



The FA Referee Course

PRE-COURSE ACTIVITY PACK

N A M E :



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The FA Referee Course is delivered and assessed/awarded by FA Education

It is one of a number of qualifications awarded by FA Education as part of The Football Association's education strategy. We hope you will find your course productive and enjoyable. Please consider other FA Education qualifications to support your progression within your work in football.

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FOREWORD



David Elleray MBE
Chairman, the FA Referees' Committee



Neale Barry
Head of Refereeing

In the coming weeks, you will be attending The FA Referee Course, designed to equip you with the necessary skills and knowledge to help you to embark on your refereeing journey.

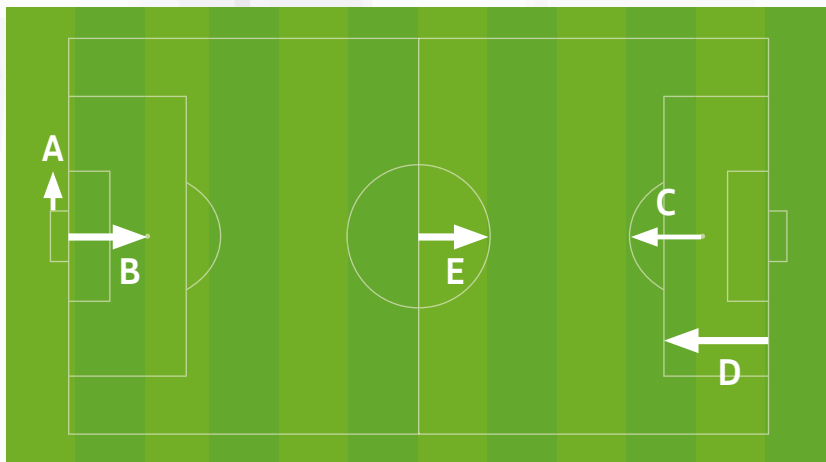
It is essential that you have a thorough knowledge of the Laws of the Game before you attend the course. Please therefore familiarise yourself with them at <http://www.theifab.com/laws> and take the time to fill in the blanks and answer the questions on the pages that follow.

On behalf of The FA, we would like to wish you every success.

01. THE FIELD OF PLAY

Matches may be played on natural or artificial surfaces, according to the rules of the competition.

The colour of artificial surfaces must be green.



1) Dimensions of the Field of Play are? (fill in the blanks)

- a) Touchline: Length (min) M (max) M
- b) Goal Line: Width (min) M (max) M

2) How many compulsory corner flags are required?

3) Complete the below dimensions that match the above diagram;

- A) M B) M C) yds D) yds E) M

02. THE BALL

During play the ball bursts outside the goal area, you as the referee stop play and replace the ball.

How should you restart play?



03. THE PLAYERS

A match is played by two teams, each with a maximum of eleven players; one must be the goalkeeper. A match may not start or continue if either team has fewer than seven players.



1) In official competitions, what is the maximum number of substitutes that can be used

2) Where on the field of play must all substitutions take place?

3) When can a goalkeeper be changed?

04. THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous. All items of jewellery (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands, etc.) are forbidden and must be removed. Using tape to cover jewellery is not permitted.

What is wrong with the players' equipment below?



05. THE REFEREE

Powers and Duties - The Referee... *(fill in the blanks)*

- [] the Laws of the Game.
- Ensures that any ball used meets the requirements of Law []
- Ensures that the [] meets the requirements of Law 4.
- Acts as [] and keeps a record of the match.
- Ensures that any player bleeding from a wound leaves the []
- The player may only return on receiving a signal from the [] who must be satisfied that the bleeding has stopped.
- Ensures that no unauthorised persons [] the field of play.
- Provides the appropriate authorities with a [], which includes information on any disciplinary action taken against players and/or [] and any other incidents that occurred before, during or after the match.

05. THE REFEREE (CONTINUED)

What items of equipment would you need to take out with you on to the field of play?

1		4	
2		5	
3		6	

Decisions

1. When and how to enforce the Laws of the Game in order to control the match.

2. How to best cooperate with the other match officials (where applicable).

3. When to stop, suspend or terminate a match (e.g. for infringements, injuries, weather, misconduct and outside)interferences).

