

Law

10

Determining the Outcome of a Match

1. Goal scored

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, provided that no offence has been committed by the team scoring the goal.

If a referee signals a goal before the ball has passed wholly over the goal line, play is restarted with a dropped ball.

2. Winning team

The team scoring the greater number of goals is the winner. If both teams score no goals or an equal number of goals the match is drawn.

When competition rules require a winning team after a drawn match or home-and-away tie, the only permitted procedures to determine the winning team are:

- away goals rule
- two equal periods of extra time not exceeding 15 minutes each
- kicks from the penalty mark

A combination of the above procedures may be used.

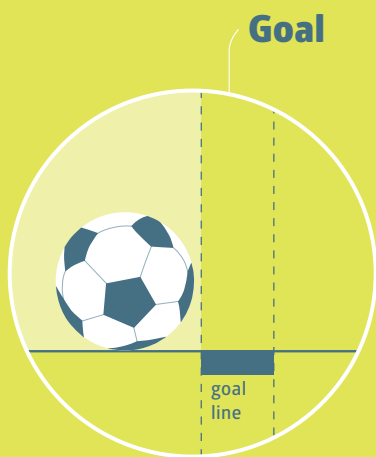
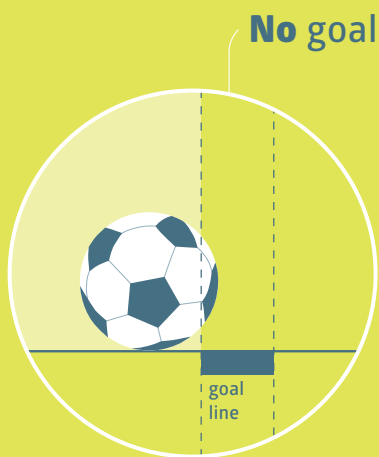
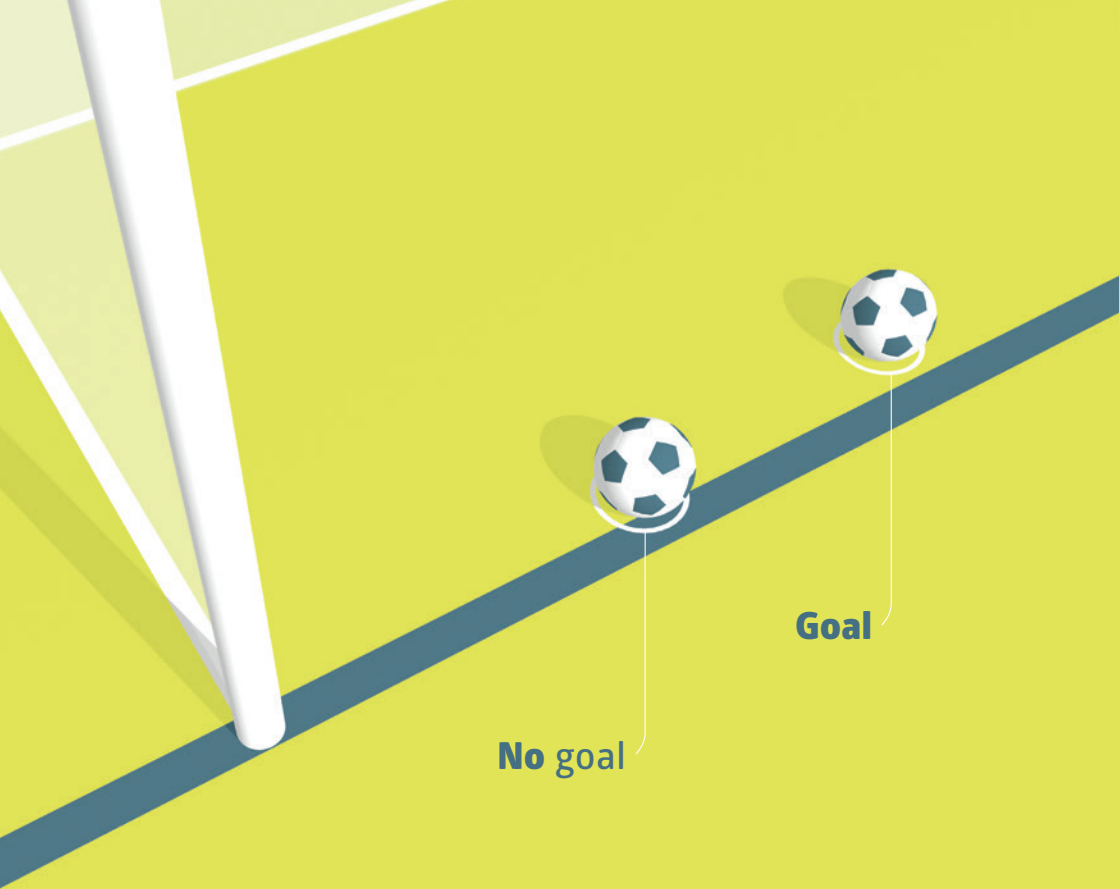
3. Kicks from the penalty mark

Kicks from the penalty mark are taken after the match has ended and unless otherwise stated, the relevant Laws of the Game apply.

Procedure

Before kicks from the penalty mark start

- Unless there are other considerations (e.g. ground conditions, safety etc.), the referee tosses a coin to decide the goal at which the kicks will be taken



which may only be changed for safety reasons or if the goal or playing surface becomes unusable

- The referee tosses a coin again and the team that wins the toss decides whether to take the first or second kick
- With the exception of a substitute for a goalkeeper who is unable to continue, only players who are on the field of play or are temporarily off the field of play (injury, adjusting equipment etc.) at the end of the match are eligible to take kicks
- Each team is responsible for selecting from the eligible players the order in which they will take the kicks. The referee is not informed of the order
- If at the end of the match and before or during the kicks one team has a greater number of players than its opponents, it must reduce its numbers to the same number as its opponents and the referee must be informed of the name and number of each player excluded. Any excluded player is not eligible to take part in the kicks (except as outlined below)
- A goalkeeper who is unable to continue before or during the kicks may be replaced by a player excluded to equalise the number of players or, if their team has not used its maximum permitted number of substitutes, a named substitute, but the replaced goalkeeper takes no further part and may not take a kick

During kicks from the penalty mark

- Only eligible players and match officials are permitted to remain on the field of play
- All eligible players, except the player taking the kick and the two goalkeepers, must remain within the centre circle
- The goalkeeper of the kicker must remain on the field of play, outside the penalty area, on the goal line where it meets the penalty area boundary line
- An eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper
- The kick is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play or the referee stops play for any offence; the kicker may not play the ball a second time
- The referee keeps a record of the kicks
- If the goalkeeper commits an offence and, as a result, the kick is retaken, the goalkeeper must be cautioned.

- If the kicker is penalised for an offence committed after the referee has signalled for the kick to be taken, that kick is recorded as missed and the kicker is cautioned.
- If both the goalkeeper and kicker commit an offence at the same time:
 - if the kick is missed or saved, the kick is retaken and both players cautioned
 - if the kick is scored, the goal is disallowed, the kick is recorded as missed and the kicker cautioned

Subject to the conditions explained below, both teams take five kicks

- The kicks are taken alternately by the teams
- If, before both teams have taken five kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken
- If, after both teams have taken five kicks, the scores are level kicks continue until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks
- Each kick is taken by a different player and all eligible players must take a kick before any player can take a second kick
- The above principle continues for any subsequent sequence of kicks but a team may change the order of kickers
- Kicks from the penalty mark must not be delayed for a player who leaves the field of play. The player's kick will be forfeited (not scored) if the player does not return in time to take a kick

Substitutions and send offs during kicks from the penalty mark

- A player, substitute or substituted player may be cautioned or sent off
- A goalkeeper who is sent off must be replaced by an eligible player
- A player other than the goalkeeper who is unable to continue may not be replaced
- The referee must not abandon the match if a team is reduced to fewer than seven players



Law

11

Offside

1. Offside position

It is not an offence to be in an offside position.

