



WISPA RULES OF THE GAME

1) **FAIR-PLAY is THE rule.**

Each player and coach must read, complete and sign the FAIR-PLAY charter (WISPA FAIR-PLAY commitment) before playing the first game of the Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament.

This form has to be given to the WISPA Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament Manager before the beginning of the games.

So all forms have to be collected during the leader's briefing by the WISPA Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament Manager.

The players who don't meet these requirements are not permitted to play in the tournament.

2) **The TEAMS**

One team will comprise:

- one goalkeeper
- four outfield players
- six reserve players (goalkeeper or outfield players)

Two sets of shirts with different colors will be foreseen.

Each Team will designate one captain to represent the team. The captain will wear an armband of a different color to the shirts.

3) The PLAYERS

The game will be played by two teams comprising a maximum of five players each of which one must be a goalkeeper.

However one team would be allowed to start the game with only four fully kitted out players, of which one must play goalkeeper.

4) The GOALKEEPER

The goalkeeper is mandatory during the whole duration of a game. In case of injury or exclusion of the goalkeeper, another player must take his place.

Within the goalkeeper area, the goalkeeper can play the ball with hands and arms. Outside his area, he is considered as an outfield player and will be recognized as such.

The goalkeeper will not take any action that constitutes time wasting. If this would be the case, he would be penalized by an indirect free kick against his team.

5) The REPLACEMENTS

Repetitive replacements of outfield players can take place at any point of time during the match providing they are performed within the replacement area. The substitute must be waiting in the replacement area until the replaced player comes out and touches him; the substitute can then immediately take part in the game.

6) The REFEREES

Two weeks at least before the WISPA event, the WISPA Soccer FAIR-PLAY Manager has to meet the referees to give them a copy of the WISPA rules. The WISPA rules although the same as FIFA some modifications were made to help in people not getting injured. The WISPA Soccer FAIR-PLAY Manager has to give very clear information in this matter (WISPA rules and the charter).

All the referees selected by the WISPA Soccer FAIR-PLAY Manager must be present at the Leader's briefing. Besides, one hour before the Leader's briefing the referees must be present with the WISPA Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament Manager at a meeting organised by the WISPA international President.

An english interpreter of the organising committee can help the referees all long the procedure till the matches.

Every match will be enforced by one referee or 2 referees designated by the WISPA Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament Manager. The referee will be dressed in opposite colors than the team kits. The semi-finals and finals of each category will be enforced by 2 referees.

The referees have to speak some english as english is the first language of WISPA.

In case of doubt by the referee(s) regarding a situation on the field, the advantage automatically has to be given to the foreign team.

If the WISPA Rules are not respected by a player or by a team, or the WISPA Rules are not imposed by the referee(s), the WISPA International President, assisted by the WISPA Presidents, may stop the game, may exclude the player or the team from the game or from the tournament. In all cases, the WISPA International President may withdraw specific referee(s) from the tournament.

7) The CATEGORIES

The WISPA Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament is composed by two or three categories of players : The teams of players are females (2 males are accepted at the same time on the field), the teams with players over 35 years of age (1 player under 35 years of age is accepted on the field) and the teams with players under 35 years of age.

a) FEMALES category

b) SENIORS category

c) JUNIORS category

If there isn't enough teams in the first (females) or the second (senior) category, these two categories can play in the same tournament.

All teams play a minimum of 5 games during the Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament.

Several WISPA International teams may be created in each category by the WISPA Presidents when the agenda of games are in preparation. The coaches of these WISPA international teams are mainly WISPA Presidents.

The gala games can be organised by WISPA and the organizing committee.

8) The Indoor Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament Manager TABLE

Before the event, the Indoor Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament Manager has to prepare the list of each team.

During the Leader's briefing this document has to be given to the team captains. The captains have to complete and return this form to the Indoor Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament Manager before each match during the games.

9) The CALENDAR of the GAMES

The organising committee and the WISPA International President will manage the agenda of the matches together taking into consideration various criteria (timing, activities of daily and weekly programme, players presence, supporters, public, etc).

10) The DURATION of the MATCHES

The duration will be definitively decided once the total number of participating teams will be known.

Current estimates are indicating that the duration will be 12 minutes (between 10 and 15 minutes with WISPA agreement) for qualifying matches and 2 x 10 minutes for the finals. For the female category and the seniors category the duration may be shorter.

