

CAMANACHD ASSOCIATION

*In Gaelic:
Comunn na Camanachd*

The ruling body
of the sport of
Shinty in Scotland.

INTRODUCTION TO REFEREEING

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The game of shinty requires referees to take control of matches every week, and allows players to participate in a game which they enjoy.

The referee's role can be difficult, but despite some criticism which comes their way during their refereeing career a large amount of enjoyment can be obtained throughout a season.

A thorough knowledge of the "Rules of Play" and how to apply them throughout a match are key factors in becoming a first class referee.

The referee must be able to manage players and officials under his control. There are no rules on how to do this, every match is different, and each referee has his own style and personality. As more matches are refereed, one will become more aware of how best to use their skills and techniques.

Referees are under pressure during a match, and the good referee will have the skill and ability to handle difficult situations in a calm and controlled manner.

A high level of physical fitness is required to enable the referee to cover the large playing area of a shinty pitch. He must be firm in his handling of matches and be prepared to take unpopular decisions. Players respond best when the referee is strong, fair, and uses common sense when controlling a match.

The referee has an important part to play in the game of shinty from schoolboy to senior levels. For the new referee joining the Camanachd Association there are opportunities to progress through the grading structure to the top level.

The Camanachd Association operates a grading structure which has three levels:

Grade 1 Referees: Are qualified to referee at all levels of competition, i.e. Premier League, Camanachd Cup and Internationals.

Grade 2 Referees: Are qualified to referee matches up to Division 1 level and to referee at grade 1 level to gain experience.

Grade 3 Referees: Are qualified to referee matches up to Division 2 level.

Throughout the season independent assessors carry out assessments of the referee's performance. At the start of each season referee grading is reviewed by the Camanachd Association Referee Committee and registered referees are placed in grade 1, 2 or 3. On completion of a training course a new referee will qualify as a grade 3 referee

1. MATCH PREPARATION

The referee, on receiving an appointment to officiate at a match should confirm with the appropriate body, i.e. the home club, that he is available to carry out the appointment.

This should be done in all matches up to semi final stage, by the match secretary of the home club contacting the referee to inform him of the match instructions, and for confirmation that he can referee the match. This should be done as early as possible, but in all cases, no later than the Wednesday prior to the match taking place.

For semi finals and finals, the referee will receive written match instructions from the Executive Officer of the Camanachd Association. In the event of the referee not being able to take up the appointment he should contact the appropriate referee co-ordinator to inform him of this. This should be done as early as possible to allow time for a replacement to be appointed.

1.1 EQUIPMENT

The referee requires equipment to carry out his duties. Before he leaves home he should check to ensure that he has the following:

- 1. Standard Uniform, i.e. black shirt, black shorts, black & white stockings**
- 2. Football boots or trainers;**
- 3. 2 good whistles;**
- 4. Note book**
- 5. 2 sharpened pencils;**
- 6. Red & Yellow cards;**
- 7. 2 watches, one preferably a stop watch;**
- 8. 2 goal judge flags**
- 9. Coin**

For new referees it is perfectly acceptable to wear a tracksuit or shirt and shorts. Be careful the colour of the shirt does not match the colour of any of the competing teams.

Referees should be dressed in a neat and tidy fashion. Never referee a match wearing a waterproof jacket or similar garment to keep dry. It does nothing to enhance the reputation of the referee, if the players are getting wet, why not the referee?

Now that you have checked and packed your equipment you can leave home and set off for the ground.

Normally you should plan to arrive at the ground at least forty five minutes prior to the throw up time. For major finals, the match officials, who are the referee, goal judges and linesmen, may be required to arrive earlier.

Always give yourself plenty of time to travel to the ground, the referee who is late, for whatever reason, traffic, ferry, breakdown, etc. puts added pressure on himself at a time when he should be preparing himself mentally for the match.

1.2 PRE MATCH PITCH INSPECTION

On arrival at the ground the referee's first task is to carry out an inspection of the following:

- 1. The Playing surface**
- 2. Corner flags are in position**
- 3. Field markings are correct**
- 4. Goal nets are securely fixed to the goal posts**

1.2/1 The Playing Surface

This inspection should be carried out by the referee without any assistance from any officials from the competing teams.

Where there is a doubt about whether the pitch is playable or not, the referee should only make his decision after he has given the pitch a thorough inspection.

In coming to his decision the referee should always consider the following:

Is the playing surface dangerous for the players.

i.e. Icebound, badly rutted, flooded, covered in snow, slippery.

It may be necessary to try running on the field, or hitting a ball with a caman to make up your mind if the surface is dangerous. Never take any chances, always err on the safe side in the interest of the players.

When you have come to your decision, inform the competing teams.

If your decision is that the pitch is unplayable, ***under no circumstances should any team official attempt to change your mind. Never agree to referee a friendly match on the pitch, leave the ground and report your decision to the Camanachd Association on the Match Report Form***

1.2/2 Pitch equipment

Never ignore any faults found during your inspection of the corner flags, field markings, goal nets. **Inform a home team official or groundsman, whichever is appropriate, and have the fault rectified to your satisfaction before commencing with the game.**

1.3 BRIEFING MATCH OFFICIALS

The referee should always brief the other match officials and give them precise instructions as to what he wishes them to do.

It is within the referee's right to ask his goal judges and linesmen to bring to his attention any incident that he may not have seen. Remember, the referee cannot see everything that is going on if he is following play. It is often the player who retaliates that is caught committing an offence, and the initial offender goes unpunished. In nearly every case this is not the referee's fault, because the incident occurred behind his back.

It is in instances like this that the assistance of the other match officials is invaluable. **Where goal judges and linesmen are appointed by the Association, the referee must recognise their appointment and enlist their assistance.** Where other officials are appointed by the clubs, the referee should use his own discretion as to what degree he wishes to enlist their help.

