

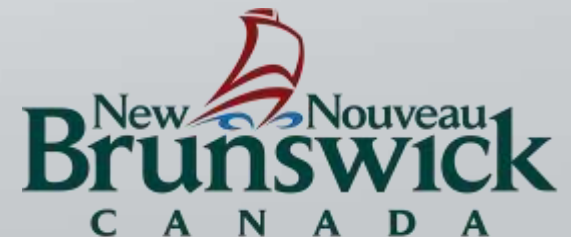
SOCCER NB



SOCCER NEW BRUNSWICK

Referee Department

2021 Season



Introduction

Due to the present pandemic, SNB was required to establish a series of protocols in order to allow a return to play.

This presentation outlines the Laws of the Game related to COVID
19



Why?

- Minimize the Frequency of the contact
- Reduce the duration of contact
- Lower / Decrease the intensity of the contact
- Decrease the risk of injuries / contamination

Fouls

ALL fouls will result in an Indirect Free Kick regardless of the severity of the foul.

The only exception would be a foul committed within the Penalty Area and outlined within the 2019-20 IFAB Laws of the Game.



Foul (continued)

- **ALL** fouls will result in an Indirect Free Kick regardless of the severity of the foul.

The only exception would be a foul committed within the Penalty Area and under the present IFAB Laws of the Game.

- A penalty kick is **ONLY** awarded if the foul is (under normal circumstances) a direct free kick offence under the FIFA laws of the game.... A COVID 19 foul is **NOT** a penalty kick



COVID 19- Offences

The following offences will result in an Indirect Free Kick regardless of where they are committed:

- Shielding the ball - You must be actively playing the ball
- Running in the path of a player to slow them down from getting to the ball
- Jumping at an opponent (From the Side, Behind or Front)
- “Fighting” for position away from the ball
- Obstructing player from playing the ball. No using arms to hold player away
- Sliding at an opponent (i.e., sliding tackle)
- Heading the ball – no headers are allowed



COVID 19- Offences (continued)

The following offences will result in an Indirect Free Kick regardless of where they are committed

- No impeding player from playing the ball.

IE, backing up to chest the ball “due to no headers”. Defender should not block them from backing up. If the player moving back to get in position to play the ball is impeded from backing up, the play will be blown down and an IDFK is awarded against Defender unless the defender has established position to receive the ball. (The exception would be if the Attacker is shielding the defender from moving around him to get the ball).



COVID 19- Offences (continued)

- If a player continuously infringes the COVID 19 rules, the referee has the authority to dismiss the player from the field of play for the remainder of the game. This dismissal is not a Red Card dismissal and will not be written on the game sheet. A suspension will not result from this dismissal
- Players must respect the required distance between their teammates when making the wall.

COVID 19- Offences (continued)

Spitting

- Spitting on the field of play or at the benches is not permitted

As spitting will not result in a foul on the field of play, failure of the player to adhere to this rule may result in their removal from play, by the referee, for the remainder of the game. This removal will not result in a suspension and the team will not have a player removed from play (numbers will not be reduced).

Advantage

- ADVANTAGE will be played if a COVID foul is committed and a Promising Attack or An Obvious Scoring Opportunity is present. A verbal address must be given to the player that committed the offence.

Penalty Kick

- All Penalty Kicks are Dead balls.... no rebounds by the shooter.
- If the keeper saves the ball and the ball remains in play, the play is considered dead and a Goal Kick is awarded.
- If the keeper makes a save and the ball goes out of play past the goal line, a Corner Kick will be awarded.



Although breaches in COVID rules do not result in a caution (yellow card) or send off (red card).

SPA & DOGSO:

- If the referee deems that a player breached a COVID rule in order to Stop a Promising Attack (SPA) or Deny an Obvious Scoring Opportunity (DOGSO), the player will be issued a yellow card (caution) for Unsporting Behaviour.
- Further breaches could result in a directed removal from the field of play (no red card) or if the subsequent breach is a SPA or a DOGSO, then a red card (send off) will be issued



Throw ins / Kick ins

Kick-Ins will replace the traditional Throw-In.

- Kick-ins must enter the field of play below the knees (the knee height will be based on the knee height of the referee)
- The team defending the Kick-In must provide a distance of **10 yards** from the ball. It is not an offence if the attacking team plays the ball quickly, not allowing the defending team to provide the ten yards – play will continue regardless of the outcome (unless the ball is kicked above the knee)
- If the kicker plays the ball above the referee knee's level, a kick-in for the opposing team will be awarded from the same location.

Corner Kick

- Corner Kicks must enter the field of play below the knees (the knee height will be based on the knee height of the referee)
- The team defending the Kick-In must provide a distance of 10 yards from the ball. It is not an offence if the attacking team plays the ball quickly, not allowing the defending team to provide the ten yards – play will continue regardless of the outcome (unless the ball is kicked above the knee)
- A Goal Kick will be awarded to the defending team if the ball is kicked above the knees



Challenge / Contact between players

- Contact between players can occur or is permitted when no player has clear possession and two players are challenging for the ball (i.e. 50/50 ball) – shoulder to shoulder contact is permitted (players **MUST** maintain their lanes towards the ball and “shoulder checking” is not permitted) **ALSO** the use of hands or arms are **NOT** permitted
- Once clear possession of the ball by one player has been established, the initial contact by the defender **MUST** be on the ball and then light contact can occur **BUT** the use of hands or arms, by either player, are **NOT** permitted



Dropped ball

- The drop ball will be an Indirect free kick given for the team which has last possession or if in the PA it goes automatically to the goal keeper.
- All players (both teams) must be 4 metres or more from the location of the dropped ball
- The player who is taking the IDF (Dropped ball) can touch the ball twice.
- Ball is in play once it kicked and clearly moves.



Sanitization

- The ball requires sanitization before the game and at the half time.