



Week 3 Scoring, Offside and Other Rules:

There is only one way to score the goal and that is to put ball in the net. The entire ball has to cross the goal line for goal to be counted . The same rule also applies for a ball to be considered out of bounce.

The referee can disallow a goal if he decides that a rule was violated prior to the goal, however the referee has to make this decision before restarting the game. If a goal was scored and the game was restarted from the center of the field, the referee can no longer disallow the goal.

Everybody knows that a goalkeeper can use their hands inside penalty box, but touching the ball with their hands, even inside penalty box on a throw-in from a teammate will result in an indirect free kick against the goalkeeper and their team.

A players can get penalized for playing dangerous against himself. An example would be trying to head the ball, bending low, when opponent is kicking it with a foot.

It's interesting that when the off side rule was introduced, creating an off side on the opposing team ("*off side trap*") was called poor sportsmanship by some coaches.

1. A player in an off side position will be called and play will be stopped at the moment when the ball is passed to him while he remains off side.
2. A player can be in an off side position as long as teammates do not pass the ball to him, in this case the game is not going to be stopped.
3. If team mate scores a goal and another player is in an offside position even if they do not have anything to do with the play, and they distracts the opponent ("*interfering with a play*") an off side could be called and the goal will not count.

The player who takes a penalty kick can touch the ball only once. So, if the ball hits the goal post the same player cannot kick it again. The goal post is considered to be a neutral object and touching the ball again will be considered a player's second touch. That's why teammates have to be ready to go for rebound.

On a kick-off (*a kick from the center of the field to start or restart the game*) or free kick, the player has to touch the ball once. If he touches it more than once, the game will be stopped and the other team will take an indirect free kick. If the player's second touch is with a hand, then a direct free kick will be awarded against his team. It is hard to imagine this happening, but it is described in the rules.

For complete rules of soccer you can visit:

http://fifa.com/documents/fifa/laws/LOTG2006_e.pdf

Check back next week to learn more about soccer!

Coach Jeff