When a goal judge or linesman witnesses an incident he should attract the attention of the referee by holding his flag high above his head. **In instances where the referee has also seen the incident he may or may not consult the other official. He should, however, acknowledge that he has seen the signal and instruct the official to lower his flag. In cases of off the ball incidents, not seen by the referee, the referee should never ignore a signal from a match official. Always stop the game and consult the official.**

It is vitally important that the match officials operate as a team and that the goal judges and linesmen are fully aware of what the referee expects from them.
See Rules of Play - Rule 6 & 7

1.4 PRE MATCH INSTRUCTION TO TEAMS AND CLUB OFFICIALS

The final part of the match preparation is the pre match instructions to the teams and club officials.

Now that the majority of teams have dressing room facilities, it is considered desirable to

carry out the inspection of the players equipment, and give the pre match instructions in the dressing room. Where there are no such facilities available, taking both teams to the centre of the field prior to the start of the game is necessary.

The inspection of players equipment in the dressing room gives them the opportunity to rectify any faults found with boot studs, camans, removal of ear rings that might be dangerous to other players and themselves. ***Never ignore a fault found with a player's equipment, always have faults rectified, always re-inspect the suspect equipment after rectification.***

When entering the dressing room, the referee should always be courteous to the club officials and players, and ask them for their attention. Tell the players that you wish to inspect their equipment, if you find a fault, tell the player how you wish the fault rectified and ask him to report back to you when this has been done.

Having inspected the equipment, the referee should then give the teams and officials his pre match instructions.

The match instructions should be brief and precise, long lectures about rules and the punishments that will be handed out are not taken in by the players, who are much more interested in getting on to the pitch and playing the match.

It is more beneficial to tell the players to ***"play the game to the laid down rules, accept your decision at all times, and to enjoy the game"*** That's all that is required

It is in the pre match preparation that a referee can make or break his day before the game starts.

The referee who ignores an infringement of the rules of play covering pitch preparation, pitch equipment, players equipment or team lines will give the impression that he does not know the rules. This in turn will not instill confidence in the players, of his ability to control the match.

If the referee has a bad start, he may find it very difficult to regain the respect of the players in controlling the game.

2. MATCH CONTROL

2.1 THE FIRST TEN MINUTES

The first ten minutes of a match are vitally important because it is in this period that the players will test the referee by trying to establish what he will be prepared to let them away with.

During this period of time the referee should not allow any infringement of the rules of play to go unpunished. If it is necessary to caution, or even order off, a player in the first minute of the game, **do it**. Do not take a lenient view of the incident, if you give an offender the benefit of the doubt early on in the game, it may be seen as a weakness which will be exploited for the rest of the game. The referee will more than likely find it difficult to control the players thereafter.

Take action from the first whistle. "a stitch in time may save nine"

2.2 COMMUNICATION WITH PLAYERS, OFFICIALS AND SPECTATORS

In match control the referee must be able to communicate his decisions to players, club officials and spectators.

This is done in two ways.

- (a) The referee should have a whistle which is loud and sharp. When it is blown it should be heard clearly above any crowd noise. This is important, how often do we see play continuing after the referee has blown his whistle because the players have not heard it.
- (b) The referee, after blowing his whistle, should make it clear to players, officials and spectators why he has stopped the game. ***This is done by using a clear signal of the hand.*** In the case of hit ins, corners or bye hits a directional signal should be given. If an infringement has taken place a signal should be given indicating the type of infringement and the direction of the free hit.
- (c) It is therefore most important that a standard set of signals should be used by all referees, and that those signals are understood by everyone.

2.2/1 SIGNALS

**DIRECTION OF FREE HIT, HIT IN
& BYE HIT**

**The referee stands with his arm
outstretched in the direction the
hit has to be taken**

DIRECTION OF CORNER HIT

The referee points to which side the corner has to be taken from with an outstretched arm.

PLAYER KICKS THE BALL

The referee should point to his foot to indicate illegal use of the foot.

PLAYER HANDLES THE BALL

The referee points to his hand or arm

PLAYER SHOWING DISSENT BY WORD OF MOUTH

The referee points to his mouth indicating something has been said.

PLAYER SWINGS HIS CAMAN DANGEROUSLY

The referee should demonstrate with an upward or downward movement of the arm across his body.

PLAYER CHARGES OPPONENT FROM BEHIND, OR USES HIS HAND TO PUSH AN OPPONENT

The referee should indicate by using either one or both hands with backward/forward action of the hands indicating a push or charge has taken place.

OBSTRUCTION BY A PLAYER

The referee should point to his body indicating that the player has used his body in obstructing his opponent from playing the ball.

ADVANTAGE RULE BEING APPLIED

The referee should hold his two arms out in front of himself, indicating that play should continue.

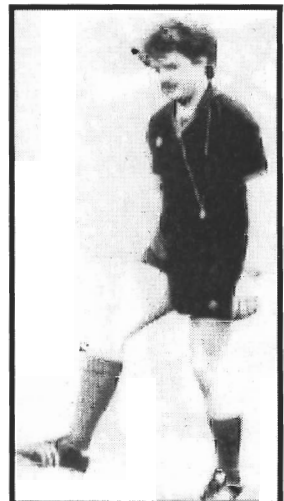
REFEREE'S SIGNALS



*Direction of free hit/
throw in*



*Dangerous swinging of
caman*



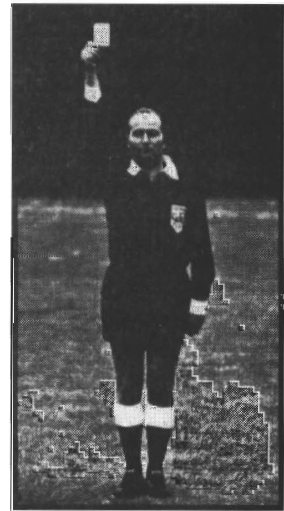
*Player has used foot to
kick ball*



*Player pushed player in
back*



*Referee has applied
advantage rule*



*Referee showing red or
yellow card after
ordering off or caution*

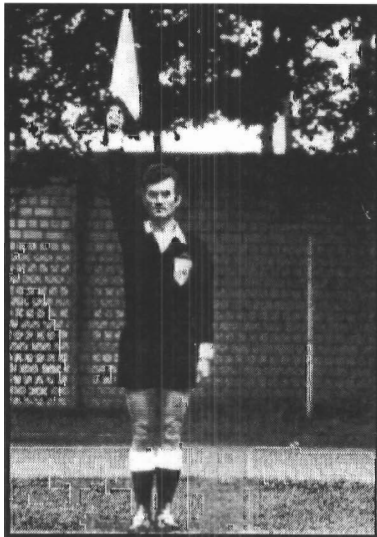
GOAL JUDGE SIGNALS



When a goal is scored



Bye hit is awarded



Offside/infringement of rules



Corner hit to goal judge's right hand side (opposite hand for left hand side)

