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## **OUTDOOR SOCCER CROSSFIELD RULES**

### **NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

Each team is allowed to have up to six players on the field of play, one of whom must be the goalkeeper. The minimum number of players to start a game or continue a game is four, one of whom must be the goalkeeper. If, at any time during the game, a team does not have four players on the field of play the game shall be stopped and abandoned. League/tournament organizers will determine the outcome of that game.

Teams are not allowed to have more than six players on the field at any time.

**Substitutions** may occur at any stoppage in play, but must be requested through, and approved by, the referee.

### **PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT**

Players must wear team shirt, shorts, shin-guards covered by soccer socks and footwear. Players will **not** be allowed to play if they do not have shin-guards. The goalkeeper must wear a different coloured shirt from any other player on the field. Goalkeeper gloves are allowed. All outfield players must wear shirts of the same colour.

Players are not allowed to wear jewelry which includes necklaces, earrings, bracelets and rings. These must be removed before the player can participate. Players wearing hard casts are not allowed to play as the cast can be dangerous to both them and other players.

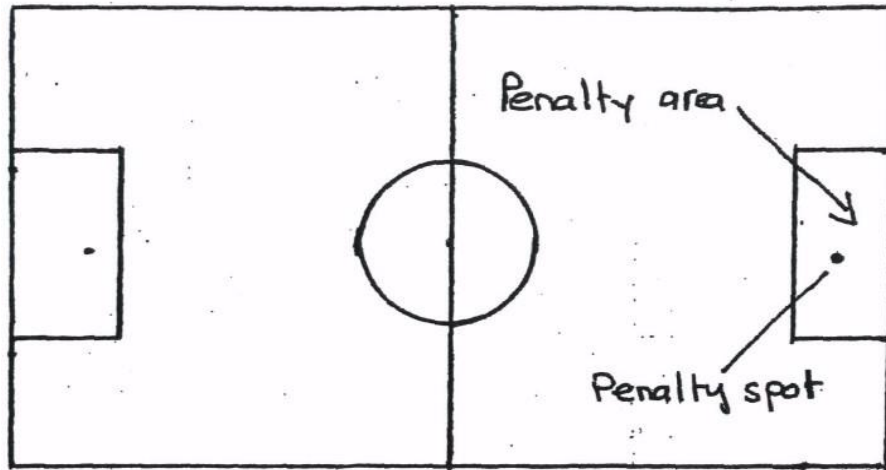
### **CONDUCT**

Players are not allowed to make derogatory comments to other players on either team.

Players, coaches and parents are not to make derogatory comments or comments critical of the referee. Should this occur, players and coaches may be removed from game, and parents may be sent from the sidelines and have to watch the game from a distance.



## FIELD OF PLAY



## START OF PLAY

- a) The referee will toss a coin. The winner of the toss will kick-off.
- b) After the referee has given the signal by blowing the whistle, the game shall be started by a player kicking the ball (while it is stationary) onto his opponent's half of the field. Every player shall be on his own half of the field and every player of the team not kicking off shall be not less than 5 meters from the ball until it is kicked. The player taking the kick-off cannot touch the ball again until it has been touched by another player.
- c) When the goalie retains possession, the opposing team must retreat to half until another player touches the ball **OR** the ball crosses the half field line.
- d) After a goal is scored, the game shall be restarted in like manner by the team conceding the goal.
- e) After half-time, the teams switch ends and the kick off shall be taken by a player of the team that did not kick-off at the start of the game.
- f) A goal may be scored directly from the kick-off.

## **BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY**

The ball is out of play when:

- a) it has left the field of play
- b) it has crossed the goal line
- c) the game has been stopped by the referee.

The ball is in play at all other times including:

- a) if it hits the referee when he is in the field of play,
- b) if it rebounds off the goal post, crossbar or corner flag into the field of play.

## **SCORING**

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball has passed over the goal line, between the goal posts and under the crossbar, provided when it has not been thrown, carried or propelled by hand or arm by a player of the attacking side.

## **OFFSIDE**

There is no offside in Crossfield soccer.

## **GOAL KICKS**

A goal kick is awarded to the defending team when the ball crosses the goal line (not between the posts) having been last touched by a member of the attacking team.

