

U6/U7 Basis Referee Instructions:

Game Time:

- 4 – 10-minute quarters* for substitutions
 - No free-substitutions on dead balls, only at quarters
- 5 Minute halftime – rest/drinks/plan
 - If it's HOT, do 8 – 5-minute periods for water breaks. Discuss with coaches pre-game
- No side changes at half time

Starting the game:

- Visitors (white) kicks off 1st half
- Defenders must be OUTSIDE the center circle

Goal kicks and Corner Kicks –

- No goal kicks and no Corner Kicks –
- Throw-ins for balls passing the goal line
 - Throw in is taken 6-10' up from the goal line

Throw-ins:

- Two hands above, and behind their head
- BOTH feet MUST be on the ground when the ball is released.
 - Be lenient. Close is good enough
 - By the 3rd week, the ball goes to the other team if player lifts back foot.

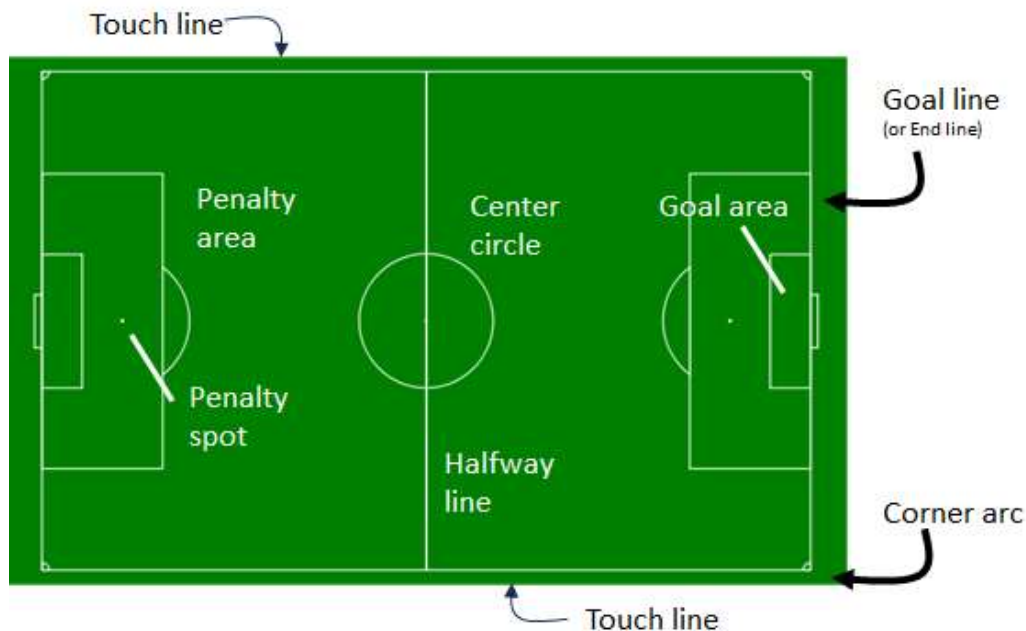
Kids are clumsy at this age. Show tolerance for bumping into each other and inadvertent handballs.

Fouls

All fouls result in an indirect free kick (i.e. they can't kick the ball in the goal directly).

Common fouls are:

- Hand balls that are obvious AND effect the game
- Pushing, tripping, aggressive play not involving their foot touching the ball, kicking the ball while player is on the ground.



U9 Basis Referee Instructions:

Game Time:

- 4 – 15-minute quarters* for substitutions
 - No free-substitutions on dead balls, only at quarters
 - 5 Minute halftime – rest/drinks/plan
- * If it's HOT, do 8 – 6-minute quarters for water breaks.
Discuss with coaches pre-game
- No side changes after half time

Starting the game:

- Visitors (white) kicks off 1st half
- Defenders must be OUTSIDE the center circle

Goal kicks and Corner Kicks –

Goal Kicks

- Keeper places the ball ANYWHERE within the goal area.
- Generally, in the corner
 - Encourage the keeper to kick the ball to the outside, not down the middle
- Ball MUST clear the penalty area
 - Re-kick if the ball doesn't clear the penalty area

Throw-ins:

- Two hands above, and behind their head
- BOTH feet MUST be on the ground when the ball is released.
 - Ball goes to the other team if player lifts back foot.

Kids are clumsy at this age. Show tolerance for bumping into each other and inadvertent handballs.

Fouls

All fouls result in an indirect free kick (i.e. they can't kick the ball in the goal directly).

Common fouls are:

- Hand balls that are obvious AND effect the game
- Pushing, tripping, aggressive play not involving their foot touching the ball, kicking the ball while player is on the ground.



