them until half time, during which time they may check the player's photographs against players sitting on the bench or playing on the field.
4. Clubs DO NOT have the right to demand their opponents "line up" to check photos against faces.
5. At half time the club shall return its opponent's ID cards to the referee. The referee shall again count the cards to ensure that all cards handed over have been returned.
6. A club who wishes to challenge the identity of any player shall advise the referee of its suspicions.
7. The referee shall advise the suspected [layer's club and the club shall present the player to the referee so that the referee can record the player's details.
8. The suspected player shall follow any reasonable instruction given by the referee to establish or confirm his identity.

NO ID CARD - NO GAME

Clubs are again reminded that players without an official photo ID card are ineligible to play. Please do not call the office on Sunday asking for exceptions to be made.

COLLECTING ID CARDS

Clubs are reminded that it is their responsibility to collect player ID cards from the office after production. As an optional service we will post ID cards to the registered postal address of the club via Express Post. This incurs a charge of \$6 which is invoiced to the club's account.

Express Post is guaranteed next day delivery and is traceable. We will not post ID cards through the ordinary post.

A LITTLE BIT OF PERUVIAN MAGIC

Saturday 24th July 2010 is an important day for Peru United, and many of Melbourne's Peruvian community. It is the day that the Peruvian community will celebrate Peru's independence from Spain, declared by General Jose de San Martin on 28th July, 1821. In keeping with Peruvian tradition, the Independence Day celebrations will be characterized by great food, great music and great dancing.

So if you and the family would like an interesting night out, the Moonlight Reception in North Fitzroy is the place to be.

Tickets are available through Pablo Barra from Peru United. Pablo can be contacted on 0419 305 978.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A FEW IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PLEASE REPORT LATE STARTS

We are currently investigating several referees who apparently failed to report late starts to matches. This follows reports received by us from the opponents of the late starters. Clubs are reminded and encouraged to report any late start to any match, so that we can check to ensure referees are reporting such incidents when they occur.

ADDITIONAL EMAIL ADDRESSES AVAILABLE

Clubs are reminded that they may nominate two email addresses per club, plus an additional email address for each team. Thus a single team club can have up to three email addresses, a two team club can have four and a three team club can have five. Additional email addresses means your official club correspondence goes to multiple people, reducing the chances that important communication go unnoticed or unacted upon.

PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

Each year as the leagues are being formed we have discussions with clubs who want, for a variety of reasons, things that the normal promotion and relegation systems would otherwise not provide. In the past, we have tried to accommodate every club's wishes. Sometimes this has been to the detriment of other clubs. So we now go on the record as stating this league's policy on promotion and relegation for 2011:

1. The clubs finishing in first place in Division 1 East and Division 1 West will be promoted to the Premier League Morning. The clubs finishing in 9th and 10th place in the Premier League Morning will be relegated to the Division 1 pool of clubs.
2. The clubs finishing in 9th and 10th places in the Premier League afternoon will be relegated to the Division 1 Afternoon. The clubs finishing in 1st and 2nd place in Division 1 Afternoon will be promoted to the Premier League Afternoon.
3. If for reasons of club numbers, the league structures in 2011 do not mirror those in 2010 exactly, the League will determine the structure of the various leagues adhering as close as possible to the principals of the promotion and relegation policy.
4. Unless there are compelling reasons to do otherwise, new clubs entering the league will be placed in the lowest league appropriate to their team numbers.
5. If the various Premier Leagues have vacancies caused by teams leaving the Vicsoccer leagues more than two teams will be promoted from the lower league beginning with the third placed teams or the best performing third placed teams at the discretion of the League.
6. Clubs promoted or relegated under the application of these principals must play in the league allocated. Reasons such as having lost key players or having gained new players will not be considered when deciding league placements. League placements will be determined in 2011 by how the club performed in 2010.

REFEREEING

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE REFEREE PART 2



Law 5 grants the referee considerable powers and responsibilities over the conduct of any match.

The Interpretation of the laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees, an official publication authorised by the International Football Association Board, provides further specific examples of how these powers should be used in particular situations.

In this second part of a three part special on Law 5 we examine some of these guidelines.