A player is in an offside position if:

- any part of the head, body or feet is in the opponents' half (excluding the halfway line) and
- any part of the head, body or feet is nearer to the opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second-last opponent

The hands and arms of all players, including the goalkeepers, are not considered.

A player is not in an offside position if level with the:

- second-last opponent or
- last two opponents

2. Offside offence

A player in an offside position at the moment the ball is played or touched by a team-mate is only penalised on becoming involved in active play by:

- interfering with play by playing or touching a ball passed or touched by a team-mate or
- interfering with an opponent by:
 - preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent's line of vision or
 - challenging an opponent for the ball or

- clearly attempting to play a ball which is close to him when this action impacts on an opponent or
- making an obvious action which clearly impacts on the ability of an opponent to play the ball

or

- gaining an advantage by playing the ball or interfering with an opponent when it has:
 - rebounded or been deflected off the goalpost, crossbar, match official or an opponent
 - been deliberately saved by any opponent

A player in an offside position receiving the ball from an opponent who deliberately plays the ball (except from a deliberate save by any opponent) is not considered to have gained an advantage.

A 'save' is when a player stops, or attempts to stop, a ball which is going into or very close to the goal with any part of the body except the hands/arms (unless the goalkeeper within the penalty area).

In situations where:

- a player moving from, or standing in, an offside position is in the way of an opponent and interferes with the movement of the opponent towards the ball this is an offside offence if it impacts on the ability of the opponent to play or challenge for the ball; if the player moves into the way of an opponent and impedes the opponent's progress (e.g. blocks the opponent) the offence should be penalised under Law 12.
- a player in an offside position is moving towards the ball with the intention of playing the ball and is fouled before playing or attempting to play the ball, or challenging an opponent for the ball, the foul is penalised as it has occurred before the offside offence
- an offence is committed against a player in an offside position who is already playing or attempting to play the ball, or challenging an opponent for the ball, the offside offence is penalised as it has occurred before the foul challenge

3. No offence

There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:

- a goal kick
- a throw-in
- a corner kick

4. Offences and sanctions

If an offside offence occurs, the referee awards an indirect free kick where the offence occurred, including if it is in the player's own half of the field of play.

A defending player who leaves the field of play without the referee's permission shall be considered to be on the goal line or touchline for the purposes of offside until the next stoppage in play or until the defending team has played the ball towards the halfway line and it is outside their penalty area. If the player left the field of play deliberately, the player must be cautioned when the ball is next out of play.

An attacking player may step or stay off the field of play not to be involved in active play. If the player re-enters from the goal line and becomes involved in play before the next stoppage in play, or the defending team has played the ball towards the halfway line and it is outside their penalty area, the player shall be considered to be positioned on the goal line for the purposes of offside. A player who deliberately leaves the field of play and re-enters without the referee's permission and is not penalised for offside and gains an advantage, must be cautioned.

If an attacking player remains stationary between the goalposts and inside the goal as the ball enters the goal, a goal must be awarded unless the player commits an offside offence or Law 12 offence in which case play is restarted with an indirect or direct free kick.

Law

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Fouls and Misconduct

Direct and indirect free kicks and penalty kicks can only be awarded for offences committed when the ball is in play.

1. Direct free kick

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences against an opponent in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- charges
- jumps at
- kicks or attempts to kick
- pushes
- strikes or attempts to strike (including head-butt)
- tackles or challenges
- trips or attempts to trip

If an offence involves contact it is penalised by a direct free kick or penalty kick.

- Careless is when a player shows a lack of attention or consideration when making a challenge or acts without precaution. No disciplinary sanction is needed
- Reckless is when a player acts with disregard to the danger to, or consequences for, an opponent and must be cautioned
- Using excessive force is when a player exceeds the necessary use of force and/or endangers the safety of an opponent and must be sent off

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences:

- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- holds an opponent
- impedes an opponent with contact
- spits at an opponent

See also offences in Law 3

Handling the ball

Handling the ball involves a deliberate act of a player making contact with the ball with the hand or arm.

The following must be considered:

- the movement of the hand towards the ball (not the ball towards the hand)
- the distance between the opponent and the ball (unexpected ball)
- the position of the hand does not necessarily mean that there is an offence
- touching the ball with an object held in the hand (clothing, shinguard, etc.) is an offence
- hitting the ball with a thrown object (boot, shinguard, etc.) is an offence

The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area. Inside their penalty area, the goalkeeper cannot be guilty of a handling offence incurring a direct free kick or any related sanction but can be guilty of handling offences that incur an indirect free kick.

2. Indirect free kick

An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of an opponent without any contact being made
- is guilty of dissent, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures or other verbal offences
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from the hands or kicks or attempts to kick the ball when the goalkeeper is in the process of releasing it
- commits any other offence, not mentioned in the Laws, for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player

An indirect free kick is awarded if a goalkeeper, inside their penalty area, commits any of the following offences:

- controls the ball with the hands for more than six seconds before releasing it
- touches the ball with the hands after:
 - releasing it and before it has touched another player
 - it has been deliberately kicked to the goalkeeper by a team-mate
 - receiving it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate

A goalkeeper is considered to be in control of the ball when:

- the ball is between the hands or between the hand and any surface (e.g. ground, own body) or by touching it with any part of the hands or arms except if the ball rebounds accidentally from the goalkeeper or the goalkeeper has made a save
- holding the ball in the outstretched open hand
- bouncing it on the ground or throwing it in the air

A goalkeeper cannot be challenged by an opponent when in control of the ball with the hands.

Playing in a dangerous manner

Playing in a dangerous manner is any action that, while trying to play the ball, threatens injury to someone (including the player themselves) and includes preventing a nearby opponent from playing the ball for fear of injury.

A scissors or bicycle kick is permissible provided that it is not dangerous to an opponent.

Impeding the progress of an opponent without contact

Impeding the progress of an opponent means moving into the opponent's path to obstruct, block, slow down or force a change of direction when the ball is not within playing distance of either player.

All players have a right to their position on the field of play; being in the way of an opponent is not the same as moving into the way of an opponent.

A player may shield the ball by taking a position between an opponent and the ball if the ball is within playing distance and the opponent is not held off with the arms or body. If the ball is within playing distance, the player may be fairly charged by an opponent.

3. Disciplinary action

The referee has the authority to take disciplinary action from entering the field of play for the pre-match inspection until leaving the field of play after the match ends (including kicks from the penalty mark).

If, before entering the field of play at the start of the match, a player commits a sending-off offence, the referee has the authority to prevent the player taking part in the match (see Law 3.6); the referee will report any other misconduct.

A player who commits a cautionable or sending-off offence, either on or off the field of play, against an opponent, a team-mate, a match official or any other person or the Laws of the Game, is disciplined according to the offence.

The yellow card communicates a caution and the red card communicates a sending-off.

Only a player, substitute or substituted player may be shown the red or yellow card.

Delaying the restart of play to show a card

Once the referee has decided to caution or send off a player, play must not be restarted until the sanction has been administered.

Advantage

If the referee plays the advantage for an offence for which a caution / send off would have been issued had play been stopped, this caution / send off must be issued when the ball is next out of play, except when the denial of an obvious goal-scoring opportunity results in a goal the player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour.

Advantage should not be applied in situations involving serious foul play, violent conduct or a second cautionable offence unless there is a clear opportunity to score a goal. The referee must send off the player when the ball

is next out of play but if the player plays the ball or challenges/interferes with an opponent, the referee will stop play, send off the player and restart with an indirect free kick, unless the player committed a more serious offence.

