

# IFAB Revisions to the Laws of the Game 2016–2017

The LOTG were revised in June 2016, and NJYS elected to wait to implement the changes until the Spring 2017 season. Here are some of the more significant changes that may impact upon play in our league:

## **Law 1 – the Field of Play**

- ❑ Cannot combine artificial and natural surfaces
- ❑ Artificial turfs must be green
- ❑ Club/team logos but no advertising on corner flags

## **Law 3 – the Players**

- ❑ Subs may take restart but enter field first
- ❑ Direct FK or PK if substitute/team official interferes with play
- ❑ If goal scored with extra person and ref restarts play, goal stands
- ❑ Team captain has no special status or privileges but has a degree of responsibility for the behavior of the team

## **Law 4 – the Players' Equip.**

- ❑ Tape or other material on socks must be same color as socks
- ❑ Clothing worn under shorts must be color of shorts or hem; team must all wear same color

## **Law 5 – the Referee**

- ❑ If several offenses occur at same time, the most serious is punished
- ❑ Can send off player from prematch inspection on
- ❑ Player injured by RC/YC foul can be quickly assessed/ treated and remain on field

## **Law 7 – the Duration of the Match**

- ❑ Breaks allowed for drinks or for medical purposes

## **Law 8 – the Start and Restart of Play**

- ❑ Ball must be kicked and clearly move to be in play for all kicked restarts
- ❑ Can be kicked in any direction at kick-off
- ❑ Referee cannot “manufacture” outcome of a dropped ball

## **Law 9 – the Ball In and Out of Play**

- ❑ If a ball hits a match official it is in play unless ball wholly passes over boundary line

### **Law 11 – Offside**

- Halfway line is neutral for offside
- Players' arms not considered in judging offside
- Offside FK always taken where the offense occurs (even in own half)

### **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**

- Foul with contact is a direct FK
- Advantage for a RC – indirect FK if offender then gets involved in play
- Attempted violent conduct is a RC, even if no contact
- Handling the ball involves a deliberate act of a player making contact with the ball with the hand or arm
- Must consider:
  - the movement of the hand towards the ball (not the ball towards the hand);
  - the distance between the opponent and the ball (the unexpected ball)
  - the position of the hand does not necessarily mean that there is an infringement
  - YC if interfering with promising attack or in attempt to score a goal
- Some DOGSO offenses in the penalty area are punished with a YC, unless the offense is holding, pulling or pushing or if there is no attempt to play the ball or the offense is normally a RC offense.

### **Law 13 – Free Kicks**

- Difference between “stopping” a FK (YC) and “intercepting” the ball after quick FK taken

### **Law 14 – the Penalty Kick**

- Indirect FK if ball kicked backwards
- Indirect FK and YC if “illegal” feinting occurs
- Goalkeeper YC if infringes and PK retaken