4. When to penalise infringements and which sanction to apply.

5. When and how to apply advantage.

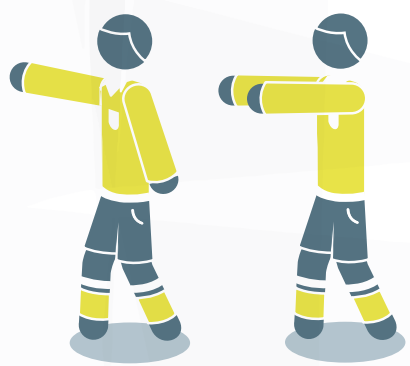
6. How, where and when to restart the match in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

05. THE REFEREE (CONTINUED)

Applying Advantage

If a player is fouled but their team appears to have an advantage e.g. they break clear on goal or can develop play effectively (having possession of the ball does not always constitute an advantage) you can play advantage.

In this situation do not stop play but wait to see if the advantage develops – if it does then you shout ***“play on, advantage”*** and give either of the approved arm signals - see images.



If the advantage does not develop and play is within the same phase, you should stop play and penalise the original offence where it occurred.

If you play advantage you can speak to or caution the offending player as appropriate at the next stoppage in play.

What criteria do you think you should consider when applying advantage?	
1	
2	
3	
4	

05. THE REFEREE (CONTINUED)

Keep a record of:

- When a goal is scored
- The result of the match
- Substitutes' names
- Details of cautions/send offs
- Other misconduct

Disciplinary Powers:

- You may caution a player
- You may send a player from the field of play
- You may take action against team officials who fail to act in a responsible manner

Any disciplinary action must be noted and submitted to the authorities.

Made a mistake?

If the referee makes a mistake (e.g. awards a free kick the wrong way) the decision may be changed to the correct one as long as play has not restarted.



The ball is back in play when: (tick the right one)

A. The referee blows their whistle to restart play

B. The ball is kicked or thrown back in to play

06. THE OTHER MATCH OFFICIALS

NEUTRAL ASSISTANTS – can help you control the game by assisting and advising on incidents that occur during the game, some of which you may not have seen or heard.

CLUB ASSISTANTS – keep instructions simple. Ask them to indicate ball in and out of play, direction of the throw-in and offside should they be capable. Tell them where to stand (e.g. on the touchline in the half of the field nearer to your own teams left back.)

Remember the final decision is that of the referee!

For further information on the Fourth Official and Additional Assistant Referees, see page 54 in the IFAB Laws of the Game book.

07. THE DURATION OF THE MATCH

A match last for two equal halves of Mins

Players are entitled to an interval at half-time, not exceeding Mins

You may lose time in a half through:	
1	Assessment and/or removal of injured players
2	Stoppages for drinks or other medical reasons permitted by competition rules
3	
4	
5	
6	

08. THE START AND RESTART OF PLAY

Dropped Ball

A dropped ball is a method of restarting play when, while the ball is still in play, the referee is required to stop play temporarily for any reason not mentioned elsewhere in the Laws of the Game.

When is the ball in play?

How many players do you need for a dropped ball?

Kick - Off

The kick-off is a way of starting or restarting play: at the start of a match, after a goal is scored, at the start of the second half of the match and at the start of each period of extra time (*where applicable*).

When is the ball in play?

How many players do you need for a dropped ball?



09. THE BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

The ball is out of play when?

10. DETERMINING THE OUTCOME OF A MATCH

When is a goal scored?

When would you take kicks from the penalty mark?



11. OFFSIDE

It is not an offence to be in an offside position.

If a player is in an offside position, the referee must decide:

1. Is the player interfering with play?
2. Is the player interfering with an opponent?
3. Is the player gaining an advantage by being in that position?

If an offside offence occurs, the referee awards an indirect free kick where the offence occurred, including if it is in the player's own half of the field of play.

What do you think constitutes interfering with play?



12. FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

List the 7 Cautionable offences:	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

List the 7 Sending Off offences:	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	



12. FOULS AND MISCONDUCT (CONTINUED)

The following conditions must be met for an offence to be considered a foul:

1. It must be committed by a player
2. It must occur on the field of play
3. It must occur while the ball is in play

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences against an opponent in a manner considered by the referee to be careless, reckless or using excessive force: *(fill in the blanks)*

1	Kicks or attempts to kick
2	
3	
4	Strikes or attempts to strike (including head-butt)
5	
6	
7	

12. FOULS AND MISCONDUCT (CONTINUED)

Define these 3 types of foul challenges:

CARELESS

RECKLESS

EXCESSIVE FORCE

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences: *(fill in the blanks)*

1

2

Holds an opponent

3

4

13. FREE KICKS

What are the two types of Free Kicks?

Direct Free Kicks

A direct free kick is taken from the place where the offence occurred.

For both direct and indirect free kicks, the ball must be stationary when the kick is taken and the kicker must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

If a direct free kick is kicked in to a team's own goal, what would you do?

If a foul is committed by a defending player on the goal line of their own penalty area, what decision should you give?

Direct free kick

Indirect free kick

Penalty kick

13. FREE KICKS (CONTINUED)

Indirect Free Kicks

A goal cannot be scored directly from an indirect free kick.
How far must the opposition be from the ball at an indirect free kick?

Below is the referees signal, indicating an indirect free kick.
At the taking of a free kick, when is the ball in play?



14. THE PENALTY KICK

A penalty kick is awarded if a player commits a direct free kick offence inside their penalty area or off the field as part of play as outlined in Laws 12 and 13.

Can the goalkeeper move along the goal line before the kick is taken?	
YES	NO



The players other than the taker must be located: *(fill in the blanks)*

- Inside the
- Outside of the penalty area
- Behind the
- At least . M from the penalty mark

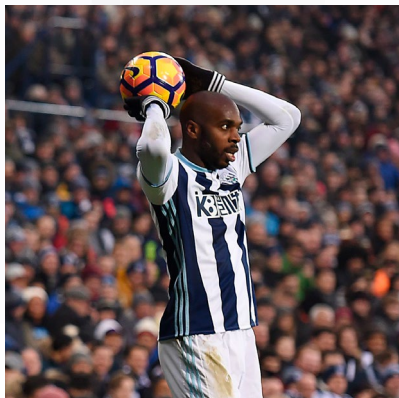
15. THE THROW-IN

A throw-in is awarded to the opponents of the player who last touched the ball when the whole of the ball crosses the touch line, either on the ground or in the air.

Can a goalkeeper take a throw-in with their gloves on?

YES

NO



16. THE GOAL KICK

A goal kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the attacking team, and a goal is not scored.



If the ball is not kicked directly out of the penalty area from a goal kick, what should happen?

17. THE CORNER KICK



A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick, but only against the opposing team.

Can the corner flag be removed in order to take a corner kick?

YES

NO

How far must the opponents be from the ball at the taking of a corner?

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Now that you've completed your pre-course activities, please see below the answers to a few questions you might have before you attend The FA Referee Course.

What clothing should I wear/bring with me?

As the course is practically based, you will need to wear adequate outdoor clothing and football kit ready to participate in practical activities which may include playing match scenarios. You should also bring wet weather gear as the one thing we are unable to guarantee is the weather.

What footwear will I need to bring?

As we will be both indoors and outside during the course, in a classroom environment and on a grass/3G pitch, you will need indoor trainers and football boots for pitch use.

Will I need to purchase a whistle and flags for the course?

As part of your course fee you will be supplied with a whistle and red/yellow cards. Flags will be provided by the tutors for use on the course.

What sort of practical activities will I be involved in during the course?

You will act as a referee, assistant referee and a player during the course. This will require you to be fit enough to get involved in all of these capacities. You will at some stages be part of a match scenario.

Will I require a packed lunch/refreshments/etc?

Yes, lunch is not provided and you should bring your own lunch and refreshments for the duration of the course. There will be adequate times factored in for water breaks and lunch. Please be aware that not all venues will have access to refreshments which is why we recommend you bring them with you. In sunny weather you may wish to consider bringing and using your own sun screen protection (lotion/cream/hat).



NOTES



NOTES

**Coaching
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