

LAW I – FIELD OF PLAY

1. Dimensions

A. The field of play shall be rectangular.

Length – minimum 80 yards, maximum 130 yards;

Width – minimum 50 yards; maximum 100 yards.

B. Recommended field sizes are as follows:

(1) Passers:(U8) 80 x 60 yards

(2) Wings: (U10) 90 x 60 yards

(3) Strikers: (U12) 100 x 60 yards

(4) Kickers: (U14) 110 x 65 yards

(5) Minors:(U16) 110 x 70 yards

(6) Seniors: (U19) 110 x 70 yards

C. The longer lines shall be called touch lines.

D. The shorter lines shall be called goal lines.

E. The size of the field should be related to the age division using it.

2. Marking

A. General

(1) The field of play shall be marked with distinctive lines, not more than 5 inches in width.

(2) Marking must be of some material that is not injurious to eyes or skin.

B. Flags

(1) A flag on a post at least 5 feet high and at least one inch in diameter having a non-pointed top shall be placed at each corner of the field.

(2) Similar flags may be used to mark the middle of the field, but must be at least one yard outside of the touch lines.

C. The Halfway-Line and Center Circle

(1) A halfway-line shall be marked joining the midpoint of each touch line.

(2) From the midpoint of the halfway-line, a circle of ten yards radius shall be marked.

3. The Goal Area

The goal area is marked by lines perpendicular to the goal line six yards from the inner side of each goal post, six yards into the field, and joined by a line parallel to the goal line.

4. The Penalty Area

A. The penalty area is marked by lines perpendicular to the goal line 18 yards from the inner side of each goal post, 18 yards into the field, and joined by a line parallel to the goal line.

B. A penalty mark shall be a spot no larger than 9" in diameter made 12 yards from the goal line, opposite the center of the goal.

C. From the center of the penalty mark, an arc of 10 yards radius shall be marked outside the penalty area.

5. The Corner Arc

A quarter circle of one-yard radius shall be drawn inside each of the four corners of the field.

6. The Goals

- A. The goals are placed at the midpoint of each goal-line with each upright the same distance from the corner flag, and 24 feet apart (inside measurement), joined by a crossbar 8 feet from the ground (to the lower edge).
- B. Uprights and crossbar should have the same width.
- C. Goal nets shall be attached to the post and crossbar and fastened to the ground in such a manner as to not interfere with the goalkeeper.
- D. For safety reasons, the goals, including those that are portable, must be anchored securely to the ground.

NOTES:

- 1. The goal line should be the same width as the depth of the goal posts.
- 2. All markings are part of the areas they enclose.
- 3. If a crossbar becomes damaged and falls, or is in danger of falling, it must be removed. Games may continue with the approval of both coaches. The referee's judgment will determine whether any particular shot would have been under the crossbar, had one been there.
- 4. Goals should be painted white.
- 5. If the field is not adequately lined or if there are no nets on the goals, the game will proceed to the best of the referee's judgment.
- 6. The field of play and all related equipment shall be as shown on the preceding diagram (page 32).
- 7. Except as may be provided for by approved variations for Pre-school and Short-Sided games, penalty-areas, goal-areas, and ten yard circles may not be reduced in size on smaller fields, nor is the goal size to be reduced from 8 foot by 24 foot inside measurements.
- 8. **If the Referee determines the field to be unsafe for play, the game shall be abandoned.**