



**Cerebral Palsy
International Sports and Recreation Association**

**CPIISRA 7-a-side Football
Rules & Regulations for CPIISRA Sanctioned
Tournaments and Amendments to the FIFA Laws of
the Game.**

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1. Introduction

This document states the rules and regulations which are applicable in all qualification tournaments and CPISRA sanctioned tournaments. The amendments to the FIFA Laws of the Games applicable to Football 7 a-side are also listed in Section 6 and should be read in conjunction with the current issue of the FIFA Laws of the Game.

2. Eligibility

- CPISRA Football 7-a-side can be played by male and female athletes. However, competitions are not permitted to be played mixed gender.
- Players must be 15 years of age on the first day of competition (This is the first day of classification in sanctioned events).
- In youth/junior events players must be 14 years of age on the first day of competition and not older than 19 years of age on the first day of competition. In youth/junior events a team can enter three players under 21 years of age on the first day of competition.

During Under 19 competitions, teams are only permitted to field a maximum of two (2) over-aged players at one time. If an over-aged player is dismissed, it is not allowed to replace the player with another over-aged player.

3. Classification

Each team must field at least one class FT5 or FT6 player at all times, or the team will play with one less player. Each team may have one (1) class FT8 player on the field of play during a game. If the class 8 player is dismissed, it is not allowed to replace a player in the FOP for a class FT8 player.

The 4th official (where appointed) shall make checks during substitutions that each team meets the criteria above. Final and full responsibility is, however, on the team management to ensure this rule is fully adhered to at all times.

4. Foreign Athletes Eligibility

For a foreign athlete (an athlete who wishes to play for a country that is not that of his nationality) to be eligible to compete in a CPISRA sanctioned Football 7-a-side international event, the CPISRA Executive Committee must first provide its approval. To ensure the CPISRA Executive Committee is able to make an evidenced-based decision, the CPISRA Member needs to send the following to the CPISRA Administrator:

- A formal request in writing from the CPISRA Member indicating their wish for a foreign athlete to compete for CPISRA Member Football 7-a-side team.
- The foreign athlete's current country(s) of residence for the past 5 years. This information must include a full list of addresses for the athlete for the aforementioned 5 year period.

- A written statement from the athlete, agreeing to compete for the CPISTRA Member Football 7-a-side CPISTRA events.
- If applicable, a list of games previously played for the country of his nationality and if an official CPISTRA Classification has taken place.

If the Foreign Athlete has played for another CPISTRA Member in the past, a letter must be produced from the original Member agreeing for the Athlete to be released to play for another country.

Please note: if the original CPISTRA Member does not agree to write this letter of release, the CPISTRA Executive Committee reserves the right to investigate the matter further to ensure that the interest of all parties are being adequately considered. The CPISTRA Executive Committee will inform all parties of their decision once they have received all evidence and are satisfied that all criteria be reached to a sufficient standard.

5. Team Competition

At all International sanctioned CPISTRA tournaments, the tournament shall start with classification. At the start of each competition, a team list shall be submitted. Only players on the team list that is approved at the start of the competition can take part. The team list shall comprise of a maximum of fourteen (14) names.

A team start list will be presented to the Technical Delegate or Head Referee at least 1 hour before the start of the game. In addition to players' names, a maximum of 5 staff members are allowed. Only staff members whose names are stated on the start list are permitted to take a place on the bench.

In addition:

- Twelve weeks (12) before the start of an international sanctioned CPISTRA tournament, countries have to provide a provisional start list with a maximum of 28 players.
- Four (4) weeks before the start of international sanctioned CPISTRA tournament, countries are required to provide a final start list of a maximum of 14 players. The players have to be chosen from the provisional start list previously submitted.
- After the deadline and before the start of a tournament, changes in the final list of 14 players are only accepted in exceptional cases and have to be approved by the Football 7-a-side Committee in conjunction with the LOC. Changes have to be forwarded in a hard copy to the LOC with an explanation of reason(s).
- After the start of a tournament no changes will be accepted.