A goal kick may be taken from anywhere in the penalty area.

The ball cannot be played by either team until it has completely left the penalty area.

Defenders may remain in the penalty area for the goal kick, but players from the opposing team may not enter the penalty area until the ball has left the penalty area.

## **PENALTY AREA**

The goalkeeper can handle the ball in the penalty area. An unlimited number of steps will be allowed for the goalkeeper to kick or throw the ball out. The goalkeeper is expected to put the ball back into play quickly and not waste time.



## THROW-IN

When a player is taking a throw-in he/she must:

- face the field of play
- have part of each foot either on the line or on the ground outside the line
- use both hands and throw the ball from behind and over his/her head.

If a player takes a throw incorrectly, the throw is retaken by the same player. If it is still incorrect, another player of the same team will take the throw. At no time does the ball go to the other team for a foul throw.

## FOULS AND MISCONDUCTS

A **direct free kick** is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following offences in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or with too much force:

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- jumps at an opponent
- charges an opponent
- strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- pushes an opponent

A **direct free kick** is also awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following four offences:

- holds an opponent
- spits at an opponent
- handles the ball deliberately (except the goalkeeper inside the penalty area)
- tackles an opponent to gain possession of the ball, making contact with the opponent before touching the ball

A direct free kick is taken from where the offence occurred except when the foul is committed by the player within his/her own penalty area. In this case, a penalty kick shall be awarded to the opposing team.

An **indirect free kick** is awarded to the opposing team if a player, in the opinion of the referee:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- impedes the progress of an opponent
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his/her hands

An **indirect free kick** is also awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside his/her own penalty area, commits any of the following offences:

- touches the ball with his/her hands after it has been released from his/her hands and it has not been touched by another player



- touches the ball with his/her hands after it has been deliberately kicked back to him/her by a team-mate. This does not apply to a ball which is played back to the goalie with the head, chest or knee
- touches the ball with his/her hands after he has received it directly from a throw-in by a team-mate
- wastes time

The indirect free-kick is taken from the spot of the foul even if it occurs in the penalty area.

## **FREE KICKS**

At the taking of a free kick, the ball shall be stationary and all opponents shall be not less than five meters from the ball until it has been kicked. The ball shall be in play once it has been kicked and the ball has moved.

A player taking a free kick shall not touch or play the ball a second time until it has been player or touched by another player, if he does, the referee will award an indirect free kick against the player touching it twice.

A goal may be scored from a **direct** free kick without the ball having to be touched by another player.

For a goal to be scored from an indirect free kick, the ball must be touched or played by another player of either team. The referee will indicate indirect free kicks by raising his/her arm straight above his/her head until the ball has been touched a second time.

A player taking a free kick from inside his penalty area shall kick the ball into play beyond the penalty area. The ball is in play when it has gone outside the penalty area. All opponents must be outside the penalty area and not less than five meters from the ball when the ball is kicked. If the free kick is not taken correctly, the kick is retaken.

## **PENALTY KICKS**

A penalty kick is taken from the penalty spot and a goal may be scored directly from the kick. All players, except the kicker and the goalkeeper, must be at least five meters from the ball, outside the penalty area and behind the ball.

The goalkeeper must remain on the goal-line until the ball is kicked. The goalkeeper may move his/her feet before the ball is kicked but must remain on the line.

The referee will blow the whistle to signal for the kick to be taken. The ball is in play when it has been kicked and moves forward. Once the player taking the kick has kicked the ball, he/she may



not touch it again until it has been touched by another player. If the kick is taken before the referee blows the whistle, the kick is re-taken.

If during the taking of the kick, the defending team commits an infraction and a goal is scored, the goal counts. If a goal is missed, the kick is retaken.

If during the taking of the kick, the team taking the kick commits an infraction and goal is scored, the kick is retaken. If a goal is missed, it is not retaken.

## **CORNER KICKS**

A corner kick is awarded when the ball crosses the goal line (not between the posts) having been last touched by a member of the defending team.

The kick is taken by a player of the attacking team, from within one meter of the corner of the field of play (where the goal and sidelines meet). The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves. The player taking the corner kick cannot touch the ball a second time until it is touched by another player.

A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.