U11 Basis Referee Instructions:

Game Time:

- 2 – 30 minute halves
 - Free-substitutions on YOUR dead balls
- 5 Minute halftime – rest/drinks/plan
 - * If it's HOT, do 4 – 15-minute quarters for water breaks. Discuss with coaches pre-game
- Teams switch sides after half time

Starting the game:

- Visitors (white) kicks off 1st half
- Defenders must be OUTSIDE the center circle

Goal kicks and Corner Kicks –

Goal Kicks

- Keeper places the ball ANYWHERE within the goal area.
- Generally, in the corner
 - Encourage the keeper to kick the ball to the outside, not down the middle
- Ball MUST clear the penalty area
 - Re-kick if the ball doesn't clear the penalty area

Throw-ins:

- Two hands above, and behind their head
- BOTH feet MUST be on the ground when the ball is released.
 - Ball goes to the other team if player lifts back foot.

Kids are clumsy at this age. Show tolerance for bumping into each other and inadvertent handballs.

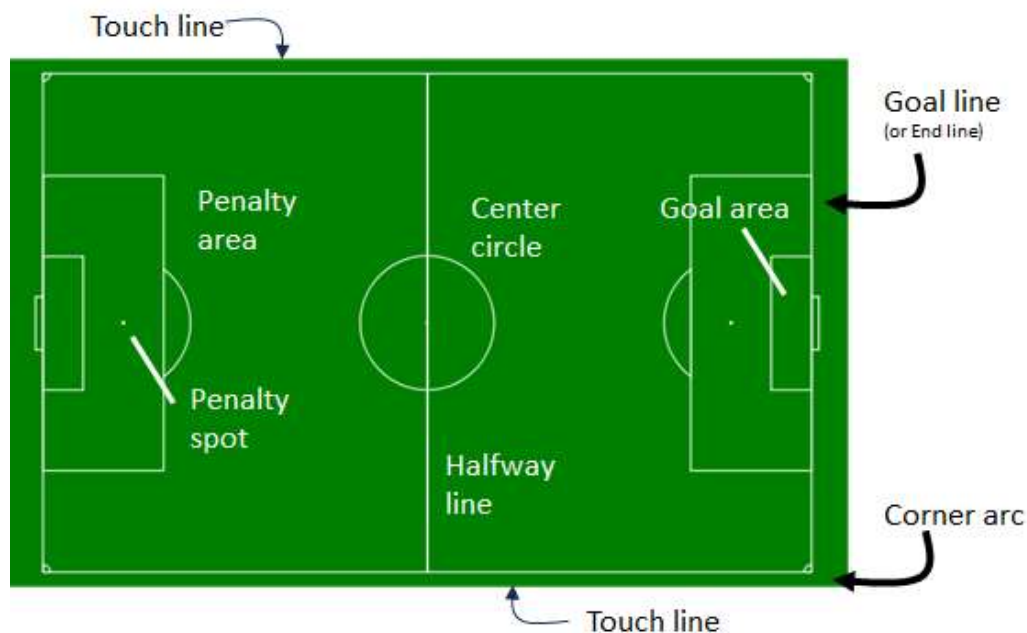
Fouls result in an indirect free kick (i.e. they can't kick the ball in the goal directly).

Common fouls are:

- Hand balls that are obvious AND effect the game
- Pushing, tripping, aggressive play not involving their foot touching the ball

Penalty Kicks

For flagrant fouls inside the penalty area. Kick taken from top of the Penalty Area. This is 1 v. 1 – kicker vs. keeper. All other players must be outside the Penalty Area and 5 feet from the kicker.



Additional Safety notes:

- No headers
- No slide tackles

And players MUST be on their feet to kick the ball

If the Keeper has the ball, no one can touch them.

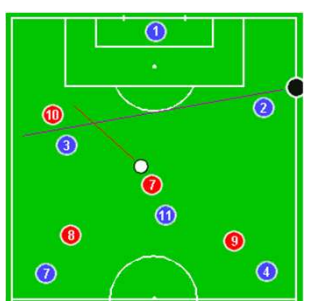
U11 Offsides Rules:

- Offside is called when:
 - An Attacking player being beyond the 2nd to last defender*
 - * Note: GENERALLY, the KEEPER is the last defender; therefore, the 2nd to last defender the last defensive player
 - The ball is kicked towards the goal
- Indirect kick is awarded to the other team at the spot of the kick

Offside is not called if the ball is not kicked towards the goal. A player may be in an offside position, but “no harm/no foul”. The player shouldn’t be there, but if the ball isn’t heading toward the goal, the player is OFFSIDE, but nothing happens.

On the other hand, if there are ANY players in an OFFSIDE position and a play is made to score a goal – OFFSIDE is called because ‘technically’ at this age, that player is **distracting** the keeper.