6. Competition Format and Scoring

The CPISTRA Football 7-a-side Committee, in conjunction with the Competition Organizing Committee, will determine the details of each competition considering factors such as the number of teams competing and the format to be used. A competition format could be by the drawing of lots or using a ranking system. The CPISTRA Football 7-a-side Committee reserves the right to take into account the geographical location of participating teams. The final decision will be the responsibility of the CPISTRA Football 7-a-side Committee.

Competitions will be held on a group or league system with the following:

- Group matches: The system of play shall be a league system, each team playing one match against each other in the same group, with points to be awarded as follows:
 - Win 3 points
 - Draw 1 point
 - Loss 0 points
- In the league format, the ranking in each group is determined as follows:
 - greatest number of points obtained in all group matches;
 - goal difference in all group matches;
 - greatest number of goals scored in all group matches.
- If two or more teams are equal on the basis of the above three criteria, their rankings will be determined as follows:
 - greatest number of points obtained in the group matches between the teams concerned;
 - goal difference resulting from the group matches between the teams concerned;
 - greater number of goals scored in all group matches between the teams concerned;
 - drawing of lots by the CPISTRA Technical Delegate and Host Organizing Committee;
- In all competitions, a maximum number of 10 goals scored will be allowed to be counted, for goals scored and goals against in any single match.
- In the unlikely event that both teams amass more than 10 goals each in the same game, the winning team will be award 1 goal extra after the game is finished no matter the final result.
- In competitions where the LOC is recognizing “Top Goal Scorers” only goals scored within the first 10 being counted during a game will go towards that individual record.
- Quarter finals:
In the case of a four pool system:
 - Winner A vs Runner up B Winner 1
 - Winner B vs Runner up A Winner 2
 - Winner C vs Runner up D Winner 3
 - Winner D vs Runner up C Winner 4
- Semi-Finals: In a two (2) pool system the winning team in each pool plays the runners up in the other pool.
- Semifinal: In a four (4) pool system the winners of the quarter- finals shall contest the semi - finals as follows:
 - Winner 1 vs Winner 3
 - Winner 2 vs Winner 4

- Finals: the winning team from each semi-final will play for gold or silver medal.
- The losing teams from the semi-finals will play for bronze medal.

7. Extra Time

Two (2) by 10 minute periods of extra time will be played if scores are level in all group play-offs or finals.

In the event of a tie after extra time, a penalty kick competition following FIFA rules will determine the winning team.

8. Discipline

- Any player who receives two (2) cautions (yellow cards) during the tournament will automatically miss his team's next game. Any player who receives a direct red card during the tournament will automatically miss at least his team's next game.
- All cautions shall be cleared at the end of the group stages although any outstanding suspensions shall carry over into the next stage of the competition.
- The Organizing/Competition Committee has the power to levy further suspensions in cases of excessive misconduct, before and after the game.
- A representative from each nation shall collect copies of all misconduct 30 minutes after the final whistle. This shall be available from the tournament admin office at the venue.

9. Jury of Appeal

Nations shall have 120 minutes from the end of the match to submit an appeal over any disciplinary sanction issued or technical protest. Any appeal should be submitted to the Technical Delegate or Tournament Secretary along with the appeal fee set by the Football Committee. This fee shall be returned should the appeal be successful.

Any appeal of a caution will only be accepted on the basis of mistaken identity. Video footage shall be accepted to support this sort of appeal and should be submitted to the Appeal Committee.

All appeals will be heard as soon as possible and the outcome communicated to the nations directly affected.

The committee will deal with discipline and technical protests not covered under the above rules. The committee is made up of (a) a representative of CPISRA, (b) a representative of the Organizing Committee and (c) the appointed Head Referee or representative. The committee members will have no significant relationship with the affected party, will have had no involvement with the decision being appealed, and will be free from any other actual or perceived bias or conflict.

The committee will use the process set out under the current CPISRA discipline and appeals policy but will have the ability to deal with issues within a shortened time frame during the competition. Their decision will be final.

10. Team Kit and Sponsorship

Nations shall only wear kit manufacturer and national association badges in all CPISRA sanctioned competitions. Any nation found not to adhere to this rule shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions from the Football Committee.

