

# A BREIF GUIDE TO BANDY

Learn the game in record time  
– start at the top right!

**TROPHY**  
Since 1907 the Swedish season ends with one title deciding game: Bandyfinalen.

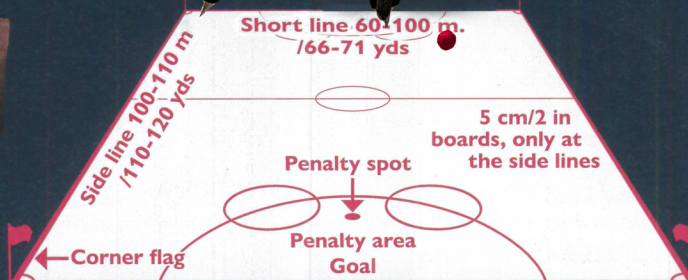
**GOAL**  
Size: 350 x 210 cm/  
11' 5.8" x 6' 10.6"  
Average total goals per game: 8.5 (men), 10.0 (women).

**BRIEFCASE**  
A traditional accessory for bandy fans.

**PLAYER**  
Top speed  
50 KpH/  
14 MpH

**BALL**  
Ø 62,4 mm/  
2.45"  
Top speed  
200 KpH/  
124 MpH

**STICK**  
Max length  
127 cm/50"



## START HERE!

Bandy has been described as **the fastest team sport in the world** and is performed on ice with a stick and a small ball. The sport is most popular in Sweden, Russia, and Finland.

Bandy is also known as **"winter football"**, so what do you know about football (soccer)?

**NOTHING**

**SOME**

Then let's take it from the top!  
**A bandy field** is about 60x100 m.  
**A match** lasts for 2x45 minutes.  
**A team** has 11 players on the field, of which one is a goalkeeper.  
**If the ball leaves the rink**, it goes to the team that wasn't the last to touch it:

- Stroke-off** from the sideline, if the ball went out of over it.
- Corner** if a team passes the ball over their own short line.
- The keeper's ball** if a player puts it over the other team's short line (like a shot wide).

**Offside** is when the ball is passed to a player who is nearer to his/her opponent's goal line than the second-to-last opponent. Then, as when fouls are committed, the team is awarded a **free-stroke**.

Bandy originated in Great Britain, so it shares most rules with football:

- **Time**
- **Number of players**
- **Size of rink/field**
- **Offside rule**
- **Stroke off** (like a throw in)
- **Free-stroke** (like a free kick)
- **Penalty area and penalty shot**

**Corners** are awarded just as in football, but they are a bigger scoring opportunity, and the actual corner stroke is covered by some specific rules.

**The formation** is usually some form of 3-5-2..

## PENALTIES

Clear infractions result in penalties which with some exceptions last for 10 minutes.

### 5 minutes for

- Obstruction

### 10 minutes for

- Leg tackling
- Slashing
- Violent conduct

### Match penalty

(Lasts for the rest of the game)

- By default, after a third infraction
- Intention to injure

Red card =  
Match penalty

## ALLOWED & DISALLOWED

Bandy is about moving the ball.

- **Body contact** is allowed, but contact before a player receives the ball or violent tackling is not.
- **Handballs** and **heading** the ball are only allowed for the goalkeeper, so is **playing lying down**.
- **Kicking the ball** is allowed, but scoring this way is not.
- **Hitting players, sticks, or skates** with fists or sticks is not allowed, neither is playing with the stick **above your shoulders**.

## CORNERS & PENALTY SHOTS

**Corners** are taken from the corner flag.

During corners, the defending team has to stay on the goal line until the corner is taken. Corners can't result in new corners unless the ball has left the penalty area or been put out of play intentionally.

A **penalty shot** is given for fouls inside the penalty area and taken from the penalty spot.



## DEFENSE

A good defense involves the whole team. The key is to defend as a unit while still looking out for individual attacks – in bandy, teams defend in **zones** as well as **man-to-man**.

## ATTACK

In attack, the entire ice rink is used. To gain pace and move efficiently towards the goal, players skate in **arcs**. This means that it's vital to cross each other's paths and exchange the ball at high speed. This requires synchronization, which some refer to as **rhythm**. Other key ingredients are long diagonal passes, short through balls, and of course **solo goals**.

## SUBSTITUTIONS & TIME

Five **substitute players** are allowed, one of whom must be a goalkeeper and two of whom must be youth players. Substitutions can be made at any time except before corners.

**Time out** can be called once by each team and lasts for 1 minute.

**Added time** is decided by the referee.

**Well done!**  
You're ready to watch a game.  
Can't see the ball?  
Try first focusing on the movement of the players, then "zoom in" towards the ball.