



Law XII – Fouls and Misconduct

Fouls and misconduct are penalized as follows:

Direct Free Kick

A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following six offenses in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

- kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- trips or attempts to trip
- jumps at an opponent
- charges an opponent, even with the shoulder
- 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 offenses:

- holds an opponent
- spits at an opponent
- slides in an attempt to play the ball when it is being played or attempted to be played by an opponent (except for the goalkeeper in his own penalty area) – sliding tackle
- handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper in his own penalty area)

A direct free kick is taken from the place where the infringement occurred.

The above fouls are accumulated fouls.

Penalty Kick

A Penalty Kick is awarded if a player commits any of the aforementioned offenses inside his own penalty area, irrespective of the position of the ball but provided that it is in play.

Indirect Free Kick

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper commits one of the following offenses:

- after releasing the ball from his possession, he receives it back from a team-mate, without it first having passed beyond the halfway line or without it having been played or touched by an opponent
- touches or controls the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked by a team mate
- touches or controls the ball with his hands after he has received it directly from a kick-in taken by a team mate
- touches or controls the ball with his hands or feet, on any part of the playing court, for more than four seconds, except when he touches or controls the ball on the opponent's half of the playing court



An indirect free kick is also awarded to the opposing team to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred, if in the opinion of the referee, a player:

- plays in a dangerous manner
- deliberately impedes the progress of an opponent when the ball is not being played
- prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands
- commits any other offense, not previously mentioned in Law XII, for which play is stopped to caution or dismiss a player

The indirect free kick is taken from the place where the infringement occurred, unless this was in the penalty area, in which case the indirect free kick is taken from the penalty area line at the place closest to where the infringement occurred.

Disciplinary Sanctions

Cautionable Offenses

A player is cautioned and shown a yellow card if the commits any of the following offenses:

1. is guilty of unsporting conduct
2. shows dissent by word or action
3. persistently infringes the Laws of the Game
4. delays the restart of play
5. fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick or free kick
6. enters or re-enters the playing court without the referee's permission
7. deliberately leaves the playing court without the referee's permission

For any of these offences, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team, to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred. If the offence was committed within the penalty area the indirect free kick is taken from the penalty area line at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred. A caution is also given provided that no graver infringement of the Laws has been committed.

Sending-off Offenses

A player is sent off and shown the red card if he commits any of the following offenses:

1. is guilty of serious foul play
2. is guilty of violent conduct
3. spits an opponent or any other person
4. denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by:
5. deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area)
6. denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offense punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
7. uses offensive, insulting or abusive language
8. receives a second caution in the same game



If play is stopped because of a player is sent off the playing court for offense 3 or 4, without having committed an additional infringement of the Laws, the game is restarted by an indirect free kick, awarded to the opposing team, to be taken at the place where the infringement occurred. However, if the offense is committed in the penalty area, the indirect free kick is taken from the penalty area line at the place nearest to where the infringement occurred.

Decisions

Decision 1:

- A player who has been sent off may not re-enter the game in course, nor may he sit on the substitutes' bench. A substitute player may enter the game to complete two minutes after a team mate has been sent off, unless a goal is scored before the two minutes have elapsed, and provided he has the permission of the time-keeper.