

VICSOCCKER

RULES IN REVIEW

Article 7 COMMUNICATIONS

(7a) Vicsoccker's primary method of communication with clubs is via Electronic Mail (email) to the registered email address or addresses provided by the club. Information is also posted on the Vicsoccker website located at www.vicsoccker.com and includes the newsletter **League News Online**. Vicsoccker may also communicate via post (subject to paragraph (b) of this Article), via facsimile and, at its discretion via telephone.

(7b) Clubs that are unable to receive email or access the website may elect to receive written communication, including the newsletter, via the post or facsimile transmission. An additional annual handling charge will be levied on all clubs that elect to receive printed material by post. Where a club initially provides an email address and subsequently elects to have material sent by post or fax it shall be subject to the annual handling charge for posted or faxed items.

(7c) The newsletter **League News Online** is official communication and any matter referred to or specified in the newsletter is deemed to have been officially notified to all clubs at the time the newsletter is published. The latest edition of League News Online will be deemed to have been published at the time it is posted on the Vicsoccker website. For the purposes of determining the time of posting of the newsletter the electronic records generated by Vicsoccker's computer system shall provide prima facie evidence of the time of posting.

(7d) Electronic Mail will be deemed to have been delivered at the time it was transmitted. For the purposes of determining the time of transmission of email messages the records produced by Vicsoccker's computer systems shall constitute prima facie evidence of the time of transmission.

(7e) Information sent via facsimile to the registered facsimile address supplied by a club will be deemed to have been delivered at the time it was transmitted. For the purposes of determining the time of transmission of facsimile messages the records produced by Vicsoccker's facsimile machines shall constitute prima facie evidence of the time of transmission.

(7f) Information sent via post will be deemed to be delivered at the time when it could reasonably be expected to be delivered in the ordinary course of the post. For the purposes of determining the time of delivery of posted articles the records held by Vicsoccker regarding time of posting shall constitute prima facie evidence of the time of posting.

(7g) Information provided by telephone will be deemed to have been delivered at the time of the telephone call to a nominated club official. For the purposes of determining the time of a telephone call and its content the records held by Vicsoccker in its telephone log shall constitute prima facie evidence of the time of the call and its content.

Article 8 CHANGES TO FIXTURES

(8a) Changes to scheduled fixtures include the following:

- (i) postponement of the fixture to a later date;
- (ii) change of kick-off time;
- (iii) change of venue;
- (iv) change of opponent;
- (v) cancellation of fixture;
- (vi) creation of new fixture where none previously existed.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

(8b) Vicsoccer may direct fixture changes provided the details are communicated to both clubs by no later than 5pm on the Thursday preceding the fixture (for weekend fixtures) or no later than 48 hours before the scheduled kick-off time for mid-week fixtures. Clubs shall comply with any such directions so given. Any communication of such changes shall be in accordance with **Article 7 : Communications**

(8c) Where the notice required by paragraph (8b) has not been given, changes to fixtures shall only be authorised if both participating clubs give consent. Such consent must be given by a nominated club official and, once given, cannot be retracted.

A FEW IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PLEASE REPORT THESE THINGS

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.

We would also like to know if you don't get a referee for your match. Qualified neutral referees are appointed by Vicsoccer to cover EVERY match, EVERY week. Sometimes, for a variety of reasons, referees are unable to keep their appointments and late call-offs unfortunately do occur. We do our best to cover call-offs, but this is not always possible. To ensure that we know when referees do not attend, we ask that you let us know if you don't get a referee. You can email us in the normal way, or you can let us know on the answering service results line when you call in your results on Sunday night.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU DON'T GET A REFEREE

When an appointed referee does not arrive the match should still start on time. The clubs should initially consult with each other and attempt to agree on the appointment of a suitable person. If agreement cannot be reached, the HOME CLUB appoints a person to act as referee. Once appointed by the HOME CLUB, the person chosen must officiate for the entire match, unless he becomes injured or is otherwise unable to continue. Please note that agreements that each club referee one half of the match are strictly prohibited. If we find out this has occurred then both clubs will appear before the Tribunal and in all likelihood all match points will be lost by both teams.

If the appointed referee arrives late he should take over control of the match the next time the ball goes out of play. Play should not be stopped simply to allow the appointed referee to take over.

The home club should report the late arrival of the appointed referee.

REFEREEING

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE REFEREE PART 3



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 third part of a three part special on Law 5 we examine some of these guidelines.

