



**FOOTBALL
AUSTRALIA**

LAWS OF THE GAME 2022/23

**CLARIFICATIONS & ASSOCIATED
LAW CHANGES**



LAW 3 – THE PLAYERS

- The temporary amendment giving 'top' competitions the option of allowing teams to use up to five substitutes (with limited substitution opportunities) becomes part of Law 3
- Competition rules may now allow a maximum of fifteen substitutes to be named



LAW 8 – THE START & RESTART OF PLAY

- Clarification that the referee tosses the coin to determine the 'ends' and kick-off and the wording to be consistent with Law 10.



LAW 10 – DETERMINING THE OUTCOME OF A MATCH

- A team official may be cautioned or sent off during kicks from the penalty mark



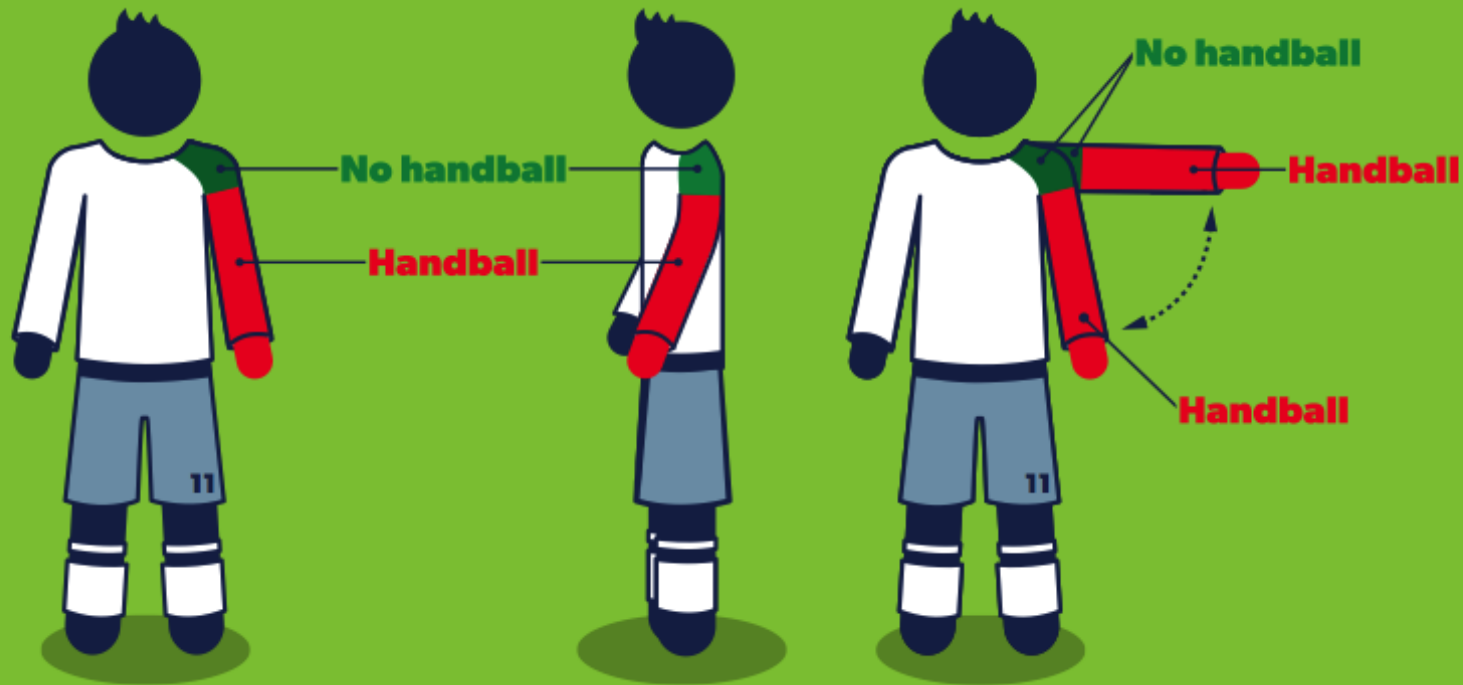
LAW 12 – FOULS & MISCONDUCT

- The reference to handball offences in the DOGSO section could be misinterpreted, meaning a goalkeeper can be sent off for a handball offence in their own penalty area. Therefore the wording in the 'Sending-off offences' section of Law 12 has been updated.



LAW 12 – FOULS & MISCONDUCT

- The Law is clear that a free kick cannot be given for an offence against an outside agent. However, if a player leaves the field of play without the referee's permission and then commits such an offence while the ball is in play, an indirect free kick is awarded for the offence of leaving the field of play without the referee's permission at the point on the boundary line where the player left the field of play.



LAW 12 – FOULS & MISCONDUCT

IMPROVED HANDBALL ILLUSTRATION

- In order to make the definition of the areas which are to be considered handball (or not) clearer, the explanatory illustration has been updated to make it clear that the arm 'starts' at the bottom of the armpit and not the 'T' shirt sleeve line.



LAW 14 – THE PENALTY KICK

- Previously, the goalkeeper was required to have part of at least one foot on/above the goal line at the moment when a penalty kick (or kick from the penalty mark) was taken. Consequently, if the goalkeeper had one foot in front of the goal line and one behind it, this was technically an offence even though no unfair advantage is gained. The text has been amended to avoid such a position being penalised.
- Explanation of this amendment should emphasise that the ‘spirit’ of the Law requires the goalkeeper to have both feet on/above the line until the moment when the kick is taken, i.e. the goalkeeper may not stand behind (or in front of) the goal line.



LAW 11 – OFFSIDE

CLARIFICATION OF THE
GUIDELINES TO DISTINGUISH
BETWEEN '**DELIBERATE PLAY**'
AND '**DEFLECTION**'

GUIDELINES



The guidelines for distinguishing between 'deliberate play' and 'deflection' (not deliberate play) are clarified as follows:

'Deliberate play' is when a player has control of the ball with the possibility of:

- passing the ball to a team-mate; or
- gaining possession of the ball; or
- clearing the ball (e.g. by kicking or heading it).

If the pass, attempt to gain possession or clearance by the player in control of the ball is inaccurate or unsuccessful, this does not negate the fact that the player 'deliberately, played' the ball.