

Area 13 I Referee Update

March 2019

8U

- ❖ Restarts – when the ball goes across the touchline, play can be restarted by either throw-ins, pass-ins or dribble-ins, the region must select one and use that method to restart play for the entire season
- ❖ Free Kicks – all are indirect free kicks
- ❖ Distance – opponents must be 5 yards away on all restarts

10U

- ❖ Heading – heading in this age division is not allowed and the restart is an indirect free kick, similar to deliberately handling the ball
- ❖ Build-out line – still in effect, the line is half way between the top of the penalty area and the midfield line. It can be marked by a solid line, dotted line or cones on the touchlines and the line can be the same color as the other lines on the field or a different color
 - Opponents – for goal kicks or when the goalkeeper has possession, opponents must immediately retreat behind the build-out line, and the referee should vocally encourage defending players to retreat behind the build-out line. Defenders may advance only after the ball is put back into play, for goal kicks when the entire ball leaves the penalty area or for goalkeeper possession when the goalkeeper releases the ball. If the goalkeeper puts the ball into play before the opponents have retreated behind the build-out line the opponents do not have to retreat behind the line before making a play for the ball
 - Goalkeeper – cannot punt or drop kick the ball to return to play, the acceptable method is to throw or roll the ball back into play. The 6 seconds time limit for the goalkeeper to release the ball into play does not start until all opponents have retreated behind the build-out line. The goalkeeper can put the ball into play before all opponents have retreated behind the build-out line if the goalkeeper choose to do so and the opponents do not have to retreat behind the build-out line before attacking the ball
 - Encroachment – if a player or team crosses the build-out line before the ball is in play, the restart is retake the goal kick for a goal kick or an indirect free kick at the spot of the foul by the defender for the goalkeeper releasing the ball (remember if the goalkeeper puts the ball into play before the defenders retreat they are allowed to attack the ball as long as it is in play). If a player or team repeatedly encroaches before the ball is in play, the referee can award an indirect free kick at the build-out line
 - Play and the build-out line – the ball can be played on either side of the build-out line. Meaning that as long as the ball is legally returned to play, either team's players can attack the ball before it crosses the build-out line
- ❖ Offside – is only judged from the build-out line to the goal line for the attacking team, there is no offside offense from the midfield line to the build-out line for the attacking team. This is only for 10U games

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12U

- ❖ Punting or drop kicking – the goalkeeper is now permitted to return the ball into play when it is in the goalkeeper possession by either punting or drop kicking the ball
- ❖ Heading – heading in this age division is not allowed and the restart is an indirect free kick, similar to deliberately handling the ball

Additional Changes

- ❖ Law 4 (Player's Equipment) – if a player leaves the field for equipment issues and returns without permission and interferes with play the restart is a direct free kick or penalty kick. Also, player should be cautioned about entering field of play without permission
- ❖ Law 5 (The Referee) – referees are not permitted to wear cameras
- ❖ Law 10 (Determining the Outcome of a Match) – when kicks from the penalty mark are used to determine the outcome of a match, a replacement for an injured goalkeeper cannot take a kick in that round if the goalkeeper was one of the players designated to take and kick and has already taken that kick (if the goalkeeper has not taken the kick then the replacement is allowed to take the kick)
- ❖ Law 12 (Fouls and Misconduct)
 - Biting – is a direct free kick foul and also a sending-off offense
 - Spitting – at anyone (opponent, teammate, referee, coach, substitute, spectator, etc.) is a direct free kick and a sending-off offense
 - Throwing or hitting the ball with an object – throwing anything at the ball or hitting the ball with anything (examples – shoe, water bottle, glove, shin guard, etc.) is a direct free kick foul (or penalty kick)
 - Denying Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity (DOGSO) – if the referee plays advantage on a DOGSO and a goal is not scored, the referee should show a Yellow Card to the player
 - Cautions – when 2 separate cautionable offense are committed in close proximity, both cautions must be issued
 - Foul outside field of play – if a player commits an offense outside the field of play while the ball is in play against anyone it is an indirect free kick on the appropriate boundary line
- ❖ Law 15 (Throw-in) – a player must stand to take a throw in, kneeling, sitting, etc. are not permitted