If a defender starts holding an attacker outside the penalty area and continues holding inside the penalty area, the referee must award a penalty kick.

Cautionable offences

A player is cautioned if guilty of:

- delaying the restart of play
- dissent by word or action
- entering, re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission
- failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick or throw-in
- persistent offences (no specific number or pattern of offences constitutes "persistent")
- unsporting behaviour

A substitute or substituted player is cautioned if guilty of:

- delaying the restart of play
- dissent by word or action
- entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission
- unsporting behaviour

Cautions for unsporting behaviour

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour including if a player:

- attempts to deceive the referee e.g. by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled (simulation)
- changes places with the goalkeeper during play or without the referee's permission
- commits in a reckless manner a direct free kick offence
- handles the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack

- commits a foul which interferes with or stops a promising attack except where the referee awards a penalty kick for an offence which was an attempt to play the ball
- denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by an offence which was an attempt to play the ball and the referee awards a penalty kick
- handles the ball in an attempt to score a goal (whether or not the attempt is successful) or in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent a goal
- makes unauthorised marks on the field of play
- plays the ball when leaving the field of play after being given permission to leave
- shows a lack of respect for the game
- uses a deliberate trick to pass the ball (including from a free kick) to the goalkeeper with the head, chest, knee etc. to circumvent the Law, whether or not the goalkeeper touches the ball with the hands
- verbally distracts an opponent during play or at a restart

Celebration of a goal

Players can celebrate when a goal is scored, but the celebration must not be excessive; choreographed celebrations are not encouraged and must not cause excessive time-wasting.

Leaving the field of play to celebrate a goal is not a cautionable offence but players should return as soon as possible.

A player must be cautioned for:

- climbing onto a perimeter fence and/or approaching the spectators in a manner which causes safety and/or security issues
- gesturing or acting in a provocative, derisory or inflammatory way
- covering the head or face with a mask or other similar item
- removing the shirt or covering the head with the shirt

Delaying the restart of play

Referees must caution players who delay the restart of play by:

- appearing to take a throw-in but suddenly leaving it to a team-mate to take
- delaying leaving the field of play when being substituted

- excessively delaying a restart
- kicking or carrying the ball away, or provoking a confrontation by deliberately touching the ball after the referee has stopped play
- taking a free kick from the wrong position to force a retake

Sending-off offences

A player, substitute or substituted player who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick (unless as outlined below).
- serious foul play
- spitting at an opponent or any other person
- violent conduct
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
- receiving a second caution in the same match

A player, substitute or substituted player who has been sent off must leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area.

Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity

Where a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by a deliberate handball offence the player is sent off wherever the offence occurs.

Where a player commits an offence against an opponent within their own penalty area which denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned if the offence was an attempt to play the ball; in all other circumstances (e.g. holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball etc.) the offending player must be sent off.

A player, sent off player, substitute or substituted player who enters the field of play without the required referee's permission and interferes with play or an opponent and denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity is guilty of a sending-off offence.

The following must be considered:

- distance between the offence and the goal
- general direction of the play
- likelihood of keeping or gaining control of the ball
- location and number of defenders

Serious foul play

A tackle or challenge that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul play.

Any player who lunges at an opponent in challenging for the ball from the front, from the side or from behind using one or both legs, with excessive force or endangers the safety of an opponent is guilty of serious foul play.

Violent conduct

Violent conduct is when a player uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a team-mate, team official, match official, spectator or any other person, regardless of whether contact is made.

In addition, a player who, when not challenging for the ball, deliberately strikes an opponent or any other person on the head or face with the hand or arm, is guilty of violent conduct unless the force used was negligible.

Offences where an object (or the ball) is thrown

In all cases, the referee takes the appropriate disciplinary action:

- reckless – caution the offender for unsporting behaviour
- using excessive force – send off the offender for violent conduct.

4. Restart of play after fouls and misconduct

- If the ball is out of play, play is restarted according to the previous decision
- If the ball is in play and a player commits an offence inside the field of play against:
 - an opponent – indirect or direct free kick or penalty kick
 - a team-mate, substitute, substituted or sent off player, team official or a match official – a direct free kick or penalty kick
 - any other person – a dropped ball
- If, when the ball is in play:
 - a player commits an offence against a match official or an opposing player, substitute, substituted or sent off player, or team official outside the field of play or
 - a substitute, substituted or sent off player, or team official commits an offence against, or interferes with, an opposing player or match official outside the field of play,

play is restarted with a free kick on the boundary line nearest to where the offence/interference occurred; a penalty kick is awarded if this is a direct free kick offence within the offender's penalty area.

If a player standing on or off the field of play throws an object (including the ball) at an opposing player, substitute, substituted or sent off player, or team official, match official or the ball, play is restarted with a direct free kick from the position where the object struck or would have struck the person or the ball. If this position is off the field of play, the free kick is taken on the nearest point on the boundary line; a penalty kick is awarded if this is within the offender's penalty area.

If a substitute, substituted or sent off player, player temporarily off the field of play or team official throws or kicks an object onto the field of play and it interferes with play, an opponent or match official, play is restarted with a direct free kick (or penalty kick) where the object interfered with play or struck or would have struck the opponent, match official or the ball.

Law

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Free Kicks

1. Types of free kick

Direct and indirect free kicks are awarded to the opposing team of a player guilty of an offence.

Indirect free kick signal

The referee indicates an indirect free kick by raising the arm above the head; this signal is maintained until the kick has been taken and the ball touches another player or goes out of play.

An indirect free kick must be retaken if the referee fails to signal that the kick is indirect and the ball is kicked directly into the goal.

Ball enters the goal

- if a direct free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal is awarded
- if an indirect free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded
- if a direct or indirect free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, a corner kick is awarded

2. Procedure

All free kicks are taken from the place where the offence occurred, except:

- indirect free kicks to the attacking team for an offence inside the opponents' goal area are taken from the nearest point on the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal line
- free kicks to the defending team in their goal area may be taken from anywhere in that area

- free kicks for offences involving a player entering, re-entering or leaving the field of play without permission are taken from the position of the ball when play was stopped. However, if a player leaves the field of play as part of play and commits an offence against another player, play is restarted with a free kick taken on the boundary line nearest to where the offence occurred; for direct free kick offences a penalty kick is awarded if this is within the offender's penalty area
- the Law designates another position (see Laws 3, 11, 12)

The ball:

- must be stationary and the kicker must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player
- is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves except for a free kick to the defending team in their penalty area where the ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area

Until the ball is in play all opponents must remain:

- at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball, unless they are on their own goal line between the goalposts
- outside the penalty area for free kicks inside the opponents' penalty area

A free kick can be taken by lifting the ball with a foot or both feet simultaneously.

Feinting to take a free kick to confuse opponents is permitted as part of football.

If a player, while correctly taking a free kick, intentionally kicks the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but not in a careless or reckless manner or using excessive force, the referee allows play to continue.

3. Offences and sanctions

If, when a free kick is taken, an opponent is closer to the ball than the required distance, the kick is retaken unless the advantage can be applied; but if a player takes a free kick quickly and an opponent who is less than 9.15 m (10 yds) from the ball intercepts it, the referee allows play to continue. However, an opponent who deliberately prevents a free kick being taken quickly must be cautioned for delaying the restart of play.

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team from inside its penalty area, any opponents are inside the penalty area because they did not have time to leave, the referee allows play to continue. If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the free kick is taken, or enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it has touched another player, the free kick is retaken.

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team inside its penalty area, the ball is not kicked directly out of the penalty area the kick is retaken.

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded, if the kicker deliberately handles the ball:

- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

Law

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The Penalty Kick

A penalty kick is awarded if a player commits a direct free kick offence inside their penalty area or off the field as part of play as outlined in Laws 12 and 13.

A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.