2.3 REFEREE POSITIONING AT SET PIECES

The game of shinty is played on a very large playing area. It is therefore, to the referee's advantage, to anticipate the direction of play, this allows him to pace himself in controlling the game.

Correct positioning oneself at set pieces, i.e. corners, free hits, hit ins and bye hits can help in a big way.

For these set pieces the referee should take into consideration the weather conditions and anticipate the area where the ball will land. He should position himself close to that area.

2.3/1 The Bye Hit Diagram 1

2.3/2 The Hit In Diagram 2

2.3/3 The Free Hit Diagram 3

2.3/4 The Corner Hit Diagram 4

For a corner hit the referee should position himself at the opposite side of the penalty area to that which the goal judge stands.

There are two options for this position as shown in diagram 4

In either position, 1 or 2, the fullest possible cover is available and allows the referee and goal judge to witness any infringement that may occur in the penalty area when a corner hit has been taken. The referee should have instructed his goal judges on what position he wishes them to take up at corner hits at his pre match briefing.

2.3/5 The Penalty Hit Diagram 5

When the referee awards a penalty hit he should immediately proceed to the bye line where his goal judge is standing. Turn and face the field of play as shown in diagram 5

By taking up this position *Ref 1* you are able to consult your goal judge if necessary, by turning and facing the field of play you are able to see anything that is

going on. Any players that wish to protest will have to come straight towards you, and any misconduct can be clearly seen and dealt with accordingly. In position **Ref 2** you will be surrounded by players who may be protesting about your decision

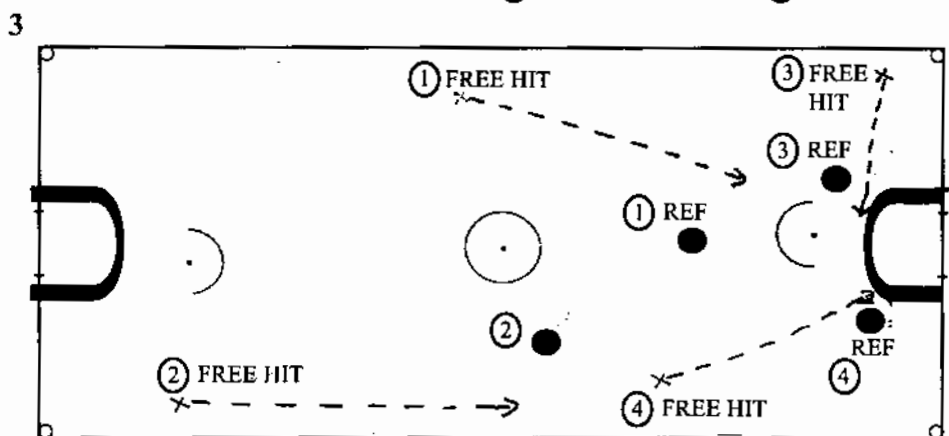
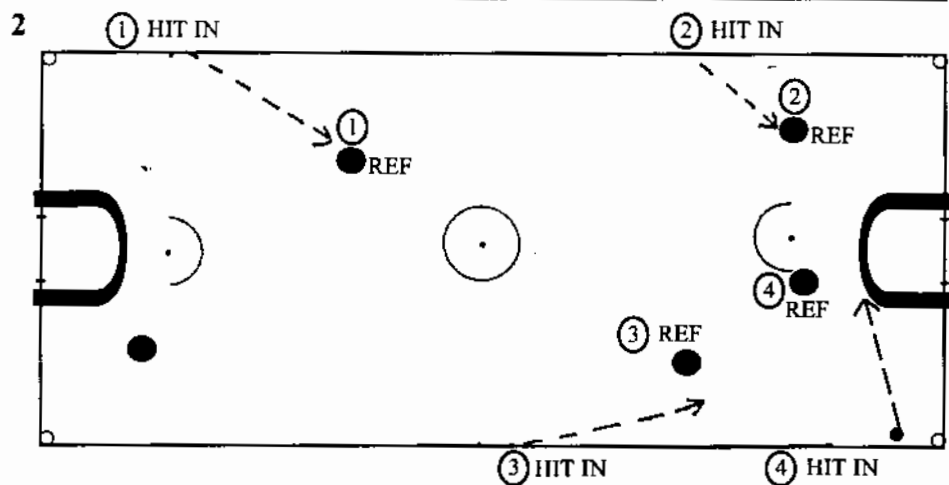
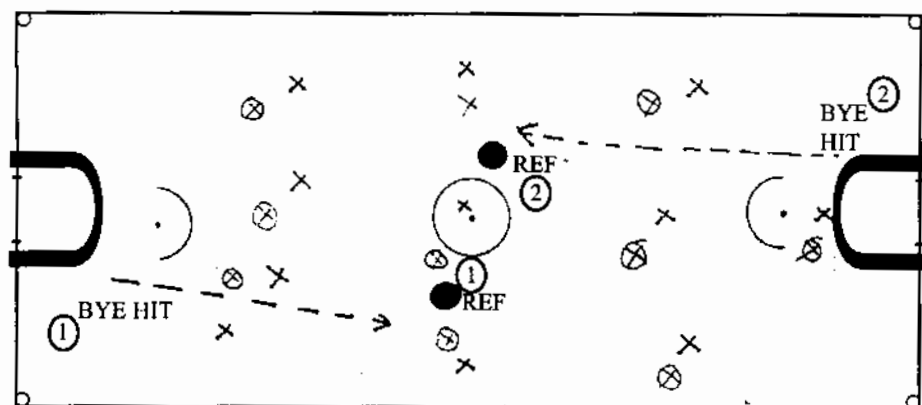
At the taking of a penalty hit the referee should stand close to the edge of the 5 yard semi-circle and facing the player taking the hit as shown in diagram 6.

