

**LAWS OF THE GAME  
(EWFL COMPETITION RULES)**

Addendum to  
FA Walking Football Laws of the Game 2025

## **LAW 1:**

### **The Playing Area**

#### **Dimensions**

For 6-a-side football the following dimensions are recommended:

Length:      Minimum 35m  
                 Maximum 50m

Width:        Minimum 25m  
                 Maximum 35m

Pitch dimensions for over 65s, over 70s & over 75s events should be 40m x 30m maximum.

#### **The Penalty Area**

The area bounded by the line which delineates the penalty area is the penalty area and therefore belongs solely to the goalkeeper.

## **LAW 2:**

### **The Ball**

#### **No amendments**

## **LAW 3**

### **The Players**

#### **Number of Players**

Teams will play 6-a-side where possible i.e. 5 outfield players and one goalkeeper.

The maximum squad size is 9.

#### **Substitution Procedure**

The maximum number of substitutes permitted is three.

Substitutions may only take place when the ball is out of play.

The referee must be informed when a team wishes to make a substitution.

The player entering the field of play must do so from the halfway point.

A substitution is one that is made when there is a stoppage in play for which the following conditions must be observed:

The team manager/captain must clearly advise the referee of their wish to make the substitution and of the shirt/bib number of the player being substituted.

If a player receives a second warning, they may not be substituted until after the resulting free kick has been taken and the next time the ball has gone naturally out of play (not artificially created by the team wishing to make the substitution).

## LAW 4

### Players' Equipment

#### 4.2 Basic Equipment

Every player's jersey or bib must carry a unique number.

In the event that the colours worn by a team do not sufficiently distinguish the team from the referee, that team must provide to the referee a bib of a colour that is distinct from the team's colours.

## LAW 5

### The Referee

#### The Authority of the Referee

The EWFL operates a zero-tolerance of dissent, abuse, argumentative behaviour, foul language or sarcasm directed at referees and others. A player failing to observe this policy will be awarded a timed suspension (sin-binned) from a match. A player guilty of prolonged or extreme abuse directed at an official or another player will be red-carded and will take no further part in any matches on that match day.

## LAW 6

### The Additional Match Official

#### No amendments

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## **LAW 7**

### **The Duration of the Game**

The duration of league matches will be informed by the number of fixtures to be played at match-day events. It will be determined by the FRS and notified to participating teams in advance of the match-day event.

Playing times will be as follows:

- Minimum 15 minutes
- Maximum 20 minutes

All matches will be split into two halves. Half-time breaks will be of 2 minutes duration. The teams will change ends for the second half of the match.

Referees have discretion to extend the duration of matches to take into account time lost on account of stoppages.

## **LAW 8**

### **Start of Play and Restarting Play**

**No amendments**

## **LAW 9**

### **Ball In and Out of Play**

**No amendments**

## **LAW 10**

### **Determining the Outcome of a Match**

**No amendments**

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## LAW 11

### Fouls and Misconduct

#### Free kick Offences

A free kick will be awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following offences:

- Is deemed by the referee to be 'time wasting'
- Runs or jogs whether or not the ball is in or out of play unless:
  - retrieving the ball when it is out of play. All players remaining on the field of play may only walk to take up attacking or defensive positions.

## LAW 12

### Misconduct

No tackling is allowed from the back, side or the front.

#### Disciplinary Sanctions

The referee will use a Green card to indicate a warning for tackling/contact. A third warning will be indicated by a Blue card and 3 minutes in the Sin Bin.

The time in the sin bin for a Blue card will be three minutes.

After a player is given a second warning the resulting free kick must be taken before any substitution takes place for the offending team.

A sin binned player will be informed by the referee when the suspension has been served and invited to re-join the game when there is a stoppage in play.

A team will not be allowed to substitute a sin binned player or any other player until the timed suspension has been served. The only exception to this is if another player is injured and has to leave the field of play due to injury.

A player who is red-carded will be disqualified from participating in any further EWFL matches that day and any subsequent EWFL events, regardless of age group, until the EWFL Disciplinary Committee has notified the player and their club of the resulting sanction.

**NB Any team whose players have been red-carded will be scrutinised by the Disciplinary Committee and, depending upon the severity of the offences that gave rise to the red cards, may be disqualified from further participation in the Competition.**

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## **LAW 13**

### **Free Kicks**

All defenders must be at least 3m from the ball until it is in play and no attacker may be closer than 1m from the defender nearest the ball. The ball is in play after it has been touched or played/clearly moved.

The kicker must apply the 'one-step' rule.

## **LAW 14**

### **The Penalty Kick**

#### **Position of the ball and players**

The defending goalkeeper is allowed to stand no more than 1m forward of the goal line, between the goalposts, so as to minimise the risk of making contact with the goalposts when attempting to make a save.

#### **Procedure**

The kicker must start their approach with both feet on the ground no more than one metre from the ball.

## **LAW 15**

### **The Kick-in**

The player taking the kick-in must apply the 'one-step' rule.

## **LAW 16**

### **The Goal Clearance**

If choosing to kick the ball, the goalkeeper must apply the 'one-step' .

## **LAW 17**

### **The Corner Kick**

The player taking the kick-in must apply the 'one-step' rule.

## **LAW 18**

### **Walking**

#### **No amendments**