1. Procedure

The ball must be stationary on the penalty mark.

The player taking the penalty kick must be clearly identified.

The defending goalkeeper must remain on the goal line, facing the kicker, between the goalposts until the ball has been kicked.

The players other than the kicker and goalkeeper must be:

- at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the penalty mark
- behind the penalty mark
- inside the field of play
- outside the penalty area

After the players have taken positions in accordance with this Law, the referee signals for the penalty kick to be taken.

The player taking the penalty kick must kick the ball forward; backheeling is permitted provided the ball moves forward.

The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves.

The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player.

The penalty kick is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play or the referee stops play for any offence.

Additional time is allowed for a penalty kick to be taken and completed at the end of each half of the match or extra time. When additional time is allowed, the penalty kick is completed when, after the kick has been taken, the ball stops moving, goes out of play, is played by any player (including the kicker) other than the defending goalkeeper, or the referee stops play for an offence by the kicker or the kicker's team. If a defending team player (including the goalkeeper) commits an offence and the penalty is missed/saved, the penalty is retaken

2. Offences and sanctions

Once the referee has signalled for a penalty kick to be taken, the kick must be taken. If, before the ball is in play, one of the following occurs:

- the player taking the penalty kick or a team-mate offends:
 - if the ball enters the goal, the kick is retaken
 - if the ball does not enter the goal, the referee stops play and restarts with an indirect free kick
- except for the following when play will be stopped and restarted with an indirect free kick, regardless of whether or not a goal is scored:
 - a penalty kick is kicked backwards
 - a team-mate of the identified kicker takes the kick; the referee cautions the player who took the kick
 - feinting to kick the ball once the kicker has completed the run-up (feinting in the run-up is permitted); the referee cautions the kicker
- the goalkeeper or a team-mate offends:
 - if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
 - if the ball does not enter the goal, the kick is retaken; the goalkeeper is cautioned if responsible for the offence

- a player of both teams offends the Laws of the Game, the kick is retaken unless a player commits a more serious offence (e.g. illegal feinting); if both the goalkeeper and kicker commit an offence at the same time:
 - if the kick is missed or saved, the kick is retaken and both players cautioned
 - if the kick is scored, the goal is disallowed, the kicker is cautioned and play restarts with an indirect free kick to the defending team

If, after the penalty kick has been taken:

- the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player:
 - an indirect free kick (or direct free kick for deliberate hand ball) is awarded
- the ball is touched by an outside agent as it moves forward:
 - the kick is retaken unless the ball is going into the goal and the interference does not prevent the goalkeeper or a defending player playing the ball, in which case the goal is awarded if the ball enters the goal (even if contact was made with the ball) unless the ball enters the opponents' goal.
- the ball rebounds into the field of play from the goalkeeper, the crossbar or the goalposts and is then touched by an outside agent:
 - the referee stops play
 - play is restarted with a dropped ball at the position where it touched the outside agent

3. Summary table

	Outcome of the penalty kick	
	Goal	No Goal
Encroachment by attacking player	Penalty is retaken	Indirect free kick
Encroachment by defending player	Goal	Penalty is retaken
Offence by goalkeeper	Goal	Penalty is retaken and caution for goalkeeper
Ball kicked backwards	Indirect free kick	Indirect free kick
Illegal feinting	Indirect free kick and caution for kicker	Indirect free kick and caution for kicker
Wrong kicker	Indirect free kick and caution for wrong kicker	Indirect free kick and caution for wrong kicker
<u>Goalkeeper and kicker at the same time</u>	<u>Indirect free kick and caution for kicker</u>	<u>Retake and caution for kicker and goalkeeper</u>

IFAB®



Law

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The Throw-in

A throw-in is awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball passes over the touchline, on the ground or in the air.

A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw-in:

- if the ball enters the opponents' goal – a goal kick is awarded
- if the ball enters the thrower's goal – a corner kick is awarded

1. Procedure

At the moment of delivering the ball, the thrower must:

- face the field of play
- have part of each foot on the touchline or on the ground outside the touchline
- throw the ball with both hands from behind and over the head from the point where it left the field of play

All opponents must stand at least 2 m (2 yds) from the point at which the throw-in is taken.

The ball is in play when it enters the field of play. If the ball touches the ground before entering, the throw-in is retaken by the same team from the same position. If the throw-in is not taken correctly it is retaken by the opposing team.

If a player, while correctly taking a throw-in, intentionally throws the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but neither in a careless nor a reckless manner nor using excessive force, the referee allows play to continue.

The thrower must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

2. Offences and sanctions

If, after the ball is in play, the thrower touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the thrower deliberately handles the ball:

- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the thrower's penalty area unless the ball was handled by the defending team's goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

An opponent who unfairly distracts or impedes the thrower (including moving closer than 2 m (2 yds) to the place where the throw-in is to be taken) is cautioned for unsporting behaviour and if the throw-in has been taken an indirect free kick is awarded.

For any other offence the throw-in is taken by a player of the opposing team.



Law

16

The Goal Kick

A goal kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the attacking team, and a goal is not scored.

A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick, but only against the opposing team; if the ball directly enters the kicker's goal a corner kick is awarded to the opponents if the ball left the penalty area.

1. Procedure

- The ball must be stationary and is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team
- The ball is in play when it leaves the penalty area
- Opponents must be outside the penalty area until the ball is in play

2. Offences and sanctions

If the ball does not leave the penalty area or is touched by a player before it leaves the penalty area the kick is retaken.

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the kicker deliberately handles the ball:

- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the goal kick is taken, or enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it has touched another player, the goal kick is retaken.

If a player enters the penalty area before the ball is in play and fouls or is fouled by an opponent, the goal kick is retaken and the offender may be cautioned or sent off depending on the offence.

For any other offence the kick is retaken.



Law

17

The Corner Kick

A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the defending team, and a goal is not scored.

A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team; if the ball directly enters the kicker's goal a corner kick is awarded to the opponents.

1. Procedure

- The ball must be placed in the corner area nearest to the point where the ball passed over the goal line
- The ball must be stationary and is kicked by a player of the attacking team
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves; it does not need to leave the corner area
- The corner flagpost must not be moved
- Opponents must remain at least 9.15 m (10 yds) from the corner arc until the ball is in play

2. Offences and sanctions

If, after the ball is in play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick is awarded; if the kicker deliberately handles the ball:

- a direct free kick is awarded
- a penalty kick is awarded if the offence occurred inside the kicker's penalty area unless the kicker was the goalkeeper in which case an indirect free kick is awarded

If a player, while correctly taking a corner kick, intentionally kicks the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again but not in a careless or reckless manner or using excessive force, the referee allows play to continue.

For any other offence the kick is retaken.

IFAB®



Law changes

2017/18

Outline summary of Law changes

Here with a simple outline of the main changes/clarifications.

All Laws

- Replace 'infringement/infringe' etc. with 'offence/offend' etc.

