

# RULE 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

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## Field Surface

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Matches are played on artificial surfaces, according to the rules of the competition.

## Field Markings

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The field of play is defined by perimeter walls and their tops. The two longer walls are called touch walls. The two shorter walls are called goal walls. (Note: the terms “boards” or “boarding” is reserved for use with the penal offence – Rule 12)

The field of play is marked with lines. These lines belong to the areas of which they are boundaries.

The field of play is divided into two halves by a halfway line.

The center mark is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of 15 feet is marked around it.

There is a defensive zone line in each half, 30 feet from the center line. The defensive zone lines extend vertically to the top of each touch wall. The restart mark is indicated at the centre of the defensive zone line.

An optional mark may be placed 15 feet closer to the goal line than the restart mark at the centre of the defensive zone line.

## Dimensions

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The length of the touch wall must be greater than the length of the goal wall.

Length:	minimum	150 feet
	maximum	210 feet
Width:	minimum	75 feet
	maximum	100 feet

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## **Bench Area**

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A bench area off the field of play must be provided for each team. Substitutes and officials for the team must remain in the bench area.

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## **Penalty Box**

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An area off the field of play must be provided for players penalized by a time penalty. The assistant referee is stationed inside the penalty box.

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## **Referee's Crease**

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A broken line with a radius of 10 feet is drawn around the penalty box. No team official or player may enter the crease to speak with the referee without the express permission of the referee.

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## **Goal Area**

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Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, 2 feet from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of 5 feet and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the goal area.

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## **Penalty Area**

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Two lines are drawn at right angles to the goal line, 9 feet from the inside of each goalpost. These lines extend into the field of play for a distance of 25 feet and are joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the penalty area.

Within each penalty area a penalty mark is made 24 feet from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. An arc of a circle with a radius of 15 feet from each penalty mark is drawn outside the penalty area.

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## **Restart Line**

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A broken line is drawn 3 feet inside the touch walls, going from corner mark to corner mark.

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## **Corner Mark**

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The corner mark is drawn at the intersection of the restart line and the undrawn extension of the goal area line running parallel to the goal line.

A line will be drawn, extending vertically to the top of the wall, at a point that is an equal distance from the beginning of the corner curve at both the goal and touch walls.

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## **Goals**

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Goals must be placed on the center of each goal line. The goal is recessed into the goal wall. Its goalposts and crossbar are flush with the goal wall.

The distance between the posts is 12 feet, and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the field of play is 2 metres (6.5 feet). A line will be drawn between the goalposts. Nets may be attached to the goals and the floor behind the goal, provided that they are properly supported and do not interfere with the goalkeeper.

