

LAW XIII – FREE KICK

1. There are two types of free kicks:
 - A. **DIRECT**: from which a goal can be scored without being touched by another player, of either team, against the offending team only.
 - B. **INDIRECT**: from which a goal cannot be scored unless the ball has been touched by any other player, of either team, before it enters the goal.
2. When a free kick is being taken by the defending team from inside its own penalty-area,
 - A. all of the opposing players shall remain outside the penalty area and be at least 10 yards from the ball until the ball has been kicked out of the area.
 - B. to be in play, the ball must travel beyond the penalty area.
 - C. the free kick must be re-taken if the ball does not pass beyond the penalty area.
3. When a free kick is being taken outside the kicker's own penalty-area,
 - A. The ball may be kicked in any direction;
 - B. Players of the opposing team
 - (1) Should be at least 10 yards from the ball,
 - (2) Must be at least 10 yards from the ball if requested by either the kicker or referee (in which case it is recommended that a second whistle be used to restart play).
 - C. In the case of an INDIRECT Free Kick being taken within less than 10 yards of the opponent's goal, defending players may stand on the goal line, between the goal posts.
4. If players of the opposing side encroach into the penalty area, or within 10 yards of the ball, the referee may delay the taking of the free kick until the Law is complied with. Encroachment is unsporting behavior.
5. On all free kicks:
 - A. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.
 - B. The ball must be stationary when the free kick is taken.
6. Any free kick awarded to a defending team inside its own goal area, subject to the foregoing provision in Section 2:
 - A. shall be taken from a point anywhere within the goal-area in which the offense occurred, subject to the following:
 - B. *in the Passers (U-8) division, a free kick taken under these circumstances shall be taken from a point twelve (12) yards from the goal line nearest to where the offense occurred.*
7. Any INDIRECT free kick awarded to the attacking team within its opponent's goal-area shall be taken from the part of the goal-area line which runs parallel to the goal-line, at the point nearest to where the offense was committed.
8. The kicker may not play the ball again until it has been touched by another player.

PUNISHMENT: For playing the ball twice in succession, an INDIRECT Free Kick is awarded to the opposing team at the point where it was played the second time.

NOTES:

1. To indicate an indirect free kick, the referee shall raise an arm above his head. The referee shall retain the signal until the ball has been played or touched by another player or goes out of play.
2. When a free kick is being taken, players of the opposing team, who do not retire to the proper distance, or attempt to delay the taking of a free kick by encroaching, or dance about or wave their arms in a way calculated to distract their opponents, shall be cautioned for unsporting behavior.