

## LAW 13 – Free Kick



### TYPES OF FREE KICKS

- There are two types of free kicks:
  - **DIRECT (DFK):** from which a goal can be scored without being touched by another player, of either team, against the offending team only.
  - **INDIRECT (IFK):** from which a goal cannot be scored unless the ball has been touched by any other player, of either team, before it enters the goal.
- In the Passers (U-8) division all free kicks shall be Indirect Free Kicks (IFK), i.e. no DFKs or penalty kicks.



### ALL FREE KICKS

- All free kicks are taken from the place where the free kick offense occurred, except for:
  - kicks being taken from within team's own Goal Area,
  - any IFK offense committed in opponent's Goal Area,
  - any offenses that occur off the field-of-play,
  - any offenses involving a player entering or leaving the field-of-play.
- The ball must be stationary when the free kick is taken.
- The ball may be kicked in any direction.
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and clearly moves
- When a free kick is being taken, players are guilty of encroaching when they:
  - do not retire to the proper distance from the ball, or
  - attempt to delay the taking of a free kick by:
    - entering into the Build-Out Area or Penalty Area or
    - moving within the required distance.
- If players of the opposing team encroach:
  - the Referee may delay the taking of the free kick until the required distance is met, or
  - the free kick is retaken, if the Referee stops play.
- Encroachment should be considered as an unsporting behavior offense, except in the Passers (U-8) division.

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### OUTSIDE OWN PENALTY AREA

- When a free kick is being taken by the kicking team outside their own Penalty Area, players of the opposing team:
  - should be at least the following distances (in all directions) from the ball until it has been kicked:
    - 1) Passers (U-8) and Wings (U-10) - eight (8) yards **and** outside the Build-Out-Area **[See Law 8]**.
    - 2) Strikers (U-12) - eight (8) yards
    - 3) Kickers (U-14), Minors (U-16) and Seniors (U19) - ten (10) yards.
  - must move and be at least the distances noted above from the ball until it has been kicked if:
    - 1) requested by the kicker, and/or
    - 2) the Referee stops play
 (in which case a second whistle should be used to restart play).

### INSIDE OWN PENALTY AREA



- When a free kick is taken by the kicking team from inside its own Penalty Area all of the opposing players shall remain outside the Penalty Area and be at least the following distance from the ball until it has been kicked:
  - Passers (U-8) and Wings (U-10) – outside the Build-Out Area **[See Law 8]**
  - Strikers – eight (8) yards
  - Kickers (U-14) thru Seniors (U-19) - ten (10) yards

### INSIDE OWN GOAL AREA



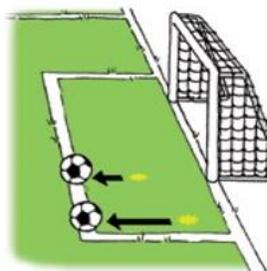
- Any free kick awarded to a defending team inside their own Goal Area shall be taken from a point anywhere within the Goal Area in which the offense occurred.

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### INSIDE OPPONENT'S PENALTY AREA

- When an Indirect Free Kick (IFK) is called against an opponent for an offense occurring within the opponent's Penalty Area the kick shall be taken:
  - at the location of the offense,
  - except when the offense occurs inside the Goal Area.
- The defending players may stand on the goal line and between the goal posts when the distance from the spot of the kick and the goal is less than:
  - Passers (U-8), Wings (U-10) and Strikers (U-12) - eight (8) yards
  - Kickers (U-14) thru Seniors (U19) - ten (10) yards.

### WITHIN OPPONENT'S GOAL AREA



- Any Indirect Free Kick (IFK) awarded to the attacking team within their opponent's Goal Area shall be taken from the part of the Goal Area line which runs parallel to the goal line, at the point nearest to where the offense was committed.

### OFF THE FIELD OFFENSES

- When the ball is in-play and the Referee stops the game for an offense committed outside the field-of-play, the restart shall be a free kick taken on the boundary line, (i.e. the goal line or touchline), nearest to where offense occurred.  
**[Exception: See Law 14].**
- The Referee should stop play whenever a player commits any free kick offense off the field against:
  - an opposing player,
  - a Referee or Assistant Referee,
  - a substitute, or
  - a team official.
- The Referee should stop play whenever a substitute or team official commits an off the field offense against or interferes with:
  - an opposing player, or
  - a match official.

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### KICKER PLAYS BALL TWICE



- The kicker may not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player.
- **PUNISHMENT:** For playing the ball twice in succession, an Indirect Free Kick (IFK) is awarded to the opposing team at the point where it was touched the second time.

### REFEREE IFK SIGNAL



- To indicate an Indirect Free Kick (IFK), the Referee shall raise an arm straight above their head.
- The Referee shall retain the signal until the kick has been taken and:
  - the ball has been played or touched by another player, or
  - the ball goes out of play, or
  - it is clear that a goal cannot be scored directly.