Scenario #1 Scenario #2 Scenario #3 Scenario #4 Scenario #5



#1 This is offside because the red number 10 is in front of all of the defenders, leaving only the goalkeeper back which isn't enough players to play him onside. This position may have been forced by the defenders moving forward in what is called the offside trap.

#2 Here we can see that the blue number 3 defender has failed to move up the field with the rest of his defense and played the red number 9 onside. This is a classic example of where the offside trap fails.

#3 The offside rule exists to stop goal hanging, where a player stands next to the opposing team's goalkeeper in the hope that someone can get the ball to him (probably using a long ball), so he can get it past the goalkeeper. Which would make for a very boring game.

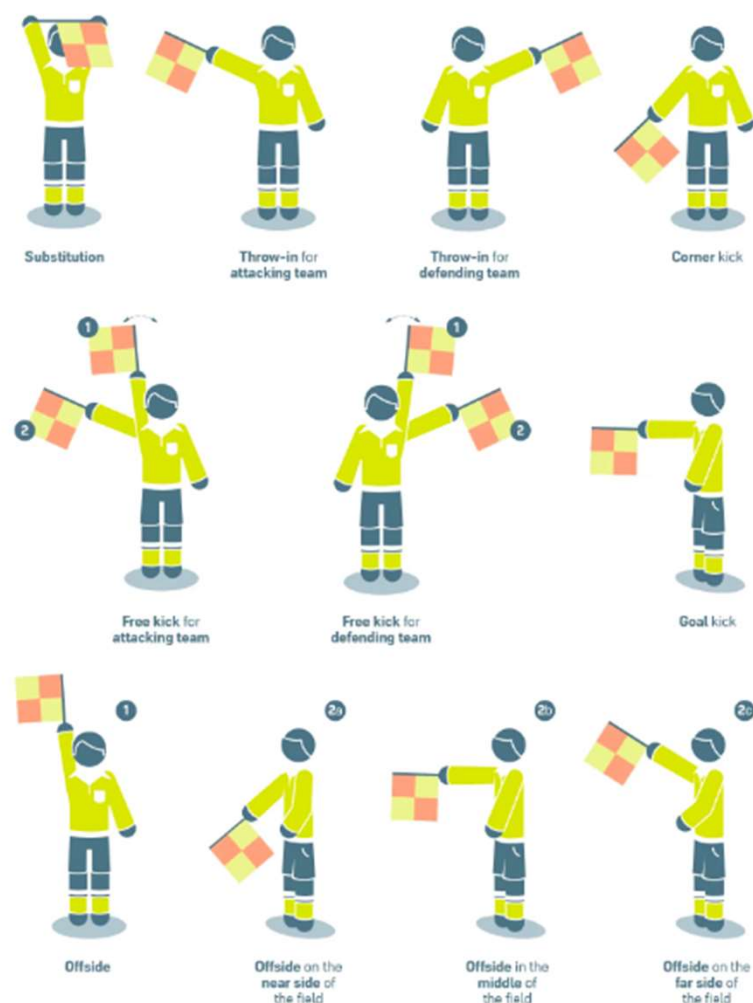
#4 The red number 9 isn't beyond the blue 4 defender but is offside because the goalkeeper isn't back. This is one of those rare occasions where the goalkeeper is out of the goal (e.g. last minute of F.A. Cup final on a corner kick) and can't get back in time but if the attacking team plays the ball as they normally would, then it would be offside because the offside rule requires two defenders to be in front of the attacker and the goalkeeper usually counts as a defender.

#5 Why are linesmen (assistant referees) always calling offside when it isn't? Well, believe it or not, it's not really their fault (unless the decision goes against you or your team), it's all to do with angles and line of sight. In the picture, the purple line represents the linesman's line of sight, which as you can see is at a slight angle. This line should be parallel with the goal line. So even though the red number 10 is being played onside by the blue defender, it will be called offside. This is unfortunate but does happen from time to time.

Assistant Referees (A/R) indicate when:

- The whole of the ball leaves the field of play and which team is entitled to a corner kick, goal kick or throw-in
- A player in an offside position may be penalized
- A substitution is requested
- At penalty kicks, the goalkeeper moves off the goal line before the ball is kicked and if the ball crosses the line; if additional assistant referees have been appointed, the assistant referee takes a position in line with the penalty mark

The assistant referee's responsibilities also includes monitoring the substitution procedure (i.e. substitutions are only allowed on YOUR dead ball unless the other team is substituting).



Substitutions:

Substitution players should stand at the Center Line and WAIT for the referee to ALLOW them on to the field

- **The team in possession may substitute on any dead ball situation.** In other words, the team that will be taking the throw in, corner kick, free kick, etc. may substitute freely.

- **The team not in possession may only substitute as follows:**

- on a dead ball situation in which the team in possession has elected to substitute
- on any goal kick situation
- after a goal
- at half time