

Updates to Laws of the Game

2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23

Updated LOTG 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23

- No major changes previous two years (2020/21) (2021/22). IFAB General Meeting for 22/23 postponed.
- 3/25 approved the proposed Law changes and clarifications that were agreed on at the [2021 Annual Business Meeting](#).
 - More clarifications or consistency updates
 - Will ignore updates to the number of substitutions allowed in this presentation
- Law updates become mandatory on **July 1, 2022**

Documentation

- IFAB Documentation may be found at
 - www.theifab.com/log-documents
- AYSOVolunteers.org
 - AYSO Reference Book (National Rules and Regulations)
- ETU Document Library
 - AYSO Referee Guideline (AYSO Addendum to LOTG)
 - National Referee Program
 - Referee Instructor Resource Book
 - Regional Referee Administrator Manual
 - Recruiting and Retaining Referees
 - Referee Mentor Handbook

Law 1: The Field of Play

Change addresses the shape of the goal posts:

10. Goals

A goal must be placed on the centre of each goal line.

A goal consists of two vertical posts equidistant from the corner flagposts and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The goalposts and crossbar must be made of approved material. They must be square, rectangular, round, elliptical or a combination of these shapes and must not be dangerous.

The goalposts and crossbar (and goals) must be the same shape and both goals must be the same (LOTG 21/22)

No significant impact on AYSO matches

Law 2: The Ball

Replacement of a defective ball during play:

2. Replacement of a defective ball

If the ball becomes defective:

- play is stopped and
- restarted with a dropped ball

Change made to be consistent with Law 8

Law 7: The Duration of the Match

Stoppage time relates to “lost” playing time (21/22)

We usually cannot add stoppage time in AYSO matches due to back-to-back matches

Law 8: The Start and Restart of Play

Clarification that the referee tosses the coin to determine the “ends” and kick-off (22/23)

The referee tosses the coin and the team that wins the toss decides

Law 10: Determining the Outcome of a Match

Clarification that a team official may be cautioned or sent off during kicks from the penalty mark (22/23)

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. A player who has been sent off during the match is not permitted to take part; warnings and cautions issued during the match are not carried forward into kicks from the penalty mark.

Warnings and cautions are not carried forward for players or team officials

Law 10: KFTPM (cont.)

During kicks from the penalty mark:

- If the goalkeeper commits an offence and, as a result, the kick is retaken, the goalkeeper is warned for the first offence and cautioned for any subsequent offence(s)
- If both the goalkeeper and the kicker commit an offence at the same time, the kick is recorded as missed and the kicker is cautioned

Please remember we are dealing with youth players and apply any discipline accordingly

Law 11: Offside

Provides clarification when “deliberate handball” is also a “deliberate play”:

Offside Offence

A player in an offside position receiving the ball from an opponent who deliberately plays the ball, including by deliberate handball, is not considered to have gained an advantage, unless it was a deliberate save by any opponent.

A “deliberate handball” is considered to be a “deliberate play”
when judging a potential offside offence

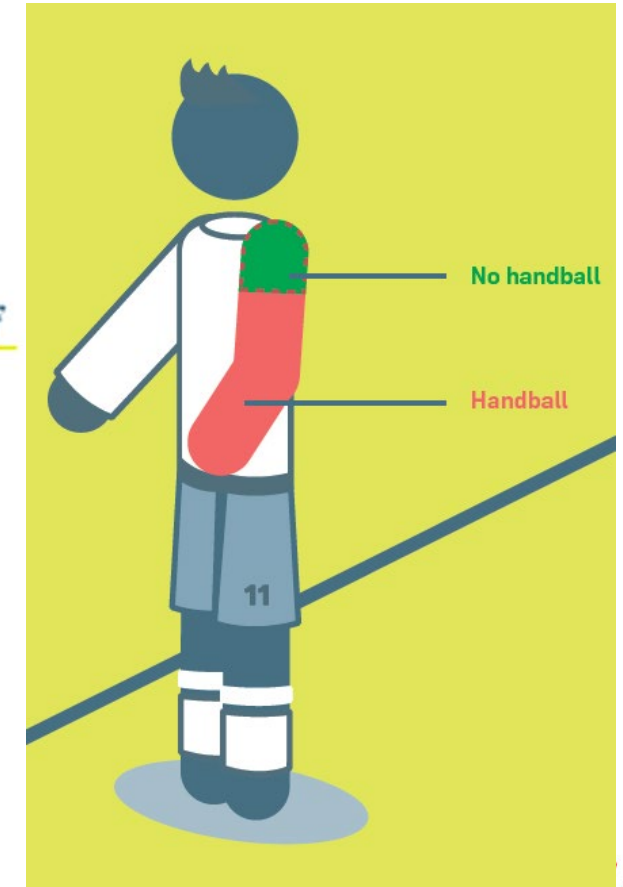
Law 12: Fouls and Misconduct

Clarifications to handball offence:

Handling the ball

For the purposes of determining handball offences, the upper boundary of the arm is in line with the bottom of the armpit.

Use Law 12 definition where the arm ends at the bottom of the armpit when judging offside position (2021/22)



Law 12: Handball Offence (cont.) – LOTG 21/22

It is a handball offence if a player:

- Deliberately touches the ball with their hand/arm, for example moving the hand/arm towards the ball;
- Touches the ball with their hand/arm when it has made their body unnaturally bigger. A player is considered to have made their body unnaturally bigger when the position of their hand/arm is not a consequence of, or justifiable by, the player's body movement for that specific situation. By having their hand/arm in such a position, the player takes a risk of their hand/arm being hit by the ball and penalized; or
- Scores in the opponent's goal:
 - Directly from their hand/arm, even if accidental, including by the goalkeeper; or
 - Immediately after the ball has touched their hand/arm, even if accidental.

