



**ASSISTANT REFEREE TIPS**

**Positioning and Signaling**

**PRIOR TO KICK-OFF**

- Referee, assistant referees, and fourth official enter field together and move to centre of the field.
- Assistant referees have flags furled.
- After formalities, both assistant referees perform final check of nets and move to touch lines to take the offside position (level with second to last defender).
- Assistant referees unfurl flags and hold them straight down in view of the referee to signal readiness to start.

**GENERAL POSITIONING**

- Assistant referees in line with second to last defender or the ball, whichever is closer to the goal line.
- Flag held straight down and always visible to referee.
- Side-to-side movement, square to the field, unless speed is needed.
- Before signalling, stop, face field, and make eye contact with referee.

**GOALKEEPER POSSESSION / PUNT**

- Verifies the goalkeeper does not handle the ball outside of the penalty area.
- Follows the ball up field to cover offside (may begin moving earlier if obvious that the goalkeeper is not in a position to handle the ball outside the penalty area).

**THROW-IN**

**REFEREE'S END OF TOUCH LINE**

- Signals with a vertical flag in the appropriate hand (if necessary.)
- Direction of throw-in indicated by the hand in which the flag is held.

**ASSISTANT REFEREE'S END OF TOUCH LINE**

- Signals with flag 45 degrees upward in the direction of the throw-in.
- If the ball passes out of play and immediately returns to the field, signals with a vertical flag until acknowledged by the referee, then flags in the direction of the throw-in.
- Drops flag when it is clear that restart and direction are established.
- Maintains the offside position, unless in the way of the thrower, if so moves slightly toward the goal.
- Supervises throw-in elements per pre-game instructions.

**GOAL KICK**

- Points flag horizontally toward goal area with right hand.
- If the ball passes out of play and immediately returns to the field, with right hand signals with a vertical flag until acknowledged by the referee, then point flag horizontally towards goal area.
- Moves to top of goal area to check for proper placement of ball.
- Moves to top of penalty area, when needed, to verify that ball is properly put into play and that the attackers do not encroach into penalty area.
- If the keeper is taking the goal kick, move to a position to judge offside.

**CORNER KICK**

**REFEREE'S SIDE OF FIELD**

- Signals only if referee makes eye contact to ask for assistance by pointing with right hand the flag 45 degrees downward toward the near corner.
- Moves to the near corner and takes position in line with the goal line behind the flag.
- If the ball passes out of play and immediately returns to the field, with right hand signals with a vertical flag until acknowledged by the referee, then point flag 45 degrees downward toward the near corner.

**ASSISTANT REFEREE'S SIDE OF FIELD**

- With right hand, raise the flag vertically to get the referee's attention in cases where the ball left the field and quickly returned.
- Points the flag 45 degrees downward in the direction of the near corner.
- Ensures that the ball is properly placed.
- Takes a position in line with the goal line behind the flag, out of the way of players.
- Assist with defenders encroaching (9.15m)
- Following the kick, recovers the offside position as quickly as possible.



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### OFFSIDE

- Raises the flag vertically with right hand.
- If the referee misses the flag, stays at attention with the flag raised until the defence gains clear possession or until a goal kick or throw-in is awarded to the defence.
- Indicates the location of the offense by dropping the flag at an appropriate angle to a point in the field (far, middle, near side).

### GOAL

#### **Lead Assistant Referee**

- Checks visually with the referee.
- Runs a short distance up the touch line toward the halfway line to indicate to the referee that a goal has been scored.
- Keeps moving to avoid confrontation if approached.
- Observes the resulting player behaviour and the actions in and around the penalty area.
- Takes up the offside position.
- Keeps players under observation at all times.
- Records the goal after the trail assistant referee has recorded it.

#### **Trail Assistant Referee**

- Records the goal while the referee and lead assistant referee are returning to their positions for the restart.
- Observes players while the referee and lead assistant referee make notes.
- Keeps moving to avoid confrontation if approached.

### GOAL, BALL COMES BACK INTO FIELD OF PLAY

- Raises the flag vertically to get the referee's attention.
- When the referee stops play, puts flag straight down, runs a short distance up the touch line toward the halfway line.
- Follows the remaining mechanics for a goal.