Teams are permitted to carry sponsorship logos on other equipment with the exception of the match clothing. Any sponsorship logos appearing on equipment, other than the national team badge and the clothing manufacturer, must be forwarded to the Football Committee in advance of the tournament for approval.

National team playing kits shall have numbers on the front and back of the playing shirts and the front of the playing shorts.

11. Team Meetings

A representative from each nation must attend all team meetings. Any nation found not attending shall be subject to a 100 Euro disciplinary fee.

12. Respect (Racism & Sectarianism)

All players, coaches, team officials and match officials, shall show full respect to all fellow athletes and officials at all times.

Any allegations of racist or sectarian behavior brought to the attention of the Football Committee shall be fully investigated. Any individual found guilty shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions from the Football Committee.

13. Abandoned Game

- Abandoned Games after 45 minutes the result and score line stands
- Games abandoned prior to 45 minutes being completed will be restarted at the time of the abandonment until the completion of the full game duration has taken place.
- In the case that the tournament schedule does not allow a game to be finished or restarted after abandonment, the score line at the time the game is ended will stand. In the case of a score line that is level, the result will be decided by drawing lots.
- Cautions leading to suspensions will in all circumstances stand, as will yellow cards received during an abandoned match. Players who receive a yellow card prior to the match being abandoned will carry this caution when they re-enter the field of play during the replay. Please note that teams reserve the right to start the replayed match with a different starting line-up than that submitted for the abandoned match.
- In the event that a team has a player(s) sent off prior to match being abandoned they must start the replay with the same number of players as they had on the field when the game was ended.

- If a match is abandoned by the referee due to a consequence of a team's actions, including having less than four (4) players eligible to be on the field, score line of 10 – 0 will be awarded to the match opponents.
- In the event that the match official abandoned the game due to both teams' actions, both teams will receive zero (0) points and a deficit of ten (10) goals.
- In all cases of abandonment due to negative actions of teams/players, the Football Committee/TD/LOC reserves the right to take further sanctions.

Amendments to Laws

1. The Field of Play



Dimensions:

Length: Minimum 70m
Maximum 75m

Width: Minimum: 50m
Maximum: 55m

2. The Ball

The ball should meet the requirements of Law 3 in the FIFA Laws of the game.

3. The Number of Players

Law 3 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies with the exception of:

- A match is played by two teams, each consisting of not more than seven players, one of whom is the goalkeeper. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than 4 players.
- Up to 3 substitutes may be used per team per match
- Limited to classes FT5, FT6, FT7 and FT8
- CPISRA Rules on player classification must be adhered to at all times.

4. The Players Equipment

Law 4 of the FIFA Laws of the Game applies at all times.

5. The Referee

Law 5 of the FIFA Laws of the Game applies at all times.

6. The Assistant Referees

Law 6 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies with the exception of:

- As offside does not apply to CP-7-a-side Football there is no requirement for the assistant referee to signal when a player may be penalized for being in an offside position.
- The assistant referee may enter the field to help control the 7m distance.

7. The Duration of the Match

Law 7 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies with the exception of:

- The match lasts two equal periods of 30 minutes.

8. The Start and Restart of Play

Law 8 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies with the exception of:

- At kick-off all opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least 7m from the ball until it is in play.

9. The Ball In and Out of Play

Law 9 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies.

10. The Method of Scoring

Law 10 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies.

11. Offside

Law 11 of the FIFA Laws of the game does not apply in CPISRA 7 a side.

12. Fouls and Misconduct

Law 12 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies.

13. Free Kicks

Law 13 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies with the exception of:

- All opponents must be at least 7m from the ball.

14. The Penalty Kick

Law 14 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies with the exception of:

- The players other than the kicker must be located at least 7m from the penalty mark.

15. The Throw-In

Law 15 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies with the exception of:

- A player may choose to roll the ball into play. If rolled into play the ball must touch the ground immediately once it has left the players hand. (Within approximately 1m).

16. The Goal Kick

Law 16 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies.

17. The Corner Kick

Law 17 of the FIFA Laws of the game applies with the exception of:

- Opponents must remain at least 7m, from the corner arc until the ball is in play.