Law 01 – The Field of Play

- Artificial turf may be used for the lines on a grass field if not dangerous

Law 03 – The Players

- National FAs can allow a maximum of five substitutions (except at the top level)
- National FAs can now allow return substitutions in youth, veterans and disability football
- Clearer wording for the substitution procedure
- A substitution made at half-time without informing referee is not a caution (YC) offence
- Changing the goalkeeper at half-time without informing the referee is not a caution (YC)
- Player who enters the field of play without the referee's permission (if it is required) and interferes is punished with a direct free kick (FK)
- Team scoring a goal with an extra person on the field is punished with a direct FK

Law 04 – The Players' Equipment

- Goalkeeper caps are not included in the list of restrictions on head covers
- Players are not permitted to wear/use any electronic or communication equipment, except electronic performance and tracking systems/EPTS); technical staff may only use communication equipment for safety/welfare issues
- All EPTS equipment must bear a minimum safety standard mark

Law 05 – The Referee

- Important statement that decisions made by match officials must always be respected
- National FAs can allow temporary dismissals (sin bins) for some/all cautions (YC) in youth, veterans, disability and grassroots football (Guidelines for both systems will be published)
- A medical official guilty of a dismissible offence may stay/treat players if no other medical person is available for the team

Law 07 – The Duration of the Match

- A short drinks break is permitted at half-time of extra time

Law 08 – The Start and Restart of Play

- Kicker can stand in the opponents' half at the kick-off

Law 10 – Determining the Outcome of a Match (new title)

- Extra time must be two equal periods, maximum 15 minutes each
- Kicks from the penalty mark (KFPM)
 - Corrected wording for goalkeeper who is unable to continue
 - Excluded player may replace a goalkeeper even if team has used all its permitted substitutes
 - Kicker may not play the ball a second time
 - A goalkeeper who offends and the penalty has to be retaken must be cautioned (YC)
 - If the kicker offends the kick is forfeited (recorded as 'missed')

- If the goalkeeper and kicker offend at the same time:
 - retake and two cautions (YCs) if no goal is scored
 - if a goal is scored the kicker is cautioned (YC) and kick recorded as ‘missed’

Law 11 – Offside

- An offside player can be penalised if the ball rebounds/deflects off a match official
- Addition of ‘attempts to’ to the definition of a ‘save’
- Offside guidance:
 - player in offside position who impedes an opponent must be penalised
 - player in offside position who is fouled before committing an offside offence
 - foul penalised
 - player in offside position who is fouled when already committing an offside offence – offside penalised

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

- Verbal offences are punished with an indirect FK
- If an advantage is played for a sending-off (RC) and the player commits another offence, that offence is penalised
- A player ‘stopping a promising attack’ in the penalty area is not cautioned (YC) if the offence was an attempt to play the ball
- Addition to list of cautions (YCs) for a ‘denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity’ (DOGSO) offence in the penalty area which was an attempt to play the ball
- Caution (YC) for goal celebration which causes safety/ security issue
- If player moves diagonally to pass the last defender/goalkeeper this can still be a DOGSO
- Clearer DOGSO wording for a penalty area offence which is an attempt to play the ball
- Entering the field of play without permission and stopping a goal or DOGSO is a sending-off
- Off-field offence by/against a player involving opposing player/substitute/ team official (or against a match official) is penalised by FK on the boundary line if the ball is in play

- Direct FK for throwing or kicking ball/object onto the field to interfere with play/someone
- Direct FK on boundary line for throwing or kicking ball/object at someone off the field

Law 13 – Free Kicks

- Attacker in or entering the penalty area before a defensive FK has left the area cannot play or challenge for the ball until it has been touched by another player

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick

- Kicker must be clearly identified
- If the goalkeeper and kicker offend at the same time:
 - retake and two cautions (YCs) if no goal is scored
 - if a goal is scored the kicker is cautioned (YC) and kick recorded as ‘missed’ + indirect FK (*see Law 10*)
- Goal can be awarded after outside interference if the ball still goes in the goal

Law 16 – The Goal Kick

- Attacker entering the penalty area cannot play or challenge for the ball until it is touched by another player



Details of all Law changes (in Law order)

The following are the main changes to the Laws of the Game which are not related to English/phraseology. 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 01 – The Field of Play

2. 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 03 – The Players

1. 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 1st 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.

1. Number of substitutions – Return substitutions

Old text

The use of return substitutions is only permitted in the lowest levels (grassroots/recreation) of football, subject to the agreement of the national football association.

New text

The use of return substitutions is only permitted in youth, veterans, disability and grassroots football, subject to the agreement of the national football association, confederation or FIFA.

Explanation

The use of return substitutions, which are already allowed in grassroots football, has been extended to youth, veterans and disability football (subject to permission of the national FA).

3. Substitution procedure

Old text

The substitution is completed when a substitute enters the field of play; from that moment the substitute becomes a player and the replaced player becomes a substituted player. Substitutes can take any restart provided they first enter the field of play.

New text

The substitution is completed when a substitute enters the field of play; from that moment, the replaced player becomes a substituted player and the substitute becomes a player and can take any restart.

Explanation

Clearer wording.

3. Substitution procedure

Additional text

If a substitution is made during the half-time interval or before extra time, the procedure must be completed before the match restarts. If the referee is not informed, the named substitute may continue to play, no disciplinary action is taken and the matter is reported to the appropriate authorities.

Explanation

Clarifies that a substitution made at these times without informing the referee is not a cautionable (YC) offence.

5. Offences and sanctions

Additional text

If a player changes places with the goalkeeper without the referee's permission, the referee:

- allows play to continue
- cautions both players when the ball is next out of play but not if the change occurred during half-time (including extra time) or the period between the end of the match and the start of extra time and/or kicks from the penalty mark

Explanation

Clarifies that changing places with the goalkeeper at these times without the referee being informed is not a cautionable (YC) offence.

8. Player outside the field of play

Old text

If, after leaving the field of play with the referee's permission, a player re-enters without the referee's permission, the referee must:

- stop play (not immediately if the player does not interfere with play or if the advantage can be applied)
- caution the player for entering the field of play without permission
- order the player to leave the field of play (if necessary)

If the referee stops play, it must be restarted:

- with an indirect free kick from the position of the ball when play was stopped
- in accordance with Law 12 if the player infringes this Law

New text

If a player who requires the referee's permission to re-enter the field of play re-enters without the referee's permission, the referee must:

- stop play (not immediately if the player does not interfere with play or a match official or if the advantage can be applied) (...)
- caution the player for entering the field of play without permission

If the referee stops play, it must be restarted:

- with a direct free kick from the position of the interference
- with an indirect free kick from the position of the ball when play was stopped if there was no interference

Explanation

- A player who re-enters the field of play without the referee's permission (when required) and interferes with the game is now punished with a direct free kick (as for a substitute/team official)
- It is unnecessary to require the offending player to leave the field of play after the caution (YC).

9. Goal scored with an extra person on the field of play

Old text

If, after a goal is scored, the referee realises, before play restarts, an extra person was on the field of play when the goal was scored:

- the referee must disallow the goal if:
 - a player, substitute, substituted player, sent off player or team official of the team that scored the goal (...)

Play is restarted with a goal kick, corner kick or dropped ball.

New text

If, after a goal is scored, the referee realises, before play restarts, an extra person was on the field of play when the goal was scored:

- the referee must disallow the goal if the extra person was:
 - a player, substitute, substituted player, sent off player or team official of the team that scored the goal; play is restarted with a direct free kick from the position of the extra person (...)

Explanation

This makes the Law consistent with the 2016/17 change which penalises a substitute/team official who enters the field of play without permission with a direct free kick.

Law 04 – The Players' Equipment

4. Other equipment – Head Covers

Additional text

Where head covers (excluding goalkeepers' caps) are worn, they must: (...)

Explanation

Clarifies that goalkeepers' caps are not included in the list of restrictions on head covers.

4. Other equipment – Electronic communication

Old text

The use of any form of electronic communication between players (including substitutes/substituted and sent off players) and/or technical staff is not permitted.

New text

Players (including substitutes/ substituted and sent off players) are not permitted to wear or use any form of electronic or communication equipment (except where EPTS is allowed). The use of any form of electronic communication by team officials is not permitted except where it directly relates to player welfare or safety.

Explanation

- The new wording makes it completely clear that apart from EPTS devices, players must not use or wear any form of electronic equipment or communication equipment (e.g. camera, microphone, earpiece etc.). This is to preserve the integrity of the game so that no one can communicate with players during the match, except the 'transparent' verbal tactical information from coaches.
- Player safety is very important so electronic communication is permitted for the safety and welfare of the players e.g. using a lapel microphone to ask for a stretcher, ambulance or using assessment equipment (e.g. iPad) for a head injury.