### APPARENT GOAL TO BE DISALLOWED

- If the referee has stopped the game, stands in place.
- Signals the referee according to the situation. Assumes the proper position for the restart indicated by the referee.
  - If the *scorer was offside* at the moment the ball was passed to him, **signals offside**.
  - If there was a *foul by an attacker*, stands at **attention with no flag signal**.
  - If a player *other than the scorer was in an offside position* and, in the opinion of the assistant referee, was *interfering with play or with an opponent*, stands at **attention with no flag signal**.

### FOULS OBSERVED BY THE REFEREE

- Responds to eye contact by the referee requesting assistance regarding the location of the foul either by
  - To indicate that the infringement occurred outside the penalty area stand still and make no discernible signal.
  - To indicate that the infringement was committed by the defence inside the penalty area move to the corner flag and then follow penalty kick procedure.

### FOULS NOT SEEN BY REFEREE BUT INDICATED BY LEAD ASSISTANT REFEREE

- Determines that the infringement was not or could not be seen by the referee.
- Signals with the flag raised vertically in the hand appropriate for the restart direction and, upon making eye contact with the referee, gives the flag a slight wave.
- If the referee stops play, signals with the flag held 45 degrees upward in the direction of the restart for fouls committed by *any player outside the penalty area or by an attacker inside the penalty area*.
- Moves directly to goal line to assume the position for a penalty kick if a defender *inside the penalty area* committed the foul.
- Indicates the location of the restart if necessary.



**FOULS/MISCONDUCT INDICATED BY THE TRAIL ASSISTANT REFEREE**

**Trail Assistant Referee**

- Signals with the flag raised vertically and, upon making eye contact with the referee, gives the flag a slight wave.
- If need to speak to referee, place flag across the chest.

**Lead Assistant Referee**

- If the referee does not see the trail assistant referee's signal, the lead assistant referee mirrors the flag signal and, upon making eye contact with the referee, directs his attention to the trail assistant referee.

**PENALTY KICK**

- Moves quickly to the intersection of the goal line and the penalty area and prepares for the duties assigned by the referee in the pre-game.
- If a goal is scored, resumes the position to judge offside, keeps players under observation, and follows the normal goal procedure.
- If play continues, quickly resumes the position to judge offside (cutting the corner of the field if necessary) and keeps play in view.

**PENALTY KICK INDICATED BY THE LEAD ASSISTANT REFEREE**

- Signals with a flag straight up.
- Upon making eye contact with the referee, gives the flag a slight wave.
- If referee stops game, move to the corner flag and stands in front of the flag.
- Follow Penalty Kick procedure.

**MISCONDUCT-PLAY STOPPED**

- Prevent others on or off the field from interfering with the referee's procedures.
- Record any pertinent information to assist with subsequent reporting of the misconduct.
- Monitor the departure from the field of player(s) sent off.

**SUBSTITUTIONS**

- Gives the substitution signal by raising flag directly up in the air with both arms and turn it sideways above head, hold it up until eye contact is made with the referee.
- When acknowledged by the referee, lowers the flag.
- When no fourth official is present, the assistant referee comes to the halfway line to supervise, as instructed in pre-game.
- Ensures that the substitute does not enter the field until the player he is replacing has left the field.

**Trial Assistant Referee**

- If the referee does not see the lead assistant referee's signal, the trial assistant referee also gives the substitution signal.

**TIMING**

- Indicates within last 5 minutes (as instructed in pre-game) with arm across chest with appropriate number of fingers point the time remaining.
- Time expired, closed fist with arm across chest (can use discrete signal - closed fist on the shorts).

**END OF THE GAME**

- May secure the game ball if closer to it than the referee.
- Join the referee on the field by running towards him.
- Flags are furled.
- Keep players and team officials under observation at all times.
- Leave the field as a team after the teams have departed or have otherwise ceased all competitive activities.
- Congratulate each other (handshakes), inside change rooms. **NOT ON THE FIELD.**