

AYSO Referee Training Program



Offside - Basic Module 11

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1



Module 11: Offside – Basic (law 11)

- ❖ History and spirit of law
- ❖ Offside Position (SOS)
- ❖ Offside Offence
- ❖ Offside Penalty

Note: this module is a minimal, short introduction. You need time on the field trying to make the call to understand the mechanics more properly. The law is covered more thoroughly in the Intermediate referee class where its application begins to become more important.

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2

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Offside -- History and Spirit

- ❖ Simple rule but most misunderstood
- ❖ From early days of soccer (early 1800's)
- ❖ "Off their side" or "Off their teams side"
- ❖ Instituted to make an attack on goal earned
- ❖ Keeps attacking team from gaining an unearned advantage by putting players "way ahead" of the ball and defending team

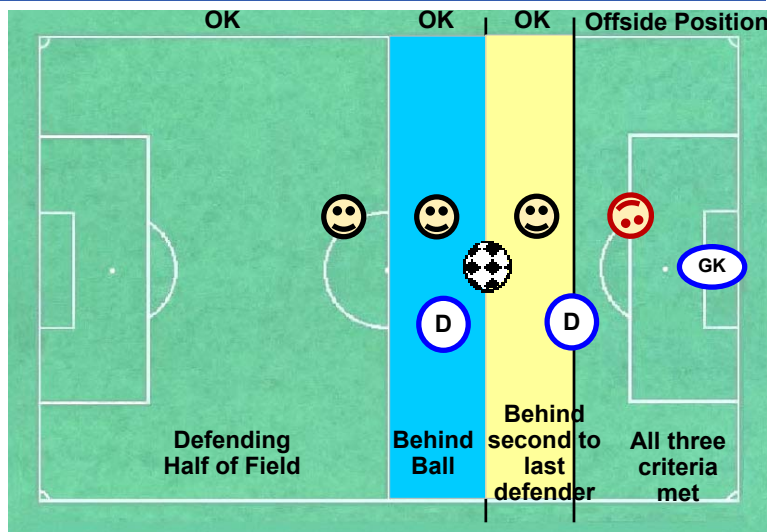


Offside Position

- ❖ Player is in an Offside Position if (Simple Off Side; SOS)
 - ▶ In attacking half of field AND
 - ▶ Ahead of the ball AND
 - ▶ Ahead of all but the last opponent (or all opponents)
- ❖ A player can be in the offside position
 - It is not an offence to be in the offside position



Offside Position



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5

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Judging Offside Offense

- ❖ Mental photo every time a teammate touches the ball
- ❖ Attacker must be in Offside Position in photo
- ❖ **Offside Offense** if and only if Attacker:
 - in Offside Position in most recent photo and
 - is *subsequently* Involved in Active Play

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6

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Becoming Onside

- ❖ Erase snapshot every time defending player plays the ball
- ❖ Player becomes onside when defender plays or if not in an offside position when teammate touches the ball
 - ▶ i.e. Onside when snapshot cleared or new snapshot taken
- ❖ Ball glancing off a defender is not considered playing and therefore does not put someone onside
 - ▶ e.g. Deflection off the outstretched hands of goalkeeper on save

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7

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Involved In Active Play

- ❖ Interfering with Play
 - ▶ Playing or touching a ball passed by a teammate
 - ▶ *Includes movement to play the ball and likely no onside attacker or a defender will reach the ball first ***
- ❖ Interfering with an Opponent
 - ▶ Preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by (1) clearly obstructing the opponent's line of vision or (2) making a gesture or movement which, in the opinion of the referee, deceives or distracts an opponent or (3) *making gestures or movement causing an opponent to challenge for the ball where likely physical contact with the opponent will occur***
- ❖ Gaining an advantage by being in that position
 - ▶ Playing a ball that rebounds to him off the goal post or the crossbar or .. an opponent (e.g. goal keeper)

** Clarification by IFAB in follow-up memo to decision 2 in 2005

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8

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Offside Penalty

- ❖ If offside offense judged to have occurred:
 - Assistant Referee raises flag
 - Referee blow's whistle to stop play
 - Assistant Referee indicates offside player
 - Indirect Free Kick (IFK) awarded
 - at the spot where the offside player was when snapshot taken



Exception on Restarts

- ❖ No offside at restarts due to ball leaving the field of play
 - ▶ throw-in, corner kick, goal kick (, kick-off)
- ❖ (Offside) photos start again with the “second touch” after the restart
 - First touch after the ball is in play

