



# Law 15 (8 & 9)



U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program  
Grade 9 Referee Course  
Small Sided and Recreational Youth Training

# Overview

**A throw-in is a method of restarting play and is awarded when the ball crosses the touch line.**



# Overview

**The throw-in is taken by the opposing team of the player who last touched the ball before it crossed the touch line.**



# Overview

**A goal cannot be directly scored from a throw-in**



**... If the ball enters the opponents' goal, a goal kick is awarded.**

**... If the ball enters the thrower's goal, a corner kick is awarded.**



# Overview



**An attacking player cannot be offside if the ball is received directly from the throw-in.**



# Procedure

**The throw-in should be taken from where the ball crossed the touch line.**



# Procedure

**For a proper throw-in, the thrower must:**

- face the field;
- have part of both feet on the ground, either on the touch line or on the area off the field of play;
- use both hands;
- deliver the ball from behind and over their head.



**If these requirements are not met, the throw-in is awarded to the opposing team.**

# Procedure



**All opponents must stand no closer than 2-yards from the point at which the throw-in is taken.**

**Opponents are not allowed to interfere with the throw-in.**



# Procedure



**The ball is in play as soon as it enters the field by breaking the plane of the touch line and leaves the thrower's hands.**

**If the ball comes into play but then curves back out, the other team is awarded the throw-in.**

# Procedure



**If the throw-in is performed correctly, but the ball doesn't enter the field of play, the throw-in is retaken by the same team.**

**If the throw-in is not taken correctly, it is awarded to the opposing team to be taken at the same location.**



# Requirements

**If the ball touches the ground before entering the field, the throw-in is retaken by the same team from the same position.**



**After delivering the ball, the thrower must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.**



# Infringements

**If an opponent does not respect the minimum 2-yard distance, that player should be cautioned for failure to respect the required distance.**

**If the thrower does not put the ball into play, the throw-in is retaken.**

**For any other infringement, the throw-in is taken by a player of the opposing team.**





# Infringements

**If an opponent unfairly distracts or impedes the thrower, that player should be cautioned for unsporting behavior,**

**if the throw-in has been taken an indirect free kick (IFK) is awarded.**



# Infringements

**If, after the ball is in play, the thrower:**

- **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 offense occurred.**
- **deliberately handles the ball a direct free kick (DFK) is awarded to the opponents, taken from the spot the handling occurred. If the handling occurs within the throwers own penalty area a penalty kick (PK) will be awarded.**



# Permitted

**At the competitive youth level, not all throw-ins will be performed in a traditional manner.**

**For example, the flip throw, may be used by more advanced players.**

**Non-traditional deliveries are not by themselves infringements, provided they are performed in a manner that meets the requirements of Law 15.**



# Permitted

**A player who lacks the use of one or both hands may perform a legal throw-in provided the ball is delivered over the head and all other requirements of Law 15 are met.**

**A player may also intentionally throw-in the ball at another player, opponent or teammate, in order to play the ball again.**

**As long as they do not throw the ball carelessly, recklessly or with excessive force the throw-in is considered to be a fair tactic.**





# Procedure



**Referees should be sure to check with the local rules of competition as some small sided and recreational youth games may allow for incorrect throw-ins to be retaken for learning purposes.**



# REVIEW QUESTIONS

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# Review Question

**89. A throw-in is awarded when the ball wholly crosses a \_\_\_\_\_?**

- A. Touch line
- B. Goal line



# Review Question

**90. For a proper throw-in, is the thrower required to face the field and have part of both feet on the ground, either on the touch line or on the area off the field of play?**

- A. Yes
- B. No





# Review Question

**91. At a minimum, how far away must all opponents be from the location of a throw-in?**

- A. There is no minimum distance required
- B. 1 yard
- C. 2 yards
- D. 10 yards



# Review Question

**92. What is the correct restart if the ball goes directly into the opponent's goal without being touched by another player from a throw-in?**

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