



OHIO SOUTH STATE REFEREE COMMITTEE
A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION



FOUL RECOGNITION

Ohio South Intermediate Referee Training

Objectives



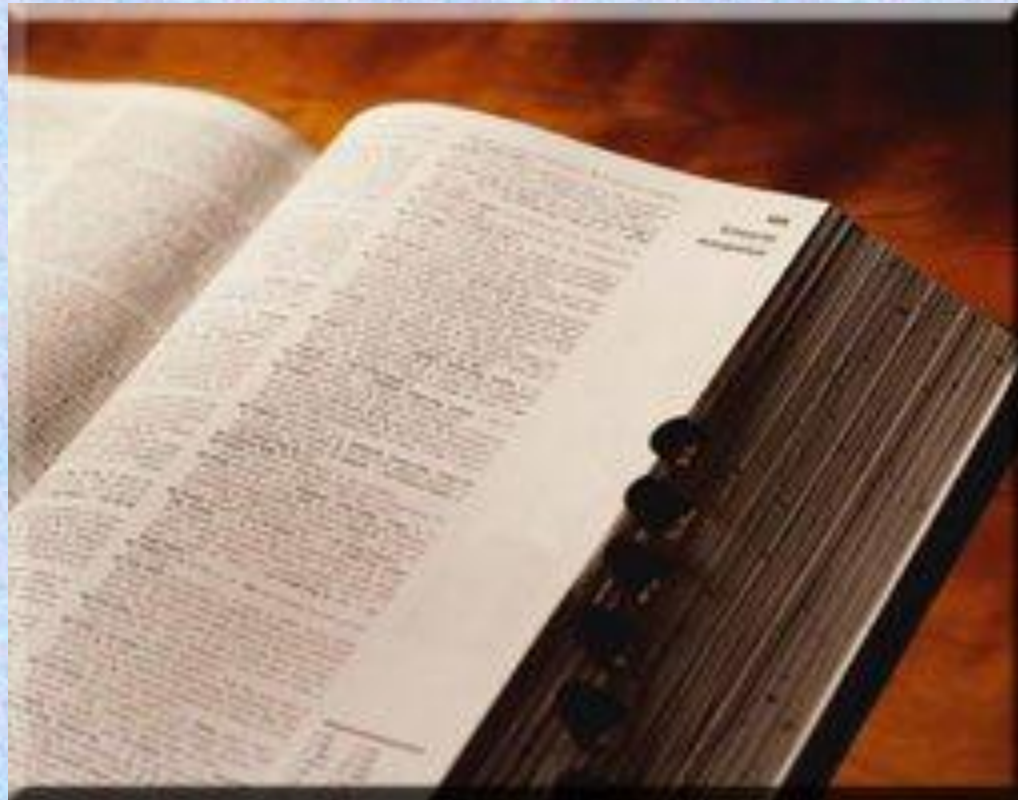
Know the definition of a “soccer foul”.

Know the difference between the different types of fouls.

Know the proper restart

Be able to better recognize fouls

What is FOUL (not just a soccer foul)?



Something that is...

UNSAFE

UNFAIR

DISHONEST

OFFENSIVE

TERRIBLE

CHEATING

What is a Soccer FOUL ?



- SOCCER DEFINITION -
A Foul is a violation of the
Laws committed...

- 1. By a player**
- 2. Against an opponent who is also a player (except handling)**
- 3. On the field of play**
- 4. While the ball is in play**

FOULS COME IN 2 FLAVORS



MINOR (IFK)

&

MAJOR (DFK)

Minor (IFK) Fouls

Minor Fouls by their nature are neither excessive nor severe.

Typically, the only reason to also consider misconduct (a yellow card) for a Minor Foul is **repetition.**



Minor (IFK) Fouls

1. Plays in a dangerous manner
2. Impedes the progress of an opponent
3. Prevents goalkeeper from releasing ball

Minor (IFK) Fouls

Goalkeeper inside own Penalty Area:

4. Takes more than 6 seconds while controlling the ball with their hands before releasing it into play

5. Regains hand control prior to touch by any other player

6. Touches ball with hands after ball having been deliberately kicked to GK by teammate

7. Touches ball with hands after throw-in by teammate

Major(DFK) Fouls

There are 10 Major Fouls

3 Major Fouls are not considered potentially violent

7 Major Fouls must be defined as careless ... reckless ... or using excessive force



Three (3) Major Fouls are only as specifically defined:

- **Deliberate Handling** Not a violent act
- **Holding** Generally not a violent act
- **Spitting At** Generally not a physically violent act, but **Always, a vile and repulsive act**

Seven (7) Major Fouls that are careless, reckless, or excessive:

- **Kicking** or attempts to kick
- **Striking** or attempts to strike
- **Tripping** or attempts to trip
- **Jumping At**
- **Charging**
- **Pushing**
- **Tackling**

RECOGNIZING A FOUL



Is it really a foul?

If it is a foul, does it need
to be called?

IS IT A FOUL?



Simply use the definition of a foul as written in the Laws

IS IT A FOUL THAT NEEDS TO BE CALLED?

- Is it trifling?
- Does it impact the ability of the player or team to play the ball?
- Does it impact your ability to officiate this match?
- Does it undermine your authority?
- Is it an insult to “the game”?



YOU HAVE TO SEE IT TO CALL IT!



TIPS

- Work and Move!
- Make the easy calls
- Go to where the ball is going ... not to where it is
- Do a pre-game and trust your referee team
- Look through the play to your AR
- Find the right focus point
- Feel the Heat!

WORK AND MOVE!

- Be fit and use your fitness
- Be TV screen close to play
- Find viewing angles
- Don't grow roots!



MAKE THE EASY CALLS

- Don't make it hard
 - Call the simple foul
 - Don't over-think
 - Relax
-
- If you were playing, would you want that foul called?



GO TO WHERE THE BALL IS GOING ... NOT TO WHERE IT IS

- Move before the kick
- Adjust your positioning based on play
- Understand the options
- Predict play



DO A PRE-GAME AND TRUST YOUR REFEREE TEAM



- Do a complete pre-game
- What to do if ARs see a foul?
- Don't leave anything to chance

LOOK THROUGH THE PLAY TO YOUR AR

- Move to a position where you can see the contact and see your Assistant Referee
- Let this mechanic determine when you need to go wide and when you can be narrow



FIND THE RIGHT FOCUS POINT

- Where do you look at players?
Feet? Thighs? Hips? Higher?
- Generally, looking at mid-thigh level is a good starting point
- If there are more fouls high, focus your look nearer the hip
- If there are more fouls low, focus your look nearer the knee



FEEL THE HEAT!

- Be aware when a game begins to boil
- Tighten up your foul selection if it does
- If game cools, loosen your foul selection
- Work harder the hotter the match
- Stay cool and be a source of calm





And..
have
fun?

Brain Teasers 4 - 9

Watch the six (6) attached (Foul?) video files BT4 thru BT9 and answer the following questions for each video.

- A. Is this a foul the referee should have called?
- B. If it is a foul ... is it careless? ... is it reckless? ... is it excessive?
- C. If it is a foul, what is the correct restart?
- D. Is there misconduct if so, what type?