



Law 17 - The Corner Kick

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**U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program
Entry Level Referee Course
Competitive Youth Training
Small Sided and Recreational Youth Training**

Overview

A corner kick is a method of restarting play.



It is awarded to the attacking team when the entire ball leaves the field over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air without a goal being scored, when last touched by a player from the defending team.

Overview



A goal can be scored directly from a corner kick

An attacking player cannot be offside if the ball is received directly from a corner kick.

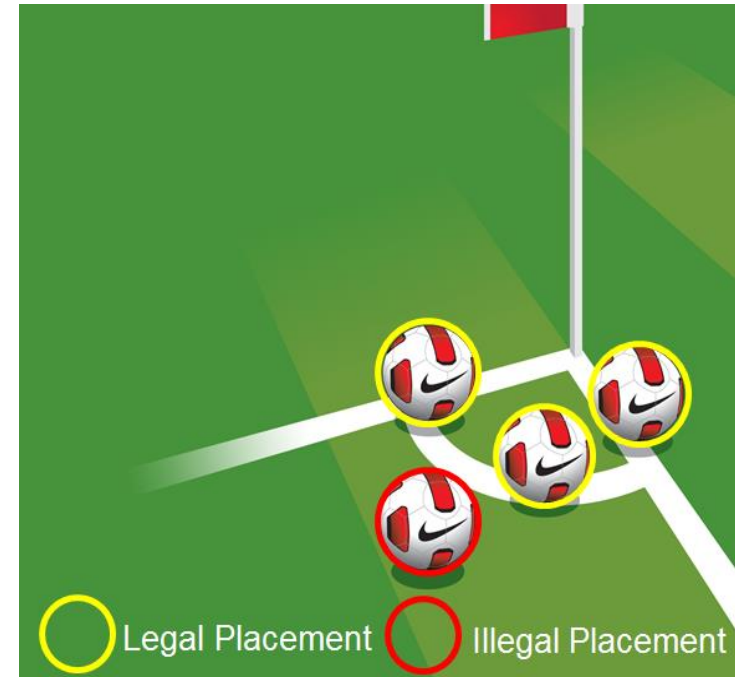


Procedure

The kick is taken from the corner arc nearest to where the ball crossed the goal line.

The ball must be placed within or on the corner arc.

The ball is in play once it is kicked and **clearly moves**, therefore the ball does not need to leave the corner area to be in play.





Requirements



All opposing players must respect the minimum required distance from the corner arc itself, regardless of where the ball is placed, until the ball is kicked.



This minimum distance from the corner arc is:

- 10 yds. (U13 and older)
- 8 yds. (U9 thru U12)



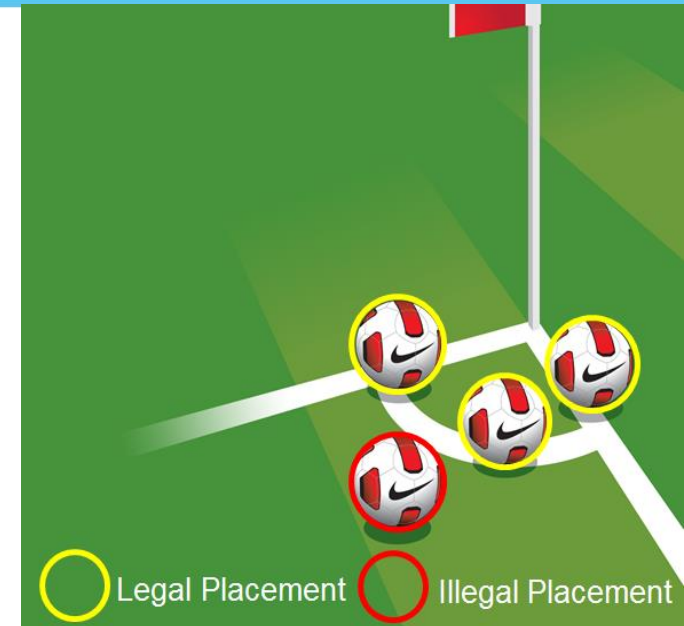
Requirements

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Where necessary, the referee should warn any player within the minimum required distance before the corner kick is taken.

And caution the player if they subsequently fail to retreat to the correct distance.





Player Management

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Corner kicks can sometimes be volatile in the competitive youth game.



Teams may utilize set plays that result in goal scoring opportunities and players will often jostle for the best position in order to gain an advantage.



Player Management

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The referee must be aware of this and use preventive officiating techniques to attempt to stop problems before the ball is put into play.



Once the ball is in play, the preventable problems can end up resulting in fouls or misconduct.



Techniques

Some of these preventive techniques include the referee

- **having a presence near play,**
- **being aware of the situation,**
- **understanding the potential tactics that the teams might attempt,**
- **being proactive rather than reactive,**
- **communicating with players, both visually and/or verbally, and**
- **allowing ARs to help manage corner kicks when in their vicinity.**



Infringements

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If, after the ball has been kicked into play, the kicker touches the ball again before it has touched another player an indirect free kick (IFK) is awarded to the opposing team, to be taken from the place where the infringement (2nd touch) occurred.



Infringements

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If a player, while correctly taking a corner kick, intentionally kicks the ball at an opponent in order to play the ball again the referee will allow play to continue, provided it was not kicked at the opponent in a careless or reckless manner or using excessive force.



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Infringements



If the kicker deliberately handles the ball, a direct free kick (DFK) is awarded.

In the event of any other infringement the corner kick is retaken.



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Review Question

95. A corner kick is awarded when the ball wholly crosses a _____ when last touched by a player from the defending team.

- A. Touch line
- B. Goal line
- C. Side line
- D. End line



Review Question

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96. What is the correct restart if the ball goes directly into the opponent's goal from a corner kick?

- A. Corner kick
- B. Goal kick
- C. Throw-in
- D. Kick-off



Review Question

97. What is the correct restart if the ball leaves the field in the air, but then curves back into play from a corner kick?

- A. Corner kick
- B. Goal kick
- C. Throw-in
- D. Kick-off