This position changes depending on whether the player is right or left handed. This position allows the referee to see that there is no encroachment when the hit is being taken, and that the ball is on the penalty spot when struck.

The goal judge should be observing the goal line to see if the ball crosses the line for a goal.

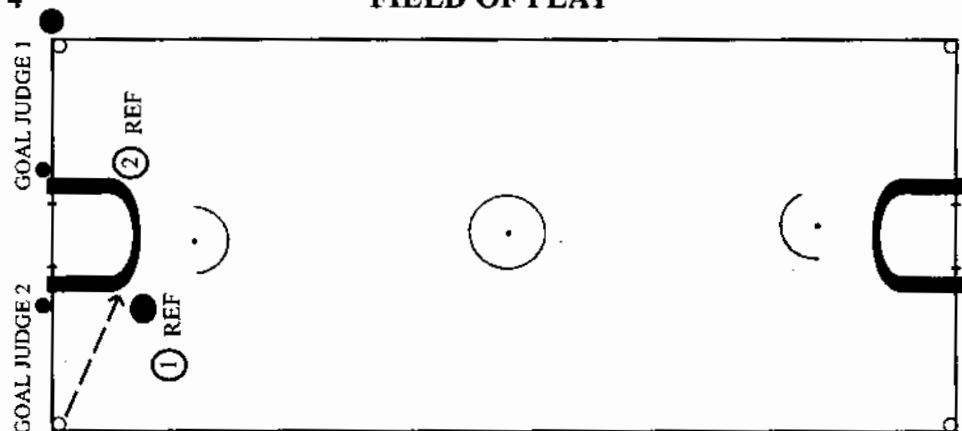
The referee's presence next to the penalty spot can prevent encroachment, if he is closer to the bye line he will be too far away to do this.

1 FIELD OF PLAY

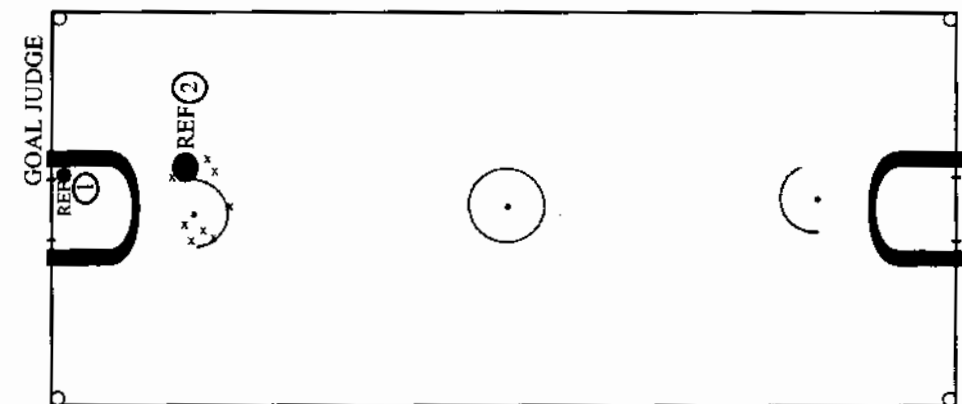


FIELD OF PLAY

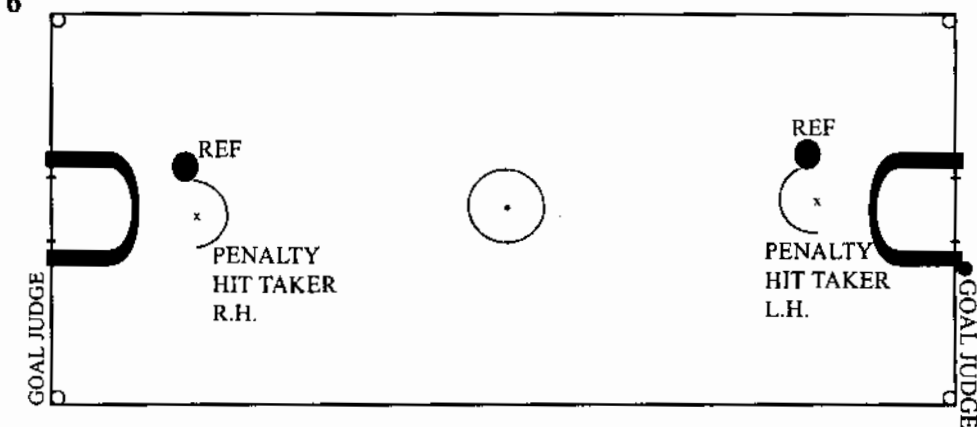
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5



6



3 INTERPRETATION OF RULES OF PLAY

The Rules of Play and their interpretation are laid out in the Camanachd Association Constitution and Rules of Play.

The most common infringements of the rules are as follows.

3/1 Kicking the Ball

A player is judged to have kicked the ball if he has intentionally used either foot to propel the ball in any direction to gain an advantage to himself or to another team member.

Dragging the ball in any direction with either foot is also an infringement of the rules.

The ball may be stopped with one foot providing the foot is stationary on the ground.

It may also be stopped with both feet while the player is moving, but both heels must be tight together at the moment of contact with the ball.

3/2 Charges an Opponent

A player may only charge an opponent by means of a shoulder to shoulder challenge.

Both players must be attempting to play the ball when contact is made, and they must have at least one foot on the ground.