More Than One Offence Occurring At The Same Time

When two or more offences are committed by two or more players from the same team at the same time:

- the referee must punish the most serious offence when players commit more than one offence at the same time
- play must be restarted according to the most serious offence committed

When offences are committed by players from different teams at the same time the referee must stop play and restart it with a dropped ball from the position of the ball at the time of the stoppage, unless play was stopped inside the goal area, in which case the referee drops the ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when play was stopped.

In each of the two above cases any disciplinary actions (cautions or send offs) must be applied to each offence. The above guidelines apply only to how play is subsequently restarted.

Positioning With Ball In Play

Recommendations:

- The play should be between the referee and the lead assistant referee
- The lead assistant referee should be within the referee's field of vision. The referee should use a wide diagonal system
- Staying towards the outside of the play makes it easier to keep play and the lead assistant referee within the referee's field of vision
- The referee should be close enough to see play without interfering with play
- "What needs to be seen" is not always in the vicinity of the ball. The referee should also pay attention to:
 - ★ aggressive individual player confrontations off the ball
 - ★ possible offences in the area towards which play is heading
 - ★ offences occurring after the ball is played away.

Positioning In Ball Out Of Play Situations

The best position is one from which the referee can make the right decision. All recommendations about positioning are based on probabilities and must be adjusted using specific information about the teams, the players and events in the match up to that point.

The positions suggested in the following graphics are basic and recommended to referees. The reference to a "zone" is intended to emphasise that every recommended position is actually an area within which the referee is most likely to optimise his effectiveness. The zone may be larger, smaller or differently shaped depending on circumstances at the moment in question.

