

# Match Decision Making Considerations – Part 1

## **Fouls: careless, reckless, using excessive force/violent conduct**

- 1 Does the player show a lack of attention or consideration when making his challenge?
- 2 Does the player act without precaution when making the challenge?
- 3 Does the player make fair or unfair contact with the opponent after touching the ball?
- 4 Does the player act with complete disregard of the danger to his opponent?
- 5 Does the player act with a complete disregard of the consequences for his opponent?
- 6 Does the player have a chance of playing the ball in a fair manner?
- 7 Is the challenge putting an opponent in a dangerous situation?
- 8 Does the player touch the ball after making contact with the opponent?
- 9 Does the player far exceed the necessary use of force when making the challenge?
- 10 Does the player use brutality against an opponent when challenging?
- 11 Is the challenge clearly endangering the safety of the opponent?
- 12 What degree of speed and/or intensity is the player using when making the challenge?
- 13 Does the player show clear malice when making the challenge?
- 14 Does the player lunge at an opponent from the front, from the side or from behind?
- 15 Which part of the body has the player used to make contact?
- 16 Does the player use his studs when making a tackle?
- 17 On which part of the opponent's body is contact made?
- 18 In what direction are the tackler's feet pointing?
- 19 Is the player challenging for the ball at the moment the contact is made?
- 20 Does the player(s) charge the opponent in a fair manner?
- 21 Do you consider the foul an act of violent conduct or a serious foul play?
- 22 Has the challenge been committed in a fair manner or a careless manner?
- 23 Does the player use his arm as a 'tool' or a 'weapon'?
- 24 Does the player challenge for the ball in a fair manner?

## **Breaking up a promising attack**

- 1 What is the distance between the offence and the goal?
- 2 Does the player have control of the ball?
- 3 Can the player gain control of the ball?
- 4 What is the direction of play?
- 5 How many defenders are involved in the situation?
- 6 Where are the defenders located?
- 7 How many attackers are involved in the situation?
- 8 Where are the attackers located?
- 9 How many options to pass the ball did the player have when he was fouled?
- 10 Does the challenge break up a promising attack?

## **Denying a goal or a goalscoring opportunity**

- 1 What is the distance between the offence and the goal?
- 2 Does the player have control of the ball?
- 3 Can the player gain control of the ball?
- 4 What is the direction of play?
- 5 How many defenders are involved in the situation?
- 6 Where are the defenders located?
- 7 Is the offence a direct free kick or an indirect free kick?
- 8 If there is no offence, does the player have an obvious opportunity to score a goal?
- 9 Does the player deliberately handle the ball to deny the opposing TEAM a goal?

## **Handball**

- 1 Is the hand moving towards the ball or is the ball moving towards the hand?
- 2 Is the player's hands or arms in a "NATURAL POSITION" or an "UNNATURAL POSITION"?
- 3 Does the player attempt to avoid the ball striking his hand?
- 4 Does the ball strike his hand from a short or from a long distance?
- 5 Does the player use his hand or arm to deliberately touch or block the ball?
- 6 Does the player prevent an opponent gaining possession of the ball by handling it?
- 7 Does the player attempt to score a goal by deliberately handling the ball?
- 8 Does the player prevent a goal by deliberately handling the ball?
- 9 Does the player prevent an obvious goalscoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball?
- 10 Does the player try to deceive the referee by handling the ball?
- 11 Is the ball moving in the direction of the goal?

## **Holding**

- 1 Does the player hold an opponent to prevent him gaining possession of the ball?
- 2 Does the player hold an opponent to prevent him taking up an advantageous position?
- 3 Does the player deny an obvious goalscoring opportunity by holding an opponent?
- 4 Does the player hold an opponent with his hands or with his body?
- 5 Does the player hold an opponent for tactical purpose of pulling the player away from the ball?

## **Simulation**

- 1 Is there contact between the players involved?
- 2 Does the attacker use the slight contact to deceive the referee?
- 3 Has the attacker initiated the contact between his opponent and himself?
- 4 Is there fair/normal contact between the players, resulting in no offence being committed?
- 5 Has the attacker anticipated the contact between his opponent and himself?
- 6 Who was the initiator of the contact?
- 7 Has the player 'over' exaggerated the seriousness of the foul committed?
- 8 Does the defender simulate a foul to win a free kick?
- 9 Does the player attempt to deceive the referee?

## **Confrontation**

- 1 Were the original or initial offender's punished appropriately?
- 2 Were the actions of the players involved excessive with regard to physical contact?
- 3 Did the player(s) become involved unnecessarily by running from some distance?
- 4 Are the ARs effective in helping to prevent further confrontation between players?
- 5 Does the referee get "too close" to the incident and become caught up in the confrontation?
- 6 Does the referee remain calm when dealing with confrontation?
- 7 Does the referee touch or push the players?
- 8 Does the referee try to separate the first players at the beginning of the confrontation?
- 9 Does the 4th Official act appropriately?
- 10 Should any of the match officials make physical contact with players or members of the technical area?
- 11 Was a least one player from each team involved in the confrontation identified and punished appropriately?