Any other form of challenge is deemed an infringement of the rules.

i.e. Back Charge; Push in the Back; tripping opponent; sliding tackle; jumping at opponent.

3/3 Striking an Opponent's Caman

If a player intentionally strikes an opponent's caman in the air when his opponent is attempting to play the ball, a foul should be awarded against the player striking the caman. Similarly, if the ball is on the ground and a player deliberately strikes his opponent's caman in downward action a foul should be awarded for Hacking

A Hook is the upwards deflection of an opponents caman as he swings at the ball. The hooking movement has to be directed Upwards and be from behind the swing.

A Block is when the caman is placed firmly on the ground in front of the ball thus preventing an opponent from striking the ball

3/4. Dangerous use of the Caman

3/4.1 Flicking the caman in an upwards direction

If a player, when challenging for a ball, flicks his caman upwards towards the head of his opponent, ***a foul must be awarded against the player flicking his caman upwards for dangerous use of the caman.***

3/4.2 Aerial swinging of the caman

Aerial swinging of the caman is not a foul.

3/4.3 Dangerous aerial swing of the caman

Aerial swinging of the caman in a forward or backward motion with a follow through when there are other players within playing distance of the ball is deemed to be **dangerous aerial swinging of the caman and an infringement of the rules.**

Swinging the caman sideways with a follow through when there are other players within playing distance of the ball is deemed to be **dangerous swinging of the caman and an infringement of the rules**

3/4.4 Hitting the ball with one hand on the caman.

Hitting the ball with one hand on the caman is **not a foul**, unless, in the opinion of the referee, the caman is **being swung in a dangerous manner.**

3/4.5 Hitting the ball while lying on the ground

Hitting the ball while lying on the ground is **not a foul**, unless in the opinion of the referee the player is **endangering himself when attempting to play the ball or he is swinging his caman in a dangerous and reckless manner while still lying on the ground.**

3/5. Advantage Rule

The advantage rule should be applied at all times when the referee considers, that to stop the game and award a foul, **would be a disadvantage to the team of the player being fouled**

If the advantage rule is applied the referee **cannot go back** and award the free hit for the infringement.

However, the player committing the infringement when the advantage rule was applied may be punished for his actions. The referee is quite justified in speaking to or even cautioning the offender at the first opportunity. This should be done immediately when play stops on the first occasion after the advantage rule was applied.

Never be seen to be afraid to be seen to take strong action after applying the advantage rule.

Never apply the advantage rule if the player being fouled is injured. Stop the game immediately.

3/6 Ungentlemanly Conduct

3/6.1 Encroachment

At the awarding of a free hit, players who do not move more than five (5) yards away from the player taking the free hit.

3/6.2 Player hits the ball away after a free hit has been awarded against him

3/6.3 Player who picks up the ball and runs back to his position before returning the ball to his opponent for the free hit to be taken.

3/6.4 Time wasting

Players taking more time than is necessary to take free or bye hits.

3/6.5 Feigning Injury

This is a particularly nasty infringement of the rules, ***it is cheating*** and can result in an opponent being punished for something he did not do. It also places the referee in the position of having to make the decision of whether the players injury merits stopping the game immediately.

If the referee is in any doubt about a player's injury, he should stop the game immediately. If, on stopping the game, he finds that the player is feigning injury, the offending player should be immediately cautioned and given a severe warning about his conduct.

3/6.6 Verbal Dissent

Questioning the referee's decision is verbal dissent.

Most players will, at some time in their career, question a referee's decision. This can usually be controlled by a quiet word from the referee.

The referee should never ignore a player questioning his decision, if ignored in the first instance there is more than likely to be second and third instance with cautioning and sending off being the outcome.

3/6.7 Use of Foul & Abusive Language

Use of foul and abusive language is a Foul.

The Rules of the game state that, **"A player shall be cautioned (Rule 13) if he uses foul or abusive language" (Rule 13.6).** This also applies to club officials under the **"General Behaviour" Rule**

This rule requires common sense to be applied by the referee, some players will have a quiet curse at themselves when he tops or misses the ball, *this does not require a caution. The player should however, be aware that you have heard him, and that you will not tolerate foul language that can be heard by other players or spectators.*

Foul language that can be heard by other players and spectators should receive an **"immediate verbal caution"**. Persistent use of foul language should receive a **"yellow card caution"**.

Abusive language towards another player or the referee should receive an **"immediate yellow or red card caution depending on the severity of the abuse."**

Never, never allow a player or club official to use abusive language towards players or the referee. To do so means that the offender is in control, not the referee.

3/6.8 Persistent Fouling

If a player commits three (3) minor infringements of the rules within a short period of time, the referee should issue a verbal warning and inform him that, if he continues committing infringements of the rules he will be cautioned for **"persistent fouling"**

Every time you give a foul there will be some who will disagree with you. ***Remember, it is your interpretation of the rules that matters, never change your mind, indecision on the part of the referee is a weakness that will be exploited by players and club officials.***

4. WHAT DO I DO

4/1 A Club Official verbally abuses you.

As the match referee you should go to the sideline, and inform the offending official that you are giving him a verbal warning about his behaviour towards you.

If after a verbal warning, the official continues to abuse you, approach him again, ask him for his name. After receiving his name, inform him that you are reporting him to the Camanachd Association for disciplinary action.

You may also order him from the sideline if you think that this is necessary.

4/2 A Club Official physically abuses you.

The referee should immediately inform the offending official that he is being reported to the Camanachd Association for disciplinary action and have the offender removed from the sideline.

The Referee Match Report, containing full details of the incident should be forwarded to the Camanachd Association Executive Officer within five (5) days of the match.

Remember, a breach of the rules that is serious enough to merit reporting a club official to the Association, must have been serious enough to formally caution the offender and instruct him that he was to be reported to the Association at the time the offence was committed. Only in exceptional circumstances will a report where the proper procedure has not been carried out be accepted by the Association

IF YOU DID NOT CAUTION THE OFFENDER AT THE TIME OF THE OFFENCE, DO NOT REPORT HIM TO THE ASSOCIATION.

