

Law changes for 2019/20

EFFECTIVE FOR AYSO: August 1, 2019

Dropped ball

- ✓ Drop the ball to a SINGLE player in all cases.
- ✓ If play is stopped outside the penalty area, **the ball will be dropped for one player of the team that last touched the ball at the point of the last touch**. If play is stopped inside the penalty area, the ball will be dropped for the goalkeeper. In all cases, all the other players (of both teams) must be at least 4m (4.5yds) away.

Ball hits a match official

- ✓ If the ball hits a match official or another match official and goes into the goal, team possession changes or a promising attack starts, a dropped ball is awarded to the team that had possession before the ball hit the official.

Goal kicks & defensive free kicks within a team's own penalty area

- ✓ **The ball is in play once the kick and the ball clearly moves**. The ball does NOT have to leave the penalty area to be in play. Opponents must remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play.
- ✓ BUILD-OUT LINE: On a goal kick, the opponents may cross the build-out line when the ball is in play (kicked and clearly moves). (Player Development Initiatives, not in the Laws of the Game)

The Coin Toss

- ✓ The team that wins the toss can now choose to take the **kick-off or which goal to attack**

Team Officials

- ✓ A team official guilty of misconduct will be warned, shown a YC (caution) or RC (sending off); if the offender cannot be identified, the senior coach who is in the technical area at the time will receive the YC/RC.

Substitutes U16 and U19

- ✓ A player who is being substituted must **leave the field by the nearest point on the touchline/goal line** (unless the referee indicates the player can leave quickly/immediately at the halfway line or a different point because of safety, injury etc.)

Free kicks

- ✓ When there is a 'wall' of three or more defenders, the attackers are not allowed within 1m (1 yd) of the wall; an attacker less than 1m (1yd) from the 'wall' when the kick is taken will be penalized with an indirect free kick.
- ✓ When the defending team takes a free kick in their own penalty area, the ball is in play once the kick is taken; it does not have to leave the penalty area before it can be played.

Penalty kick

- ✓ The team's penalty taker can have (quick) treatment/assessment and then take the kick. The goalkeeper must not be touching the goalposts/crossbar/nets; they must not be moving. **The goalkeeper must have at least part of one foot on/in line with the goal line when the kick is taken**; cannot stand behind the line

Goalkeeper Handling Changes

- ✓ If the goalkeeper clearly kicks or attempts to kick the ball from a throw-in or a deliberate kick from a team mate but the clearance fails, the goalkeeper can handle the ball. If the Goalkeeper throws the ball directly into the opponents goal: the restart is a goal kick.

Quick free kick and YC/RC

- ✓ If the referee is about to issue a YC/RC but the non-offending team takes the free kick quickly and creates a goal-scoring opportunity, the referee can delay the YC/RC until the next stoppage if the offending team was not distracted by the referee.

Handling the ball ("handball offence")

- ✓ It is an offence if a player: Deliberately touches the ball with their hand/arm (no change here)
- ✓ Gains possession/control of the ball after it has touched their hand/arm and then (1) Scores in the opponents' goal or (2) Creates a goal-scoring opportunity
- ✓ Scores in the opponents' goal directly from their hand/arm, even if accidental, including by the goalkeeper