Accidental handball that leads to a teammate scoring a goal or having a goal scoring opportunity will NO LONGER be considered an offence

Law 12: “Illegal” 2nd Touch by GK

Specifies sanction on GK when “illegal” 2nd touch stops a promising attack:
(Clarification: goalkeeper is not sent off if this is within their penalty area 22/23)

The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area. If the goalkeeper handles the ball inside their penalty area when not permitted to do so, an indirect free kick is awarded but there is no disciplinary sanction. However, if the offence is playing the ball a second time (with or without the hand/arm) after a restart before it touches another player, the goalkeeper must be sanctioned if the offence stops a promising attack or denies an opponent or the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.

Apply discipline in an age-appropriate manner

Law 12: No “Delayed” Caution after Quick FK

Clarifies sanction on quick free kick after DOGSO/SPA offence:

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, unless the non-offending team takes a quick free kick, has a clear goal-scoring opportunity and the referee has not started the disciplinary sanction procedure. The sanction is administered at the next stoppage; if the offence was denying the opposing team an obvious goal-scoring opportunity, the player is cautioned; if the offence interfered with or stopped a promising attack, the player is not cautioned.

Makes downgrade of sanction for SPA offence consistent with DOGSO offence when play is restarted via quick FK

Law 12: No “Delayed” Caution after Advantage

Advantage

If the referee plays the advantage for an offence for which a caution/sending-off would have been issued had play been stopped, this caution/sending-off must be issued when the ball is next out of play. However, if the offence was denying the opposing team an obvious goal-scoring opportunity, the player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour; if the offence was interfering with or stopping a promising attack, the player is not cautioned.

Makes downgrade of sanction for SPA offence consistent with DOGSO offence when advantage is allowed

Law 12: FRRD Caution for Dropped Ball

Failure to respect the required distance when play restarted by a DB is now a YC:

Cautionable offences

- failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a dropped ball, corner kick, free kick or throw-in

Provides consistency with similar offences

Law 12: Caution for USB

Clarifies that USB caution may be for an offence that is not a foul:

Cautions for unsporting behaviour

- commits any other offence 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

Maintains consistency with other sections of Law 12

Law 12: Indirect Free Kicks (LOTG 2021/22)

2. Indirect free kick

Additional text

An indirect free kick is awarded if a player:

- (...)
 - initiates a deliberate trick for the ball to be passed (including from a free kick or goal 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; the goalkeeper is penalised if responsible for initiating the deliberate trick
 - commits any other offence (...)
- (...)

This is a circumstance where the player initiating the deliberate trick must be cautioned for unsporting behavior

Law 12: Direct and Indirect Free Kicks

Clarifies that a free kick/penalty kick can only be awarded for an offence committed against someone on the team lists or match official

1. Direct free kick

Additional text

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

- (...)
- bites or spits at someone on the team lists or a match official

If the referee stops play for an offence committed by a player, inside or outside the field of play, against an outside agent, play is restarted with a dropped ball, unless a free kick is awarded for leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.

Restart is an indirect free kick from the point on the boundary line where the player left the field of play (22/23)

Law 14: The Penalty Kick

Clarifies sanctions if GK commits an offence during PK:

- the goalkeeper offends:
 - if the ball enters the goal, a goal is awarded
 - if the ball misses the goal or rebounds from the crossbar or goalpost(s), the kick is only retaken if the goalkeeper's offence clearly impacted on the kicker
 - if the ball is prevented from entering the goal by the goalkeeper, the kick is retaken

If the goalkeeper's offence results in the kick being retaken, the goalkeeper is warned for the first offence in the game and cautioned for any subsequent offence(s) in the game

Age-appropriate application!

Law 14: Both Kicker and GK Commit Offences

Clarifies sanction when both kicker and GK commit offences at same time:

- both the goalkeeper and the kicker commit an offence at the same time, the kicker is cautioned and play restarts with an indirect free kick to the defending team

IFAB rationale is that this is a rare event and usually caused by “illegal” feinting by the kicker

Law 14: Penalty Kick: position of the goalkeeper (22/23)

When the ball is kicked, the defending goalkeeper must have at least part of one foot touching, in line with, or behind, the goal line

Technically it was an offence for the goalkeeper to have one foot in front of the goal line and one behind it, even though no unfair advantage was gained. This law has been amended to emphasize the Spirit of the Law.

Glossary: Holding

Holding offence

A holding offence occurs only when a player's contact with an opponent's body or equipment impedes the opponent's movement

IFAB: Football does not expect “minor” holding to be penalized.

Glossary: Offensive, insulting or abusive language/action(s) (LOTG 2021/22)

Glossary – Football terms

Offensive, insulting or abusive language/action(s)

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

Verbal or physical behaviour directed at someone

Glossary: Restart Position

Restart position

A player's position at a restart is determined by the position of their feet or any part of their body which is touching the ground, except as outlined in Law 11

– Offside

Motivated by VAR issues.

Clarifies how to judge player position on restarts.

Impacts judgement of encroachment.

No significant impact on AYSO matches

Body Language, Communication, and Whistle

Penalty kick

If the goalkeeper blatantly moves off the goal line before the ball is kicked and prevents a goal from being scored, the AR should indicate the encroachment according to the pre-match instructions from the referee.

Update to standard team mechanics on a PK

Get Familiar with Updated Laws

- Download documents from the IFAB
- Recommend using the phone app from IFAB

<https://theifab.com>