4. Other equipment – Electronic performance and tracking systems (EPTS)

Additional text

Where wearable technology (WT) as part of electronic performance and tracking systems (EPTS) is used in matches played in an official competition organised under the auspices of FIFA, confederations or national football associations, the technology attached to the player's equipment must bear the following mark:



This mark indicates that it has been officially tested and meets the minimum safety requirements of the International Match Standard developed by FIFA and approved by The IFAB. The institutes conducting the tests are subject to the approval of FIFA. The transition period runs until 31 May 2018.

Explanation

It is important that any EPTS used by players is certified as having satisfied established minimum safety criteria. This requirement is compulsory as from 1 June 2017; systems already in use have a transition period for compliance which ends on 31 May 2018.

Law 05 – The Referee

2. Decisions of the referee

Additional text

The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final. The decisions of the referee, and all other match officials, must always be respected.

Explanation

It is a fundamental principle of football that match officials' decisions must always be respected (even when they are incorrect).

3. Powers and duties – Disciplinary action

Additional text

The referee (...)

- has the power to show yellow or red cards and, where competition rules permit, temporarily dismiss a player, from entering the field at the start of the match until after the match (...)

Explanation

National FAs may now allow temporary dismissals in youth, veterans, disability and grassroots football.

3. Powers and duties – Disciplinary action

Additional text

The referee (...)

- takes action against team officials who fail to act in a responsible manner and may expel them from the field of play and its immediate surrounds; a medical team official who commits a dismissible offence may remain if the team has no other medical person available, and act if a player needs medical attention.

Explanation

A team's medical person who should be dismissed from the technical area is allowed to remain and treat injured players if the team does not have another medical person available.

Law 07 – The Duration of the Match

1. Half-time interval

Additional text

Players are entitled to an interval at half-time, not exceeding 15 minutes; a short drinks break is permitted at the interval of half-time in extra time.

Explanation

Consideration of players' welfare means that it is sensible to allow the players a quick drinks break at the half-time interval in extra time; the break is not for coaching purposes.

Law 08 – The Start and Restart of Play

1. Kick-off

Additional text

For every kick-off:

- all players, except the player taking the kick-off, must be in their own half of the field of play
- (...)
- a goal may be scored directly against the opponents from the kick-off; if the ball directly enters the kicker's goal, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents

Explanation

- The 'new' kick-off (ball played backwards) is popular but often the kicker has to step into the opponents' half to take the kick; the new wording allows this.
- It is a corner kick to the opponents if the kick-off goes directly into the kicker's own goal.

Law 10 – Determining the Outcome of a Match

2. Winning team

Additional text

When competition rules require a winning team after a drawn match or home-and-away tie, the only permitted procedures to determine the winning team are:

- away goals rule
- two equal periods of extra time not exceeding 15 minutes each
- kicks from the penalty mark

A combination of the above procedures may be used.

Explanation

Clarifies that there must be two equal periods of extra time of no more than 15 minutes each and that a combination of different methods to determine the winner is permitted.

3. Kicks from the penalty mark – Before kicks from the penalty mark start

Old text

- With the exception of a substitute for an injured goalkeeper, (...)

New text

- With the exception of a substitute for a goalkeeper who is unable to continue, (...)

Explanation

Wording changed to be the same as in another part of Law 10.

3. Kicks from the penalty mark – Before kicks from the penalty mark start

Old text	New text
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A goalkeeper who is unable to continue before or during the kicks and whose team has not used its maximum permitted number of substitutes, may be replaced by a named substitute, or a player excluded to equalise the number of players, but takes no further part and may not take a kick 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A goalkeeper who is unable to continue before or during the kicks may be replaced by <u>a player excluded to equalise the number of players or, if their team has not used its maximum permitted number of substitutes,</u> a named substitute, but <u>the replaced goalkeeper</u> takes no further part and may not take a kick

Explanation

Clarifies that:

- a player who has been excluded to equalise the numbers can replace the goalkeeper even if the team has used all its substitutes
- a goalkeeper who is replaced has ended their involvement in the KFPM.

3. Kicks from the penalty mark – During kicks from the penalty mark

Additional text

- The kick is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play or the referee stops play for any offence; the kicker may not play the ball a second time

Explanation

Clarifies that the kicker can not play the ball a second time.

3. Kicks from the penalty mark – During kicks from the penalty mark

Additional text

- If the goalkeeper commits an offence and, as a result, the kick is retaken, the goalkeeper must be cautioned.

Explanation

Clarifies that a goalkeeper who offends and causes a retake must be cautioned (YC).

3. Kicks from the penalty mark – During kicks from the penalty mark

Additional text

- If the kicker is penalised for an offence committed after the referee has signalled for the kick to be taken, that kick is recorded as missed and the kicker is cautioned.

Explanation

Clarifies that if the kicker offends the kick is forfeited (recorded as 'missed') i.e. no retake.

3. Kicks from the penalty mark – During kicks from the penalty mark

Additional text

- If both the goalkeeper and kicker commit an offence at the same time:
 - if the kick is missed or saved, the kick is retaken and both players cautioned
 - if the kick is scored, the goal is disallowed, the kick is recorded as missed and the kicker cautioned

Explanation

Clarifies the outcome when both the goalkeeper and kicker offend at the same time, which is a rare situation as usually one will have offended first. There are different outcomes because:

- if the kick is missed/saved (because of the goalkeeper's offence) both players have committed a cautionable (YC) offence so both are cautioned (YC) and the kick is retaken
 - if the goal is scored, the goalkeeper has not committed a cautionable (YC) offence but as the kicker's offence is cautionable (YC) it is 'more serious' (see Law 5) and is penalised.
-

Law 11 – Offside**2. Offside offence****Additional text**

A player in an offside position at the moment the ball is played or touched by a team-mate is only penalised on becoming involved in active play by:

- gaining an advantage by playing the ball or interfering with an opponent when it has:
 - rebounded or been deflected off the goalpost, crossbar, match official or an opponent

Explanation

Clarifies that if the ball rebounds or is deflected off a match official to a player who was in an offside position, that player can be penalised for an offside offence.

2. Offside offence**Additional text**

A 'save' is when a player stops, or attempts to stop, a ball which is going into or very close to their goal with any part of the body except the hands/arms (unless the goalkeeper within their penalty area).

Explanation

More accurate definition of a 'save'.

2. Offside offence

Additional text

In situations where:

- a player moving from, or standing in, an offside position is in the way of an opponent and interferes with the movement of the opponent towards the ball this is an offside offence if it impacts on the ability of the opponent to play or challenge for the ball; if the player moves into the way of an opponent and impedes the opponent's progress (e.g. blocks the opponent) the offence should be penalised under Law 12.
- a player in an offside position is moving towards the ball with the intention of playing the ball and is fouled before playing or attempting to play the ball, or challenging an opponent for the ball, the foul is penalised as it has occurred before the offside offence
- an offence is committed against a player in an offside position who is already playing or attempting to play the ball, or challenging an opponent for the ball, the offside offence is penalised as it has occurred before the foul challenge

Explanation

Clarification of situations where:

- a player in an offside position away from the ball commits an offence which impacts on the ability of the defender(s) to play or challenge for the ball
 - an offence is committed against a player who is in an offside position.
-

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct

2. Indirect free kick

Additional text

An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:

- (...)
- is guilty of dissent, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures or other verbal offences
- (...)

Explanation

Clarifies that verbal/gesture offences are punished with an indirect free kick even if there is a caution (YC) or sending-off (RC); some have wrongly interpreted the direct free kick for a 'offences against a match official' to include dissent etc. but it only applies to physical offences.