4.3 You have to abandon a match

Due to a sudden change in weather conditions or circumstances. *i.e. Torrential rain making the surface unplayable, snowstorm obliterating field markings, darkness, field invasion*, the referee on abandoning the match should call the two captains of the competing teams together and inform them that you are abandoning the match. Give them the reason why you have had to take this decision. Having made your decision, ***do not be persuaded by players or club officials to change it.***

Report your decision, giving full details on the "Referee Match Report Form"

4.4 When a Player is injured.

If a player receives any injury to the head or face the referee ***MUST STOP THE GAME IMMEDIATELY*** and call for the trainer or medic to carry out the necessary treatment.

In any other injury, the referee shall decide if the injury is serious enough to stop the game or allow play to continue until a stoppage occurs. If, after play has stopped, it is the opinion of the referee that the injured player requires treatment the trainer or medic should be called on to the field of play to apply treatment.

In slight or minor injuries the player should leave the field for treatment, returning to the field of play only, after receiving a signal from the referee to do so.

If in the opinion of the referee, trainer or medic a player's injury is serious, he should not be removed until professional advice is sought and permission is given by those giving that advice to do so.

4.5 When a player has to be cautioned or ordered off.

The referee should call the offender towards him (do not make him walk the full distance, meet him half way)

When the referee and offender have met, no other player should be allowed to remain in close proximity.

Ask the offender for his full name and jersey number. This information should be written down in a note book along with the time of the offence. The offending player should then be given the reason for the caution or ordering off, and informed that a report will be sent to the Camanachd

Association Disciplinary Committee. The player should then be shown a **Yellow or Red Card** depending on the nature of the "Caution" or "Ordering Off".

If it is the player's first cautionable offence the **Yellow Card** should be held high above the referee's head to show the offender, other players, club officials and spectators that the player has been cautioned.

If it is an Ordering Off offence, the **Red Card** should be held high above the referee's head.

If it is the player's second cautionable offence, the **Yellow Card**, followed by the **Red Card** should be held high above the referee's head.

Do not spend too much time administering a "Caution" or "Ordering Off". Try and get them over with as soon as possible.

4.6 When the team lines have not been received before a match

Under no circumstances should the referee start a match without receiving properly filled in team lines. Full names, addresses and jersey numbers of all players should be clearly printed on team lines.

If the start of a game is held up due to delay in production of team lines, this should be reported on the "Referee Match Report".

5. REPORTS

5.1 Match Report

The Match Report and team lines must be sent to the Camanachd Association within five (5) days of the match. The team lines and match report are very important to the Association, and the referee who does not send in his match reports is letting himself and the Association down.

The match report should contain the names of the competing teams, the competition, the date played, the venue and the result. It should also contain the names and number of the substitutes, and those substituted during the match. The names of any players cautioned or ordered off during the match should be noted in the appropriate places on the form.

In the general remarks section, the referee should report any incident that

occurs during the match, i.e. late arrival of a team, field markings not satisfactory, match abandonment, field intrusion by spectators etc.

If a club official (not a player) has been cautioned for misconduct or any other incident it is on this section of the form that you will be required to make your report on the incident.

If the referee has to report a club official *See 4/1 and 4/2 for details.*

Remember never get into a touchline argument with a club official, carry out the procedures as directed.

Never, never decide after you get home to report a club official to the Association if you have not cautioned the official during the match and informed him that you are going to do so.

SAMPLE MATCH REPORT

In the above match I had reason to caution Tom Smith, the manager of the Rovers Club, for the use of ***foul and abusive language*** towards me. Mr Smith shouted abuse and questioned every decision that I gave against his club.

In the 30th minute of the match I approached Mr Smith and ***asked him to stop the abuse. I gave him a verbal warning***, informing him that if he persisted in the same manner towards me, I would have no alternative but to caution him, and report him to the Camanachd Association.

Mr Smith continued with his foul and abusive language towards me, and in the 40th minute of the match I again approached Mr Smith and ***asked him for his full name***. Mr Smith gave me his name, ***after which I informed him that I was cautioning him and that the report of the incident would be sent to the Camanachd Association.***

Mr Smith then told me that “ I can do what I like with the report”

For the remainder of the match Mr Smith did not cause any further problems.

5.2 Disciplinary Report

When the referee has to caution, or order off a player, a misconduct report must be sent to the Secretary of the Camanachd Association Disciplinary Committee within five (5) days after the match.

The report should contain the full name of the offender, his jersey number, name of the competition, date of the match, competing teams, match result, the offender's club, time of the offence, and nature of the offence along with a detailed description leading up to the incident.

The report form is quite simple to fill in. The first part contains the match details along with the full name and number of the offender, the number of the category of offence and the time of the offence..

The second part (**Category of Offences**) requires the referee to place a tick against the category of the offence that the offender was cautioned for committing.

In the third part (**Ordering Off Offences**) a tick should be placed in the left hand column to indicate the offence, with a tick in the right hand column to indicate the category of the offence .

The final part of the form requires the referee to give detailed information about the incident, because it is from the evidence submitted by the referee on the misconduct form that the Disciplinary Committee base their actions.

A report that contains little information of the incident will not assist the Disciplinary Committee. The club and player will more than likely challenge a poor report.

SAMPLE REPORTS

THE BAD REPORT. (CAUTION)

In the 21st minute John Brown of the Rovers club was cautioned. A melee broke out between John Brown and Player B. I stepped in and cautioned John Brown, Following his caution John Brown swore at me. I sent him off.

In this report all that is contained is the players name and that he was ordered off. The report does not tell: how the melee started, where the ball was during the melee, did the referee see the incident clearly, how far from the melee was he, what were the actual words used in the foul language, did any injury occur, and in the melee what hit what, was it camans, fists or feet that were used.