DEALING WITH INJURED PLAYERS

The referee must adhere to the following procedure when dealing with injured players:

- play is allowed to continue until the ball is out of play if a player is, in the opinion of the referee, only slightly injured
- play is stopped if, in the opinion of the referee, a player is seriously injured
- after questioning the injured player, the referee may authorise one, or at most two team officials, to enter the field of play to assess the injury and arrange the player's safe and swift removal from the field of play
- the referee must ensure an injured player is safely removed from the field of play
- a player is not allowed to receive treatment on the field of play
- any player bleeding from a wound must leave the field of play. He may not return until the referee is satisfied that the bleeding has stopped. A player is not permitted to wear clothing with blood on it
- as soon as the referee has authorised the team officials to enter the field of play, the player must leave the field of play, either on a stretcher or on foot. If a player does not comply, he must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour
- an injured player may only return to the field of play after the match has restarted
- when the ball is in play, an injured player must re-enter the field of play from the touch line. When the ball is out of play, the injured player may reenter from any of the boundary lines
- irrespective of whether the ball is in play or not, only the referee is authorised to allow an injured player to re-enter the field of play
- the referee may give permission for an injured player to return to the field of play if an assistant referee or the fourth official verifies that the player is ready

TRIBUNAL MATTERS

Tribunal Matters is the semi-regular pages dealing with disciplinary matters within Vicsoccer.



COMPETITION RULES REGARDING SEND OFFS

(a) Any player who is sent off during any match is immediately suspended from all competitions and remains suspended until his case has been decided by Vicsoccer in accordance with these rules. This provision is applicable in all cases where a player is sent off, including but not limited to the following:

- (i) those cases where the referee is a club-appointed official;
- (ii) those cases where the referee indicates, either directly or by implication, that the send-off will not be reported;
- (iii) those cases where the referee indicates, either directly or by implication, that the send-off was a mistake or should not have happened;
- (iv) those cases where the referee does not retain the player's ID card.

(b) Clubs are required to contact Vicsoccer and indicate if a player has been sent-off and the referee has failed to retain the player's ID card and/or indicated that the send-off will not be reported or was a mistake.

(c) Where a player has been sent off Vicsoccer shall assess the referee's report, any additional reports from assistant referees, federation officials or the player's club, together with the player's disciplinary history and shall:

- (i) if it is the player's first send-off during that calendar year AND Vicsoccer assesses that the offence does not warrant a penalty greater than the automatic one-match suspension, impose the one-match suspension, otherwise
- (ii) refer the matter to the Tribunal for determination.

(d) Where a player's send-off has been referred to the Tribunal for determination the Tribunal may impose whatever penalties it deems appropriate but shall not, under any circumstances, reduce the period of suspension to less than that required by paragraph (e) below. The Tribunal may impose additional fines on either the club or the player but may not alter the automatic fine required by these rules and specified in the schedule.

(e) Subject to the exceptions specified in paragraph (f) below, the following minimum periods of suspension apply to all players who are sent-off:

- (i) for the player's first send-off in any calendar year a minimum suspension of one match;
- (ii) for the player's second send-off in any calendar year a minimum suspension of two matches;
- (iii) for the player's third send-off in any calendar year a minimum suspension of three matches;
- (iv) for the player's fourth send-off in any calendar year a minimum suspension of four matches or for the remainder of the calendar year, whichever is the greater.

(f) Vicsoccer may, at its sole discretion, release a player from any suspension and withdraw any automatic fines if it receives a written report from the referee indicating that the send-off was the result of a mistake, or if it is claimed by the club or player, and subsequently confirmed to the satisfaction of Vicsoccer, that the wrong player was named in the referee's report for any reason.

(g) In addition to whatever suspension may be imposed on the player, the player's club shall be fined in accordance with the Schedule of Automatic Fines for each send-off.

(h) Notwithstanding that a player may have served his suspension for any send-off, the player shall remain on suspension until all fines associated with the send-off have been paid. A player's ID card shall be made available for collection by the club immediately upon the player having completed his term of suspension and the club having paid all fines associated with the send-off.

(i) Where a player has been called to appear before the Tribunal he shall remain suspended until he appears. Where a player fails to appear as directed, all suspensions between the time of the original scheduled appearance and the player's ultimate appearance shall be deemed to be suspensions served for failing to appear and shall not be deducted from whatever suspension is due for the original send-off.

OUR DISCIPLINARY POLICY

The Vicsoccer Disciplinary Policy is one of open transparency. All cases listed for Tribunal hearing will be detailed here, and all Tribunal results will be posted here for your information and scrutiny. The notion of justice being done and being seen to be done, and being done in an open forum, is

fundamental. Unlike other sporting bodies, our Tribunal and disciplinary systems are open to any member club to attend. Even if you are not directly involved in the case, you are welcome to attend our Tribunal hearings and sit in and view proceedings.

Tribunal hearings are generally held on Monday evenings commencing at 7.30pm. The Tribunal is located at Suite 9, 229 Balaclava Road, Caulfield.