



Key Law Changes for 2016-2017 Season

For Coaches

- If a player is injured by a foul which results in a red or yellow card, the player can have quick treatment on the field and not have to go off; any non-quick treatment will require the player to leave the field of play and can re-enter the field once the referee signals for their return
- The ball must clearly move to be in play for all kicked restarts
- The ball can be kicked in any direction at kick-off (previously had to go forward). Team-mates are not allowed to stand in the opponents' half at the kick-off.
- Kicks from the penalty mark (to decide a winner):
 - Coin toss to decide which goal (unless weather, safety, etc.)
 - Second coin toss to decide who takes the first kick
 - Player temporarily off the field at the final whistle, but still considered a player (e.g., injured, changing equipment) can take part
 - If one team loses a player during the kicks (injured, sent off) the other team removes one player (the same as at the end of the match)
- Offside free-kicks will be taken from the place where the player commits the offside offence – this can be in their own half. A player cannot be in an offside position in their own half but can move back into their own half from an offside position in the opponents' half and commit an offside offence (play the ball, challenge an opponent, etc.) – this is where the free kick is taken from
- If a player commits a DOGSO offence inside the penalty area it will now be a yellow card (caution) if the foul was an attempt to play the ball or challenge an opponent for the ball. However, the following offences will still be a red card (send-off):
 - Handball
 - Holding, pulling or pushing
 - Not attempting to play the ball
 - Not having the chance to play the ball
 - Serious foul challenges, violent conduct, etc.
 - NOTE: all DOGSO offences committed outside the penalty area are still Red cards
- Attempted violent conduct is a red card (send-off), even if no contact
- Penalty kick – if the goalkeeper moves early and causes the penalty kick to be re-taken, the goalkeeper will receive a yellow card (caution)
- Penalty kick – if the kicker stops and 'feints' at the end of their run it will always be an indirect free kick and yellow card (caution) even if they score (i.e., no retake)