



Law 10 (8 & 9)



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



Scoring a Goal

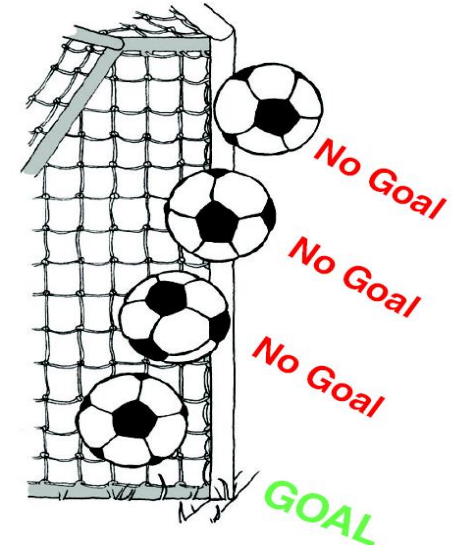
In order for a legal goal to be scored, the whole of the ball must cross the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar.

Referees and ARs must work hard to be in position to see if the ball is completely over the goal line before allowing the goal to count.



Scoring a Goal

In order for a legal goal to count, the attacking team must also not have committed any violation on the Laws of the Game.



Even if the whole ball passes over the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar, with no infringements committed by the attacking team, there are still exceptions that would result in the goal being disallowed.



Exceptions

While not listed in Law 10, there are a number of exceptions of which referees must be aware.

A goal cannot be scored directly from any of the following:

- **an indirect free kick (IFK);**
- **any free kick kicked into the kicking team's own goal;**
- **a throw-in;**
- **a dropped ball.**





Exceptions

A team can score against itself, but only during the course of play, not directly from a restart.



The keyword for referees to understand is **directly, i.e. **first touch**.**

A goal cannot be scored directly from any of these restarts, but these exceptions are no longer valid once the ball touches or is played by another player.



Winning the Game

The team that scores the most goals wins the game.



If both teams score the same number goals, or both score no goals, the game ends in a tie.

The local rules of competition will determine if any overtime periods are needed.



Responsibility

If a referee signals a goal before the ball has completely passed over the goal line, play is restarted with a dropped ball.

Games at the competitive youth level may require referees and ARs to communicate non-verbally and verbally to make sure these criteria have been met.





Positioning



The positioning of the AR can be very important in order to determine when a ball has completely crossed the goal line for a goal.



Positioning

ARs have the unique and useful perspective of being able to see in-line with the goal line.



Because of this, ARs need to make sure they are always following play to the goal line and staying focused on the location of the ball in proximity to the goal line.



REVIEW QUESTIONS



Review Question

- 50. Can the referee allow a goal if he is unsure if all the criteria for a legal goal have been met?**
- A. Yes, so long as the referee is at least 90% sure that the criteria have been met
 - B. No, and the referee should communicate with the referee team to make sure the correct decision is made



Review Question

51. What must happen for a legal goal to be scored?

- A. The ball must completely cross the goal line, between the goalposts and under the crossbar
- B. The ball must make contact with the goal net