THE GOOD REPORT. (CAUTION)

In the 35 minute of the game, I cautioned Alex Brown the No. 3 of Wanderers for reckless and dangerous swinging of the caman, which resulted in John White the No. 11 of Rovers receiving a nasty blow to his left leg. John White had to leave the field of play for medical treatment.

I was approximately 20 yards from the incident which occurred 30 yards from the Wanderers bye line. I had a clear view of the incident, where I observed both players running for the ball. As they approached the ball, Alex Brown swung at the ball, but after striking the ball followed through with his swing, striking John White on the Leg.

I considered the follow through to be intentional and vicious. I then called Alex Brown towards me, cautioned him for reckless and dangerous swinging of his caman and informed him that a report of the incident would be sent to the Disciplinary Committee of the Camanachd Association.

Alex Brown accepted my decision, and John White returned to the field of play after treatment.

The category of the above offence is item 6 of the cautionable offences

THE GOOD REPORT (ORDERING OFF)

In the 65th minute of the match I had reason to order off Jim Black the No 7 of Strollers for reckless and dangerous swinging of his caman.

I had a clear view of the incident which happened inside the centre circle. I was positioned about fifteen(15) yards from the incident.

Jim Black was running alongside Tom Gray of United to reach a loose ball. As they were running shoulder to shoulder, Jim Black deliberately and without any provocation flicked his caman upwards into the face of Tom Gray, causing him to fall to the ground.

I immediately stopped the game and called for medical attention for Tom Gray who had a severe cut on his forehead.

I then called Jim Black over, asked him for his name, after which I informed him that he was being ordered off for reckless and dangerous swinging of his caman, and that a report of the incident would be sent to the Camanachd Association Disciplinary Committee.

Jim Black accepted my decision and left the field of play.

Tom Gray was taken to the local doctor for treatment. On checking with the club secretary I was informed that he received six stitches in his head wound.

In reports 2 & 3 all the information that is needed for the Disciplinary Committee to assess and reach a decision on sentencing the offender is there:

1. The players name, number and club;
2. The time of the incident;
3. The position of referee in relation to the incident;
4. The description of the incident and any injuries incurred;
5. The offender's reaction to the referee's decision;
6. The result of any medical treatment required due to injuries.

Always remember :

1. Be accurate in your description of what happened;
2. Use a separate form for each caution or ordering off;
3. Use the correct terminology. i.e. do not use "booked" or "shown the red card" use "cautioned" and "ordered off"
4. The difference between the reason for the "caution" or "ordering off" and the actual offence. In the "Caution Report" the player has been cautioned for "reckless and dangerous swinging " not for hitting his opponent on the leg.

In the "Ordering Off" report the player is being ordered Off for "Violent Conduct" not for striking an opponent with his caman

7. MEDICAL ADVICE FOR SHINTY REFEREES Dr Colin Fettes

7/1

To ensure that sport is as safe as possible it requires a consistent degree of control. This is largely provided via the laws of the game by referees. Thus referees have an important role in all phases of injury: PREVENTION, ASSESSMENT and TREATMENT.

PREVENTION: a) By consistent application of the laws of the game
b) By always being aware of potential hazards in the venue, conditions, equipment etc.
c) By being aware of the availability of help - eg first aiders, availability of access to help via telephone and available transport to help.

ASSESSMENT: a) By immediate recognition of when an injury is potentially serious and ensuring that, if so, treatment can be given and further harm prevented.
b) By recognising if further help is required.
c) By recognising whether the player can continue.

TREATMENT: Depending on what help is available the referee may have a variable role in treatment but should have some basic knowledge of first aid.

7/2 HEAD

Any head injury is potentially serious. The important things to look for are loss of consciousness, loss of memory of the event and confusion. If no unconsciousness, little confusion and quick recovery then the player may be allowed to continue, but otherwise he should be taken off and medically assessed. If recovery is slow it is vital that he is accompanied for the rest of the day in case he deteriorates later even if he has been assessed. Advice to avoid alcohol should be given after anything more than a minor injury.

If an unconscious player has stopped breathing, it is vital that air is getting in and out of his lungs. This can be done by pulling the jaw forward. For expertise in this area first aid training is advised.

7/3 NECK

These are rare but can be catastrophic. They are only likely in shinty where the player has fallen with his neck leaning forwards i.e. his head under his chest. Important points to look for are: neck pain and stiffness, pins and needles down arms or difficulty in moving limbs. If any of these are present, he must not be moved but should be left lying until help arrives.

7/4 EYES

- a) Serious injuries can occur and need prompt medical assessment - look for **blood** in or around the eye and impairment of vision. Pressure may be applied to cuts over the bony areas of the eyebrow or cheekbone if they are intact. Otherwise a clean light pad should be applied until assessed.
- b) Dirt in the eye can be washed out with clean running water or by blinking the closed eye until tears build up and wash it out. Dirt in the corners of the eye can then be removed with a clean handkerchief.

7/5 NOSE

A bleeding nose should be treated by having the player lean his head slightly forward and applying **constant** pressure by pinching the soft area. Don't try to straighten a broken nose.

7/6 JAWS and TEETH

- a) A broken jaw may be suspected if **painful, tender** and **difficulty opening and closing mouth**. The jaw should be well supported by hand or bandage until assessed.
- b) Lost teeth with the root still attached may be kept in the player's mouth between gums and cheek, if fully conscious, or may be transported in milk if available for immediate dental care. If a tooth is partly dislocated but still attached to the gum - try to return it to its normal position.

7/7 UPPER LIMB

Suspect fractures or dislocations if **pain, loss of power** and **inability to do the normal range of movements**. Support with a sling until assessed. Dislocated fingers can be replaced immediately as long as the skin is not broken by firmly pulling on the finger.

7/8 LOWER LIMB

Knee and ankle injuries are common. Inability to weight bear, loss of function and marked pain suggests possible fracture. In a severe injury with severe pain and/or deformity, a splint (either purpose made or improvised) should be applied before being moved. (See R.I.C.E.)