Three minutes leeway between each match is necessary (warming up, WISPA group photo, flags, etc).

11) The KICK - OFF

The choice between the kick-off and the side of the field will be drawn by the referee(s) meeting with the two captains.

12) The FAULTS and FOULS

Overall, any contact between opponents is forbidden. However, in the spirit of the game, a very moderate contact with the shoulder will not be penalized.

It is forbidden:

- To kick or attempt to kick an opponent on the leg
- To trip or attempt to trip an opponent
- To jump at or on an opponent
- To charge violently or dangerously at an opponent
- To charge an opponent from behind
- To strike or attempt to strike an opponent
- To hold an opponent
- To push an opponent
- To commit a sliding tackle
- To block the ball with the sole of the foot when the opponent possesses the ball
- To touch the ball with hands and arms (except for the goalkeeper within his area)

The above listed faults will be penalized by a direct free kick. If they occur in the goalkeeper area of the player committing the fault, a penalty will be awarded.

Note: A direct free kick is a free kick by which a goal can be scored even if no other player hits the ball after the kick.

The following other faults will be penalized by an indirect free kick:

- Play dangerously for an opponent without contact
- Obstruct to prevent an opponent to access the ball

- Charge the goalkeeper to prevent him to...
- Any fault against his own team players
- Irregular player replacements
- Intentionally time wasting
- Any unsuitable, improper, impolite behavior

Note: An indirect free kick is a free kick by which a goal can only be scored if the ball is touched by another player after the kick.

ATTENTION

For the kick-off and any throw-in, all the players of the opposing team must be standing at a minimum of five meters from the ball. This rule is also valid for the direct and indirect free kicks.

During a free kick or a throw in, the acting player has a maximum of five seconds to release the ball. In the case when the ball is not released after five seconds, the opposing team will benefit from a free kick or throw in.

If the referee(s) considers that a fault is really too dangerous for the opponent, he may decide to exclude the player 2 minutes from the game (yellow card) or to exclude him from the game AND the Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament (red card). In case of red card, the opinion of the WISPA International President is dominating.

Any violent behavior (against an opponent, a partner, the referee or a spectator) will be penalized by a general exclusion from the Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament.

The penalty is kicked from the spot marked on the field, around five meters away from the goal line; all the players but the goalkeeper must be standing behind the ball.

If the ball crosses the goal line for a goal kick, the goalkeeper must not kick the ball back into play but use his hand to roll the ball back into the field.

The throw in is played with the foot, the ball resting on the field line.

13) The INJURY TIME

Each coach may require one injury time of 30 seconds by game. For this act he has to raise the hand to the referee(s).

14) The BALL

We will use felt-balls #4 or such balls that are bouncing only once on the ground.

No leather ball will be used.

15) The SHOES

Shoes shall be court shoes made of none marking soles. Shin guards will be dressed in opposite colors than the team kits.

16) The WISPA FLAG

It is imperative that the referee(s) invite the two teams to take a group photo with the WISPA flag before and after each match. The photo taken after the match will have the teams mixed up with the various flags.

This job will be taken in task by the Indoor Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament Manager.

17) The WISPA SPIRIT - FRIENDSHIP and FAIR-PLAY

The WISPA spirit is maintained since the establishment of the association. The FRIENDSHIP and the FAIR-PLAY are some of the important values of the WISPA association and its members around the world. The FAIR-PLAY trophy is considered the major result of a team during the Indoor Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament. The competition is incidental. The words 'futsal competition' was eliminated from the WISPA vocabulary by 'Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament'.

Local organizers, local participants, local players, local referees must be steeped in this WISPA mindset.

None of the participants coming from abroad want to suffer injuries during their stay in the host country.

During the Soccer FAIR-PLAY Tournament, after each game, the referee(s) will give an appraisal of fair-play (maximum is 10/10) to each team concerning the behaviour of the players and the coach(es), the respect of WISPA Rules and to the referee(s). For each category the team who has the best result will receive the Soccer FAIR-PLAY tournament trophy.

This most important trophy of the event is the WISPA FAMILY SPIRIT trophy, it'll be decided and given by the WISPA Presidents to the best WISPA delegation for their behaviour during all activities of the event.

A part of the prizegiving may be made on the field after the finals.

Any conflicting or undesirable situation is finally resolved as needed by the WISPA International President, assisted by the WISPA Presidents.

Luc Borlon

WISPA Founder & International President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Luc Borlon', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.