



# Law Five



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News and Updates for Region 55 Referees

Vol 1, No 2

## What's a Kick?

There are 8 different ways (can you name them?) to start or restart a soccer match. Six of these require a player to kick the ball. But what exactly is a kick? The latest edition of the USSF Advice to Referees on the Laws of the Game clearly defines what a kick is and will cause you to look at kicks differently. Since this definition of a kick can cause the most problems on Indirect Free Kicks (IFK), this discussion will focus on that particular restart.

With an IFK restart, the ball is in play when it has been kicked and moves (Unless the kick is taken from inside a defenders own penalty area. In this case, the ball must clear the penalty area before it is in play). **The distance to be moved is minimal and the "kick" need only be a touch of the ball with the foot in a kicking motion. Simply tapping the ball with the foot or stepping on the ball are not sufficient.** (USSF ATR 13.5)

When the restart of play is based on the ball being kicked and moved, the referee must insure that the ball is indeed kicked (touched with the foot in a kicking motion) and moved (caused to go from one place to another). Being "kicked" does not, for example, include an action in which the ball is dragged by continuous action with the foot. Being "moved" does not, for exam-

ple, include the ball simply quivering, trembling, or shaking as a result of a light touch.

So let's assume that you have just awarded an IFK for a high kick (dangerous play) to the attacking team just outside the defending teams penalty area. The wall is set and the attackers start their attack. The first attacker "taps" the ball with the bottom of his foot (a fairly common practice). A second attacker then kicks the ball into the net, untouched by any other player. Is this a goal? By the definition of "kick", this is not a goal since that first tap with the foot is not considered a kick. Players and coaches will assume that tapping the ball with the foot is the "first touch" and the kick into the goal is the "second touch." But this is no longer the case. The restart in this instance is a goal kick for the defending team.

The above scenario is one that will cause the most "headaches" for referees when considering what a kick is. Players and coaches, for the most part, are not yet familiar with this refined definition of a kick. Be alert! Hold that IFK signal (arm straight up) until that legitimate second touch occurs. Referees must make the final decision on what is and is not "kicked and moved" based on the spirit and flow of the match.

## Region 55 Information

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## You Make the Call

1. Player A8 is on a breakaway, dribbling the ball toward the goal with B2 close behind. As A8 enters the penalty area, keeper B1 fairly gains possession of the ball. The play causes A8 and B1 to collide and B1 is injured, but still holding the ball. The referee stops play. After the whistle, B2 pushes A8, who falls to the ground. The referee should:

a. Award a PK for B2 pushing A8 in the penalty area.

b. Restart with an IFK after B1 is attended to.

c. Card B2 for misconduct, restart with a dropped ball after B1 is attended to.

d. Card B2 for misconduct, restart with an IFK after B1 is attended to.

2. During the halftime interval, A3 strikes a member of team B in team B's bench area. The referee sends off A3 for violent conduct. Team A:

a. Can replace the disqualified player for the second half.

b. Must play the second half one player short for the disqualified A3.

c. Will field a complete team. The referee cannot send off a player during the halftime interval.

## Mark Your Line Up Cards Correctly! (part 2)

In the February issue of Law 5, we discussed the importance of properly completing the line up cards for a soccer match. The focus was on the front half of the line up card. In this issue, let's explore the back half.

The back of the lineup card, while not nearly as complex as the front half, still requires specific information for the referee and assistant referees to complete. The

card is usually divided into two sections; the upper portion for the game report and the lower portion for any incidents that need to be reported. Be sure the date, time and location of the match are correct. The half time score and final score should be noted in the area provide and the winning team should be clearly stated. The referee and both assistant referees should clearly print their name in the spaces provided. If team ref

points are being accumulated, you should note the team that you are earning ref points for immediately to the right of your name.

The lower portion provides a separate space for the referee to list any misconducts or other actions that the referee has taken during the course of the game, including any coach or spectator dismissals, or any serious injuries that may have occurred. This "preliminary incident report" section should be kept short and to the point. The referee must also complete a "Match Report" and file it with the proper authority for any incidents reported here. The referee and assistant referees also need to print their names in this area of the card.

*In the next issue of Law 5 - Match Reports; when are they required? How do you complete them correctly?*

### Game Cards - Back Side

Disciplinary action taken: Caution for USB  
Team #4, Smith #6

Additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Referee's Signature: G. Mulcahy U12G, #2

Assistant Referee's Signature: R. Sedivy U14B, #4

Assistant Referee's Signature: K. Yabuki U10B, #12

Note any Cautions or send-offs. Must show player name, jersey number and team!

**ALWAYS  
PRINT!**

Your name

Team you ref for

When listing the team that you are getting ref points for, always list the Division (ex: U12G) and the team number. If you don't know your team number, ask the coach. He/she will know.

### Referee Classes

*The following referee classes are available for AYSO referees.*

#### Regional Referee

*The Fall 2007 Regional Referee Classes are set. Dates, times and location are listed on the Region 55 web site.*

#### Referee Instructor Class

*June 9th  
Fountain Valley  
www.ayso11k.org  
The referee instructor class is open to all Intermediate (or higher) level referees who wish to become a certified referee instructor.*

#### Intermediate Referee

*Check the Area K (ayso11k.org) and the Region 55 (ayso55.org) websites for information on upcoming Intermediate Referee classes in late July.*

## You Make the Call - Answers

1. c is correct (Law 12). 2. b is correct (Law 5, 12).

1: In this scenario, the referee has determined that no foul had occurred on the keeper takeaway. As a result of the injury, the referee has stopped play. Anything that happens after this fact is irrelevant to the restart. The restart must be a dropped ball at the place where the ball was when the referee blew the whistle to stop play.

The referee cannot award a PK because no foul has occurred. The push happened after the ball was out of play. There was certainly a misconduct here (the push), but no foul. Showing a yellow card for unsporting behavior is a correct action by the referee - but it does not change the restart!

2: The referee's authority begins upon arrival at the area of the field of play and continues until he or she has left the area of the field after the game is completed. The referees authority extends to times when the ball is not in play, including temporary suspensions and the half time break (ATR 5.2).

A player who is sent off from the field may not be replaced if the send off occurs once play has begun (ATR 12.24).

In this scenario, play had already begun (play begins once the ball is put into play at the beginning of the match), therefore the team cannot replace the player that was sent off.