

LAW VIII – THE START AND RESTART OF PLAY

1. Prior to the game, choice of ends shall be decided by the toss of a coin. The team winning the toss will decide which goal it will attack during the first period. The other team will take the kick-off to start the game.
2. Upon the referee's whistle, the game is started or restarted by a player taking a kick from the center mark. Until the ball is kicked, the players
 - A. of each team must be in their team's half of the field, and
 - B. the players of the opposing team must be at least 10 yards from the ball.
3. On a kick-off, the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward.
4. The kicker may not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player.

PUNISHMENT: For playing the ball twice, an INDIRECT free kick is awarded to the opposing team at the point where it was played the second time.
5. A goal may be scored DIRECT from a kick-off.
6. After a goal has been scored, the game is restarted with a kickoff by the team scored against.
7. On any occasion where it is necessary for the referee to temporarily stop a game, while the ball was in play, for any reason not mentioned elsewhere in these Laws, play is restarted with a drop ball, except as follows:
 - A. If the ball was in play within a goal area and not in possession of the goalkeeper when the stoppage occurred, it shall be dropped on that part of the goal area line which runs parallel to the goal –line at the point nearest to where the ball was when play was stopped.
 - B. If the ball was in clear possession of the goalkeeper or in clear control of one of the teams when the stoppage occurred,
 - (1) play will be restarted with an INDIRECT free kick taken by the team in control or in possession of the ball at the place where it was when the stoppage occurred, and in accordance with the overriding conditions of LAW XIII, subject to the following:
 - (2) *in the Passers (U-8) division, play will be restarted with an INDIRECT free kick taken by that team from a point, 12-yards from the goal-line, if the ball was not at least 12- yards from the goal-line when the stoppage occurred.*
8. A drop ball shall be in play when it touches the ground.
9. If a player plays the ball before it touches the ground, the referee shall again drop the ball.