

# Linesman Class

## **A. 17 Laws of Soccer**

**B.** The 3 most important and difficult for a referee to know

- 1) Law 11-Offside
- 2) Law 12-Fouls and Misconducts
- 3) Law 13-Free Kicks

## **C. Prior to the game**

- 1) Show up 20 minutes before game time. Wear proper attire. FIFA referee shirt, shorts if hot, tennis shoes, hat, sun screen, sun glasses, pencil or pen and water.
- 2) Check in players during warm ups. Make sure everyone has shin guards, rubber cleats, no jewelry, hair clips. They can tape over earrings. Make sure shoes are double tied in younger division.
- 3) Call out names on scorecard, keep in pocket. You keep the team of the side that is shooting in your direction.

## **D. First position at kickoff**

- 1) Count players on the field. 8 in division 5 or 10 and under, 11 in all other divisions.
- 2) Line up with second to last defender. Once the ball is in play, stay with that person.

## **E. Out of Bounds**

- 1) Three options when the ball goes out of bounds. Ball must cross line completely. Be assertive when you make the call. Don't hesitate. Point in the direction of who has the ball or point to the appropriate spot.
  - a. Throw in
  - b. Goal Kick
  - c. Corner kick

**Throw ins-** Make sure of 3 things. Feet must be planted, they must stay behind the line and they must throw in the direction of where their body is facing. The ball must enter the field. If it does not, do over. Defender must be 2 yards away from the ball. Wave flag for any infraction. Immediately go back to 2<sup>nd</sup> to last defender.

**Goal kicks-** Line up with 2<sup>nd</sup> to last defender. Ball must clear penalty area (18 yard box). If it doesn't or is touched prior to leaving, wave the flag. Defenders must stay out of the penalty area.

**Corner kicks-** Point to corner. Line up behind defender and give them room. They cannot move or hold the flag. After the kick, line up with last defender.

**F. Goals-** Make sure the ball clears the entire line.

**G. Hurt player-** Wave your flag if the center referee does not see them. The play will stop when the center referee decides.

**H. Substitutions-** Make sure center referee sees and acknowledges you. Count players as they come in and out. You can sub anytime on a goal kick, when you have a throw in or if the other team subs when they have the ball. Not on corner kicks or fouls.

**I.** Watch for fouls away from the ball. Put up and wave your flag if the referee did not see it. He might wave you off.

**J. Hand balls-** Two types of hand balls, ball to hand or hand to ball. If the ball strikes the hand or arm and the person did not gain an advantage, let it go. If the hand strikes the ball to gain an advantage or if it was avoidable, that is a hand ball. The younger divisions have lots of defensive hand balls to protect their face.

**K. Free kicks-** Line up with the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last defender. 2 types of free kicks. **Direct or indirect.** Referee will raise his arm on an indirect. Ball must be touched by another player before a goal is allowed. 10 yards must be given to the kicker.

**L. OFFSIDE-**requirements to call offside.

- 1) Player must be involved in the play
- 2) Player must be past the second to last defender
- 3) Player must be in offensive end of the field or past the halfway mark
- 4) Player must be ahead of the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last defender at the time the ball was kicked.
- 5) If a player is offside then comes back onside to get a pass, that is offside.
- 6) If a ball is shot on goal by an onside player and rebounds off the goalie or goal to an offside player, that is offside.

If a person is offside, raise your flag and **don't move**. Stay where you are regardless if the play continues unless you are waved off. Point to the location of the offside when asked by the referee.

No offside if a player steals the ball from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last defender or goalie. No offside if the ball deflects off the goal or goalie to a player onside.

**M. Penalty kicks-** Line up on goal line and make sure goalie stays on line prior to the kick.

**N. Fouls and Misconducts-**Center referee will call and enforce. Wave your flag if you see one that is away from the ball or the referee may have missed.

At half time and at the end of the game, review any questions you might have with the center referee. Contact the center referee immediately for any abuse or misconduct coming from the coach, players or fans. Contact me with any problems or questions you had with a center referee.