

## Details of all Law changes 2017/18

The following are the changes to the Laws of the Game for 2017/18. For each change the old wording (where appropriate) and the *new/changed/additional wording* are given, followed by an explanation for the change.

The text shown in the 'old text' boxes may be the exact previous text or a more general outline of the meaning of the previous text.

### ALL LAWS

#### Offences and infringements

Many languages do not have different words for 'offence' and 'infringement', the difference is not clearly understood (even by English experts) and their use inconsistent e.g. a player can be an 'offender' but not an 'infringer'. To make the Laws clearer and to assist translation, '**offence**' and '**offend**' replace 'infringement' and 'infringe'.

### LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY

#### Field markings

##### Additional text

*The field of play must be rectangular and marked with continuous lines which must not be dangerous; artificial playing surface material may be used for the field markings on natural fields if it is not dangerous*

##### Explanation

Artificial 'turf' (or similar) can be used for line markings on grass fields if it is not dangerous.

### LAW 3 – THE PLAYERS

#### 2. Number of substitutions

##### *Official competitions*

##### Old text

*A maximum of three substitutes may be used in any match played in an official competition organised under the auspices of FIFA, confederations or national football associations.*

##### New text

*The number of substitutes, up to a maximum of five, which may be used in any match played in an official competition will be determined by FIFA, the confederation or the national football association except for Men and Women competitions involving the 1<sup>st</sup> teams of clubs in the top division or senior 'A' international teams, where the maximum is three substitutes.*

##### Explanation

FIFA, confederations and national football associations can allow up to a maximum of five substitutes in all competitions except at the highest level.