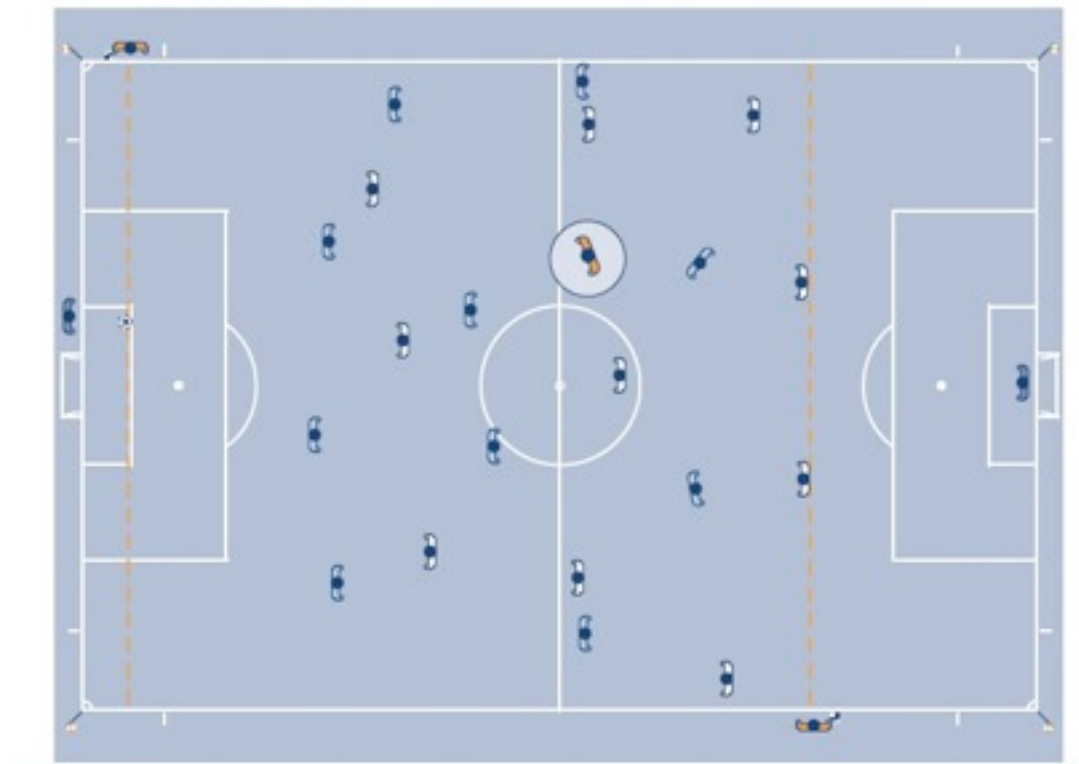
REFEREEING



1. Positioning for the kick-off



2. Positioning for a goal kick



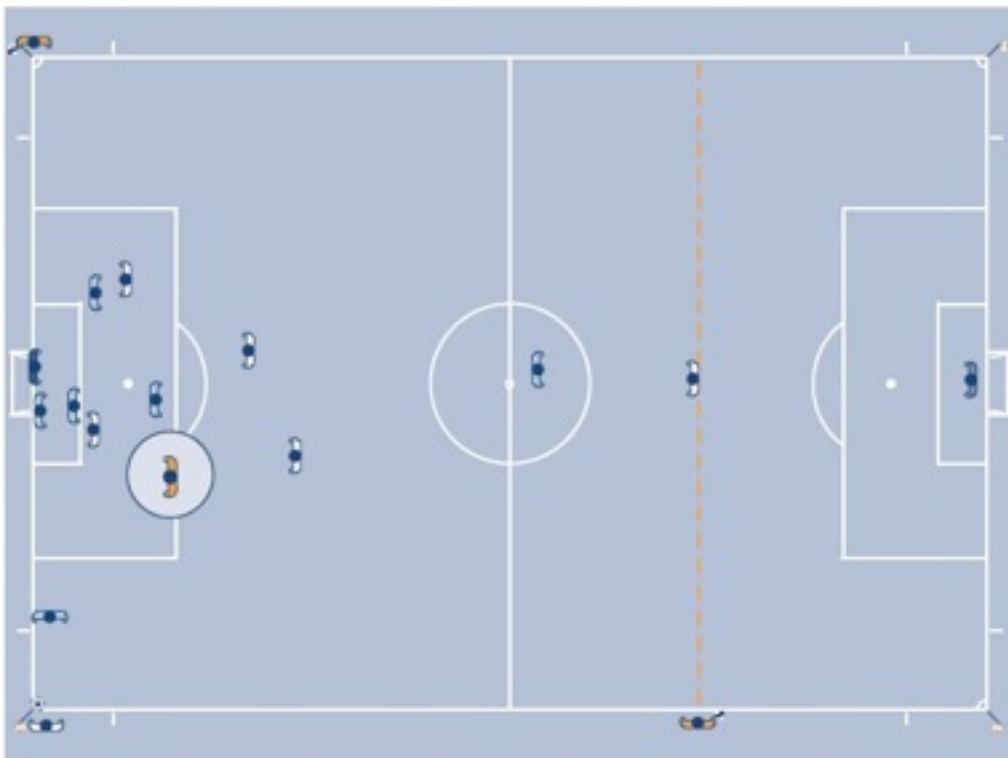
REFEREEING



3. Positioning for a corner kick (1)



4. Positioning for a corner kick (2)





5. Positioning for a free kick (1)



6. Positioning for a free kick (2)

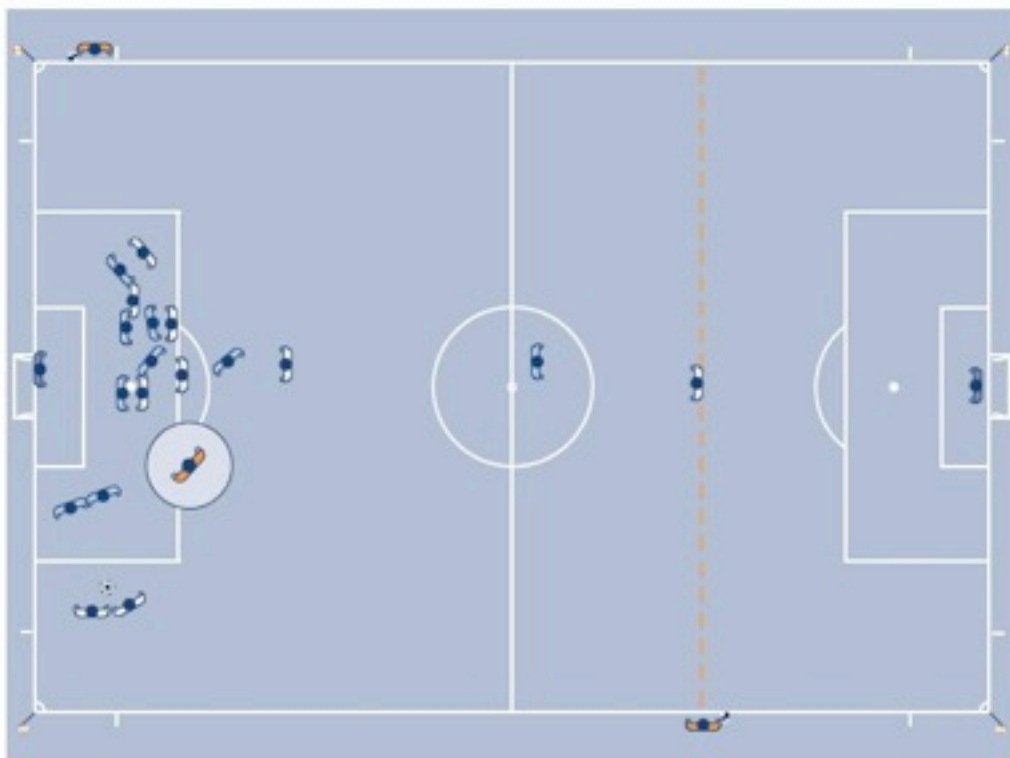




7. Positioning for a free kick (3)

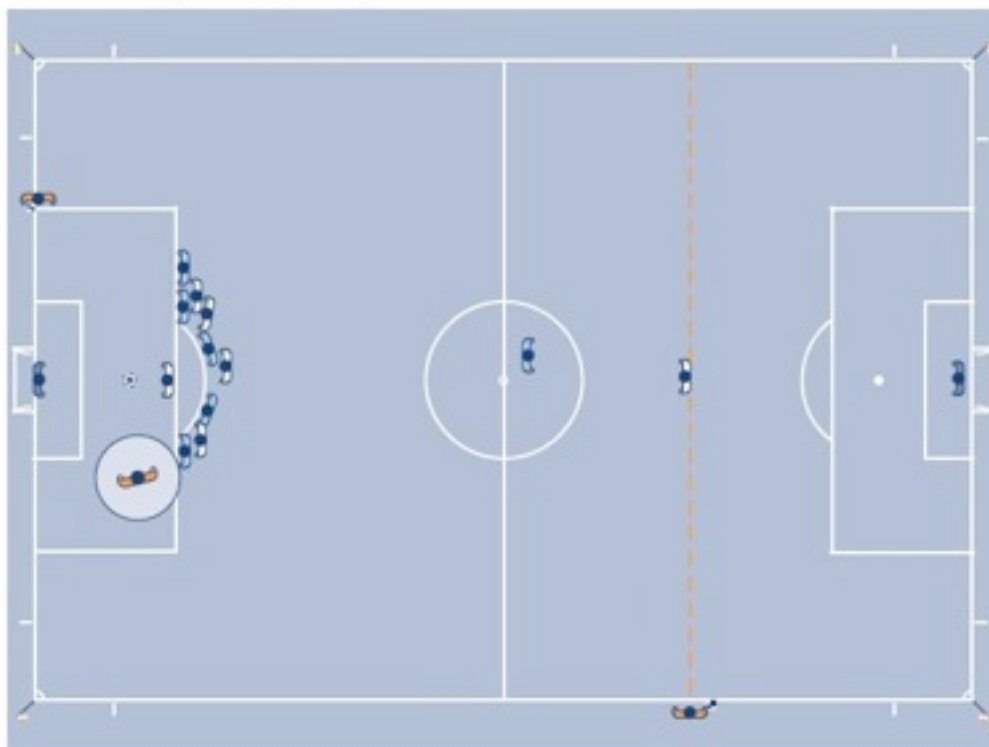


8. Positioning for a free kick (4)





9. Positioning for a penalty kick



TRIBUNAL MATTERS

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



Article 10 **FIELDING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER**

(10a) A player is ineligible to play if any one or more of the following circumstances exist:

- (i) the player is not currently registered, OR
- (ii) the player is currently suspended, OR
- (iii) the player's name is not listed on the team sheet for the match in question, OR
- (iv) the player's Vicsoccer Player ID card was not handed to the match referee prior to the player taking the field, OR
- (v) the player was registered based on false or misleading information provided by either the player or the club.

(10b) It is an offence under this article for a club to field one or more ineligible players in any match.

(10c) It is an offence under this article for a player to play whilst ineligible.

(10d) The following penalties shall apply:

- (i) Where only one participating club fields one or more ineligible players and the club fielding ineligible players loses the match, the match result shall stand;
- (ii) Where only one participating club fields one or more ineligible players and the club fielding ineligible players wins or draws the match, the match result shall be recorded as a nil-nil win to the opposing team;
- (iii) Where both participating clubs field one or more ineligible players each the match result shall be recorded as a nil-nil draw with no match points awarded to either team, regardless of any score in the match;
- (iv) Each club fielding one or more ineligible players shall be fined an amount not less than \$300;
- (v) For each ineligible player fielded during a match the club shall be penalized an additional two league championship points.

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.