7/9 SKIN and MUSCLE (Soft Tissue)

- a) Cuts are common in shinty. The treatment is to apply firm continuous pressure. If this does not settle it or the wound is open, medical assessment is required.
- b) Muscle injuries can be from a blow or from a strain or tear. If significant, further participation will worsen the damage. The same will occur if heat or massage are used. (See R.I.C.E.)

7/10 CRAMP

Most common in calf muscles - treat by removing ties or pulling down socks. Player lies down - raise leg - hold the heel with straight leg and push toes upwards towards knee. Hold firmly, but not forcing too hard, for ten seconds. Repeat if necessary.

7/11 R.I.C.E.

For muscle, tendon or ligament injuries.

Rest: the injured part for at least several hours

Ice: or another form of cold applied for 10 minutes every hour.
The spray is inadequate for this.

Compression: eg crepe bandage.

Elevation: to above the heart for the rest of the day as much as possible.

8. ASSESSMENT

The good referee never stops learning. All referees, from the recently qualified doing his first game to the experienced referee who has reached the top grade can always benefit by giving some consideration to their performance after each match.

Self assessment is the way to do this and the check list below will assist in analysing the performance of a referee.

1. Correctness of Decision

- Did I recognise foul play during the match?
- Did I distinguish between intentional and unintentional play?
- Were there any off-side infringements which I missed?
- Did I make mistakes with important decisions?
- Did I miss these decisions because I was badly positioned?
- Did I miss these decisions because I was not fit enough to keep up with play?
- Did I face up to a difficult decision?
- Did I avoid facing up to a difficult decision?

2. Match Control

- Was I in control of the match at all times?
- Was there one incident which caused me to lose control of the match for some time?
- Did I assert my authority early in the game?
- Were cautions or orderings-off handled correctly?
- Was I influenced by the reaction of the players?

- f. Was I able to anticipate the movement of play and move into the correct position?
- g. Was I too remote from play on occasions, if so, why?

4. Positioning at set pieces

- a. What position did I take up at the following set pieces:
 - 1. Hit ins
 - 2. Goal hits
 - 3. Corner hits
 - 4. Penalty hits
 - 5. Free hits

- b. Was my position at these set pieces unsatisfactory?
- c. Did my position allow me to see any foul play?

5. Signals

- a. Did I show my authority by correct use of the whistle?
- b. Did the sound of my whistle lack authority by being too weak and of the same tone?
- c. Did I give clear and definite hand signals?
- d. Did I indicate offences correctly.
- e. Did I use any unauthorised signals e.g. to show a double swing or that a player had taken a dive?

6. Advantage

- a. Did I use advantage during the match?
- b. Did I use it too early in the game?
- c. Did I signal clearly that advantage had been played?
- d. Did I use advantage when there was no advantage to be gained?
- e. Did I allow too much advantage during the game?
- f. After I had allowed advantage did I then go back to the offender and warn him or take other action against him?

7. Dealing with Players and Officials

- a. Did I handle the game in a firm manner?
- b. Did I allow dissent?
- c. Was I too fussy about minor details?
- d. Did I have an officious manner in dealing with players?
- e. Did I take too long when administering a caution or sending a player off?
- f. Were substitutions made correctly?
- g. Did I only stop the game when players were seriously injured?
- h. Did I stop the game for minor injuries?
- i. Did I deal with problems caused by club officials?
- j. How did the players respond to my handling of the game?

8. Co-operation with Goal Judges

- a. Did I position myself to have my Goal Judge in full view at all times?
- b. Was I prepared to over-rule a Goal Judge's signal?
- c. Did I work together with my Goal Judges as a team?
- d. Did I act correctly on receiving advice from a Goal Judge about an off-the-ball incident?
- e. Did I acknowledge his signal when I played advantage and allowed play to continue?

9. Fitness

- a. Was I fit enough to get to the correct position to give a decision?
- b. Did I sprint into position when required?
- c. Did I have the stamina to last the whole game?
- d. Did my lack of fitness often leave me out of position?
- e. Am I slow or one-paced?
- f. Could my fitness be improved?

10. Appearance and Personality

- a. Did I look smart?
- b. Am I overweight?
- c. Am I over confident on the field?
- d. Am I too demonstrative?
- e. Am I too relaxed?

11. Which of these words or phrases best described my performance?

- a. Excellent
- b. Good
- c. Satisfactory
- d. Below average
- e. Poor

THE CAMANACHD ASSOCIATION — MISCONDUCT REPORT FORM

To the Secretary, National Disciplinary Committee

Match Result
Competition Date
Player reported (full name)
Club
Offence(s) Time of offences mins
..... mins
Name of Referee making report

Categories of Offences

CAUTIONS (Indicate the offence by inserting a ✓ in the space provided)

- 1 Persistent Petty Fouling
- 2 Dissension by word or action
- 3 Obstruction involving dangerous bodily contact
- 4 Deliberate tripping
- 5 Adopting a threatening or aggressive attitude
- 6 Reckless or dangerous swinging
- 7 Charging an opponent in a violent or dangerous manner
- 8 Ungentlemanly conduct
- 9 Undermining the referee's authority by club officials
- 10 Persistent infringement of the Rules of Play
- 11 Foul or abusive language
- 12 Any other offence deemed to be misconduct

ORDERING OFFOFFENCES (Indicate the offence by inserting a ✓ in the space provided.)
Enter references as indicated above.

- 1 Serious violation of any of the above offences
- 2 Violent or serious foul play
- 3 Persistent in misconduct after having received a caution

Please describe the incident in detail with all the relevant factors

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Please continue overleaf if necessary

THE CAMANACHD ASSOCIATION — REFEREE MATCH REPORT

Name of Referee

Match v

Competition

Date played Result

Name(s) of substitutes used (please give full name)

Home Team

1 No. _____ for No. _____

2 No. _____ for No. _____

Away Team

1 No. _____ for No. _____

2 No. _____ for No. _____

Players cautioned

Players ordered off

General Remarks

Signed Date

These forms should be completed weekly and returned along with the team lines to the register of players