

BCRD Soccer Officiating Points of Emphasis

**1st to 3rd Grade: 7 vs. 7, goalies included in 7
2, 20 minute halves, 5 minute halftime**

**4th to 6th Grade: 9 vs. 9, goalies included in 9
2, 25 minute halves, 5 minute halftime**

- Offside
 - Because there are no lines to strictly enforce the traditional offside rule, the rule will be enforced on a “cherry picking” basis.
 - An offensive player staying ahead of the ball (and behind the defense) without making an effort to get back on defense (or into the defensive half of the field) will be called offside should the ball be played to him/her.
 - Penalty is an indirect free kick from the spot of the offside player.
- Tripping
 - Kicking at the ball, but missing, and making contact with the opposing player, can be called tripping, even if the other player does not fall to the ground.
 - The emphasis is on whether the player with the ball is impeded or not.
 - The emphasis is also on controlling wind, uncontrolled “swing & miss” kicks that can cause injury.
 - Penalty is a direct free kick from the spot of the infraction.
- Pushing
 - Shoulder to shoulder contact between one defender and an offensive player in possession of the ball is legitimate.
 - Any contact with a raised or extended elbow is pushing.
 - Any contact with a hand or forearm is pushing.
 - Pushing can be called whether the player with the ball falls to the ground or not.
 - The emphasis is on whether the player with the ball is impeded or not.
 - Penalty is a direct free kick from the spot of the infraction.
- Hand Ball
 - “Hands” is defined as any part of the arm from above the elbow to the fingertips.
 - Handling the ball intentionally is illegal.
 - A ball that is kicked into a player’s hand that is within the frame of the body is incidental
 - Handling the ball in “self-defense” will be considered incidental.
 - The goalkeeper may handle the ball within the penalty area; outside the penalty area he/she must use his/her feet as a regular player.

- Penalty is an indirect free kick from the spot of the infraction.
- **Throw Ins**
 - Both feet must be on the ground (& out of bounds) at release of the ball.
 - Both hands must be on the ball at it is released.
 - Ball is to be released from over the head with both hands.
 - Penalty is a throw in from the same spot for the opposing team.
- **Goalkeeper Interference**
 - Contact by an offensive player with the goalkeeper is an infraction.
 - Penalty is an indirect free kick from the spot of the infraction.
 - The only exception is if the goalkeeper makes a play on the ball and misses the ball but brings down the offensive player.
 - In this case, if the infraction is within the penalty box, the result is a penalty kick. Outside of the box, it is a direct free kick.
- **Penalty Kicks**
 - Any infraction by the defense inside the penalty box will result in a penalty kick.
 - The goalkeeper must be stationed on the goal line.
 - All players (offense & defense) must be outside the penalty box until the ball is kicked.
 - A ball that is saved and rebounds into the field of play is a live ball.
- **Slide tackling**
 - Slide tackling is not allowed. Penalty is a direct free kick from the spot of the foul.
- **Heading the ball is not allowed.**