3. Disciplinary action – Advantage

Additional text

Advantage should not be applied in situations involving serious foul play, violent conduct or a second cautionable offence unless there is a clear opportunity to score a goal. (...) if the player plays the ball or challenges/interferes with an opponent, the referee will stop play, send off the player and restart with an indirect free kick, unless the player committed a more serious offence.

Explanation

Clarifies that if a player commits a sending-off (RC) offence and the referee plays the advantage, if the player then commits another offence it should be penalised e.g. the player fouls an opponent.

3. Disciplinary action – Cautions for unsporting behaviour

Additional text

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour, including if a player:

- handles the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack
- commits a foul which interferes with or stops a promising attack except where the referee awards a penalty kick for an offence which was an attempt to play the ball

Explanation

Removal of a caution (YC) for stopping a promising attack when a penalty kick is awarded for an offence which was an attempt to play the ball is consistent with a caution (YC), not a sending-off (RC) if the referee awards a penalty kick for a DOGSO offence which is an attempt to play the ball.

3. Disciplinary action – Cautions for unsporting behaviour

Additional text

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour, including if a player:

- denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by an offence which was an attempt to play the ball and the referee awards a penalty kick

Explanation

As a DOGSO offence in the penalty area involving an attempt to play the ball is now punished with a caution (YC) and not a sending-off (RC) this offence is added to the list of cautionable (YC) offences.

3. Disciplinary action – Celebration of a goal

Additional text

There are different circumstances when a player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour, including if a player:

- climbing onto a perimeter fence and/or approaching the spectators in a manner which causes safety and/or security issues
- gesturing or acting in a provocative, derisory or inflammatory way

Explanation

Any action which causes safety/security concerns, or is provocative etc. must be cautioned (YC).

3. Disciplinary action – Sending-off offences

Old text

A player, substitute or substituted player who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the opponents' goal by an offence punishable by a free kick (unless as outlined below).

New text

A player, substitute or substituted player who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick (unless as outlined below).

Explanation

- Clarifies that denying a goal by committing an offence is a sending-off (RC) offence.
- Use of 'offender' clarifies the text, which was potentially misleading/incorrect.
- Use of 'overall movement' clarifies that if, in the final stage, the attacker moves diagonally to go past a goalkeeper/defender an obvious goal-scoring opportunity can still exist.

3. Disciplinary action – Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity

Old text

Where a player commits an offence against an opponent within their own penalty area which denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned unless:

- the offence is holding, pulling or pushing; or
- the offending player does not attempt to play the ball or there is no possibility for the player making the challenge to play the ball; or
- the offence is one which is punishable by a red card wherever it occurs on the field of play (e.g. serious foul play, violent conduct etc.)

New text

Where a player commits an offence against an opponent which denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned if the offence was an attempt to play the ball; in all other circumstances (e.g. holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball etc.) the offending player must be sent off.

Explanation

Clearer wording – no change in the Law or its application.

3. Disciplinary action – Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity

Additional text

A player, sent off player, substitute or substituted player who enters the field of play without the required referee's permission and interferes with play or an opponent and denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity is guilty of a sending-off offence.

Explanation

Clarifies that someone who enters the field of play without the referee's permission (including when a player requires permission to return to the field e.g. after an injury) and prevents a goal, or denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity, has committed a sending-off (RC) offence, even if no other offence is committed.

3. Disciplinary action – Offences where an object (or the ball) is thrown

Old text

If, while the ball is in play, a player, substitute or substituted player throws an object (including the ball) at an opponent and or any other person the referee must stop play and if the offence was:

- reckless – caution the offender for unsporting behaviour
- using excessive force – send off the offender for violent conduct

New text

In all cases, the referee takes the appropriate disciplinary action:

- reckless – caution the offender for unsporting behaviour
- using excessive force – send off the offender for violent conduct

Explanation

Clearer wording – no change in the Law or its application.

4. Restart of play after fouls and misconduct

Old text	New text
<p>If the ball is in play and a player commits an offence inside the field of play against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (...) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a team mate, substitute, substituted player, team official or match official – a direct free kick or penalty kick (...) <p>If the ball is in play and a player commits an offence outside the field of play:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if the player is already off the field of play, play is restarted with a dropped ball • if the player leaves the field of play to commit the offence, play is restarted with an indirect free kick from the position of the ball when play was stopped. However, if a player leaves the field of play as part of play and commits an offence against another player, play is restarted with a free kick taken on the boundary line nearest to where the offence occurred; for direct free kick offences, a penalty kick is awarded if this is within the offender's penalty area. 	<p>If the ball is in play and a player commits an offence inside the field of play:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (...) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a team mate, substitute, substituted <u>or sent off</u> player, team official or match official – a direct free kick or penalty kick (...) <p>If, when the ball is in play:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a player commits an offence <u>against a match official or an opposing player, substitute, substituted or sent off player, or team official</u> outside the field of play or • <u>a substitute, substituted or sent off player, or team official commits an offence against, or interferes with, an opposing player or match official outside the field of play,</u> <p><u>play is restarted with a free kick on the boundary line nearest to where the offence/interference occurred; a penalty kick is awarded if this is a direct free kick offence within the offender's penalty area.</u></p>

Explanation

- It is a direct free kick if an offence is committed on the field of play against a sent-off player.
- A player who commits an offence against an opposing player/substitute/team official or match official off the field of play is penalised with a free kick on the boundary line e.g. a player strikes an opposing substitute/team official.
- A substitute/team official who commits an offence against an opposing player or match official off the field is penalised with a free kick on the boundary line e.g. a substitute strikes a player waiting to return after injury or trips a player who has temporarily left the field of play to chase the ball.
- This Law does not apply for offences between substitutes or team official – it is only for an offence by or against one of the players.

4. Restart of play after fouls and misconduct

Old text

If a player standing on or off the field of play throws an object at an opponent, play is restarted with a direct free kick or penalty kick from the position where the object struck or would have struck the opponent

Play is restarted with an indirect free kick if a:

- player standing inside the field of play throws an object at any person outside the field of play
- substitute or substituted player throws an object standing inside the field of play

New text

If a player standing on or off the field of play throws an object (including the ball) at an opposing player, substitute, substituted or sent off player, or team official, match official or the ball, play is restarted with a direct free kick from the position where the object struck or would have struck the person or the ball. If this position is off the field of play, the free kick is taken on the nearest point on the boundary line; a penalty kick is awarded if this is within the offender's penalty area

If a substitute, substituted or sent off player, player temporarily off the field of play or team official throws or kicks an object onto the field of play and it interferes with play, an opponent or match official, play is restarted with a direct free kick (or penalty kick) where the object interfered with play or struck or would have struck the opponent, match official or the ball.

Explanation

- If a player throws an object at someone off the field of play the free kick is awarded on the boundary line nearest to where the object hit or would have hit the person; this will be a penalty kick if within the offender's penalty area.
- The outcome/impact of throwing or kicking an object onto the field of play is the same as if the person committed the offence directly, so the punishment is the same.

Law 13 – Free Kicks

3. Offences and sanctions

Additional and amended text

If, when a free kick is taken by the defending team from inside its penalty area, any opponents are inside the penalty area because they did not have time to leave, the referee allows play to continue. If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the free kick is taken, or enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it has touched another player, the free kick is retaken.

Explanation

This change makes the requirements for a defensive free kick in the penalty area consistent with the requirements at a goal kick (Law 16).

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick**1. Procedure****Old text**

The player taking the penalty kick must be properly identified.

New text

The player taking the penalty kick must be clearly identified.

Explanation

Clearer text.

1. Procedure**Additional text**

Additional time is allowed for a penalty kick to be taken at the end of each half of the match and extra time. When additional time is allowed, the penalty kick is completed when, after the kick has been taken, the ball stops moving, goes out of play, is played by any player (including the kicker) other than the defending goalkeeper, or the referee stops play for an offence by the kicker or the kicker's team. If a defending team player (including the goalkeeper) commits an offence and the penalty is missed/saved, the penalty is retaken.

Explanation

Clarifies when a penalty is completed when time has been extended for the penalty kick to be taken.

2. Offences and sanctions**Additional text**

- if both the goalkeeper and kicker commit an offence at the same time:
 - if the kick is missed or saved, the kick is retaken and both players cautioned
 - if the kick is scored, the goal is disallowed, the kicker is cautioned and play restarts with an indirect free kick to the defending team

Explanation

Clarifies the outcome when both the goalkeeper and kicker offend at the same time, which is rare as usually one will have clearly been the first to offend.

There are different outcomes because:

- if the kick is missed/saved (because of the goalkeeper's offence) both players have committed a cautionable (YC) offence
- if a goal is scored the goalkeeper has not committed a cautionable (YC) offence but as the kicker's offence is cautionable (YC) it is 'more serious' (see Law 5) and is therefore penalised.

2. Offences and sanctions

Additional text

- the ball is touched by an outside agent as it moves forward:
 - ▶ the kick is retaken unless the ball is going into the goal and the interference does not prevent the goalkeeper or a defending player playing the ball, in which case the goal is awarded if the ball enters the goal (even if contact was made with the ball) unless the ball enters the opponents' goal.

Explanation

Clarifies what should happen if there is interference with a ball going into the goal at a penalty kick.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick

2. Offences and sanctions

Additional text

If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the goal kick is taken, or enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it has touched another player, the goal kick is retaken.

Explanation

Clarifies the action to be taken if a player enters the penalty area before the ball is in play.

IFAB®



Glossary

The Glossary contains words/phrases which need clarification or explanation beyond the detail in the Laws and/or which are not always easily translated into other languages.

Football bodies

The IFAB – The International Football Association Board

Body composed of the four British FAs and FIFA which is responsible for the Laws of the Game worldwide. In principle, changes to the Laws may only be approved at the Annual General Meeting usually held in February or March

FIFA – Fédération Internationale de Football Association

The governing body responsible for football throughout the world

Confederation

Body responsible for football in a continent. The six confederations are AFC (Asia), CAF (Africa), CONCACAF (North, Central America and Caribbean), CONMEBOL (South America), OFC (Oceania) and UEFA (Europe)

National Football Association

Body responsible for football in a country

Football terms

A

Abandon

To end/terminate a match before the scheduled finish

Advantage

The referee allows play to continue when an offence has occurred if this benefits the non-offending team

Additional time

Time allowed at the end of each half for time 'lost' because of substitutions, injuries, disciplinary action, goal celebration etc.

Assessment of injured player

Quick examination of an injury, usually by a medical person, to see if the player requires treatment

Away goals rule

Method of deciding a match/tie when both teams have scored the same number of goals; goals scored away from home count double

B

Brutality

An act which is savage, ruthless or deliberately violent

C

Caution

Official sanction which results in a report to a disciplinary authority; indicated by showing a yellow card; two cautions in a match result a player being dismissed (sent off)

Charge (an opponent)

Physical challenge against an opponent, usually using the shoulder and upper arm (which is kept close to the body)

D

Deceive

Act to mislead/trick the referee into giving an incorrect decision/disciplinary sanction which benefits the deceiver and/or their team

Direct free kick

A free kick from which a goal can be scored by kicking the ball directly into the opponents' goal

Discretion

Judgment used by a referee or other match official when making a decision

Dismissal

Another word for 'sending-off' (red card)

Dissent

Public disagreement (verbal and/or physical) with a match official's decision; punishable by a caution (yellow card)

Distract

Disturb, confuse or draw attention (usually unfairly)

Dropped ball

A 'neutral' method of restarting play – the referee drops the ball between players of both teams; the ball is in play when it touches the ground

E

Electronic performance and tracking system (EPTS)

System which records and analyses data about the physical and physiological performance of a player

Endanger the safety of an opponent

Put an opponent at danger or risk (of injury)

Excessive force

Using more force/energy than is necessary

Extra time

A method of trying to decide the outcome of a match involving two equal additional periods of play not exceeding 15 minutes each

F

Feinting

An action which attempts to confuse an opponent. The Laws define permitted and 'illegal' feinting

Field of play (Pitch)

The playing area confined by the touchlines and goal lines and goal nets where used

G

Goal line technology (GLT)

Electronic system which immediately informs the referee when a goal has been scored i.e. the ball has wholly passed over the goal line in the goal
(See Law 1 for details)

H

Hybrid system

A combination of artificial and natural materials to create a playing surface which requires sunlight, water, air circulation and mowing

I

Indirect free kick

A free kick from which a goal can only be scored if another player (of any team) touches the ball after it has been kicked

Impede

To delay, block or prevent an opponent's action or movement

Intentional

A deliberate action (not an accident)

Intercept

To prevent a ball reaching its intended destination

K

Kicks from the penalty mark

Method of deciding the result of a match by each team alternately taking kicks until one team has scored one more goal and both teams have taken the same number of kicks (unless during the first 5 kicks for each team, one team could not equal the other team's score even if they scored from all their remaining kicks)

N

Negligible

Insignificant, minimal

O

Offence

An action which breaks/violates the Laws of the Game

Offensive, insulting or abusive language

Verbal or physical behaviour which is rude, hurtful, disrespectful; punishable by a sending-off (red card)

Outside agent

Any person who is not a match official or on the team list (players, substitutes and team officials)

P

Penalise

To punish, usually by stopping play and awarding a free kick or penalty kick to the opposing team (*see also Advantage*)

Played

Action by a player which makes contact with the ball

Playing distance

Distance to the ball which allows a player to touch the ball by extending the foot/leg or jumping or, for goalkeepers, jumping with arms extended. Distance depends on the physical size of the player

Q

Quick free kick

A free kick taken (with the referee's permission) very quickly after play was stopped

R

Reckless

Any action (usually a tackle or challenge) by a player which disregards (ignores) the danger to, or consequences for, the opponent

Restart

Any method of resuming play after it has been stopped

S

Sanction

Disciplinary action taken by the referee

Save

An action by a player to stop or attempt to stop the ball when it is going into or very close to the goal using any part of the body except the hands/arms (unless a goalkeeper within their own penalty area)

Send off (Dismissal)

Disciplinary action when a player is required to leave the field for the remainder of the match having committed a sending-off offence (indicated by a red card); if the match has started the player can not be replaced

Serious foul play

A tackle or challenge for the ball that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality; punishable by a sending-off (red card)

Signal

Physical indication from the referee or any match official; usually involves movement of the hand or arm or flag, or use of the whistle (referee only)

Simulation

An action which creates a wrong/false impression that something has occurred when it has not (*see also deceive*); committed by a player to gain an unfair advantage

Spirit of the game

The main/essential principles/ethos of football

Suspend

To stop a match for a period of time with the intention of eventually restarting play e.g. fog, heavy rain, thunderstorm, serious injury

T**Tackle**

A challenge for the ball with the foot (on the ground or in the air)

Team official

Any non-player listed on the official team list e.g. coach, physiotherapist, doctor (*see technical staff*)

Team list

Official team document usually listing the players, substitutes and team officials

Technical staff

Official non-playing team members listed on the official team list e.g. coach, physiotherapist, doctor (*see team official*)

Technical area

Defined area (in stadia) for the team officials which includes seating
(See Law 1 for details)

Temporary dismissal

A temporary suspension from the next part of the match for a player guilty of some/all cautionable offences (depending on competition rules)

U

Undue interference

Action/influence which is unnecessary

Unsporting behaviour

Unfair action/behaviour; punishable by a caution

V

Violent conduct

An action, which is not a challenge for the ball, which uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent or when a player deliberately strikes someone on the head or face unless the force used is negligible