

# IFAB<sup>®</sup>

THE  
INTERNATIONAL  
FOOTBALL  
ASSOCIATION  
BOARD

## Laws of the Game 2020/21

*Summary of main changes*



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SINCE 1886

# Laws of the Game 2020/21

Clarifications and associated Law changes

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## Handball

- ‘accidental’ handball by an attacking player (or team-mate) is only penalised if it occurs ‘immediately’\* before a goal or clear goal-scoring opportunity

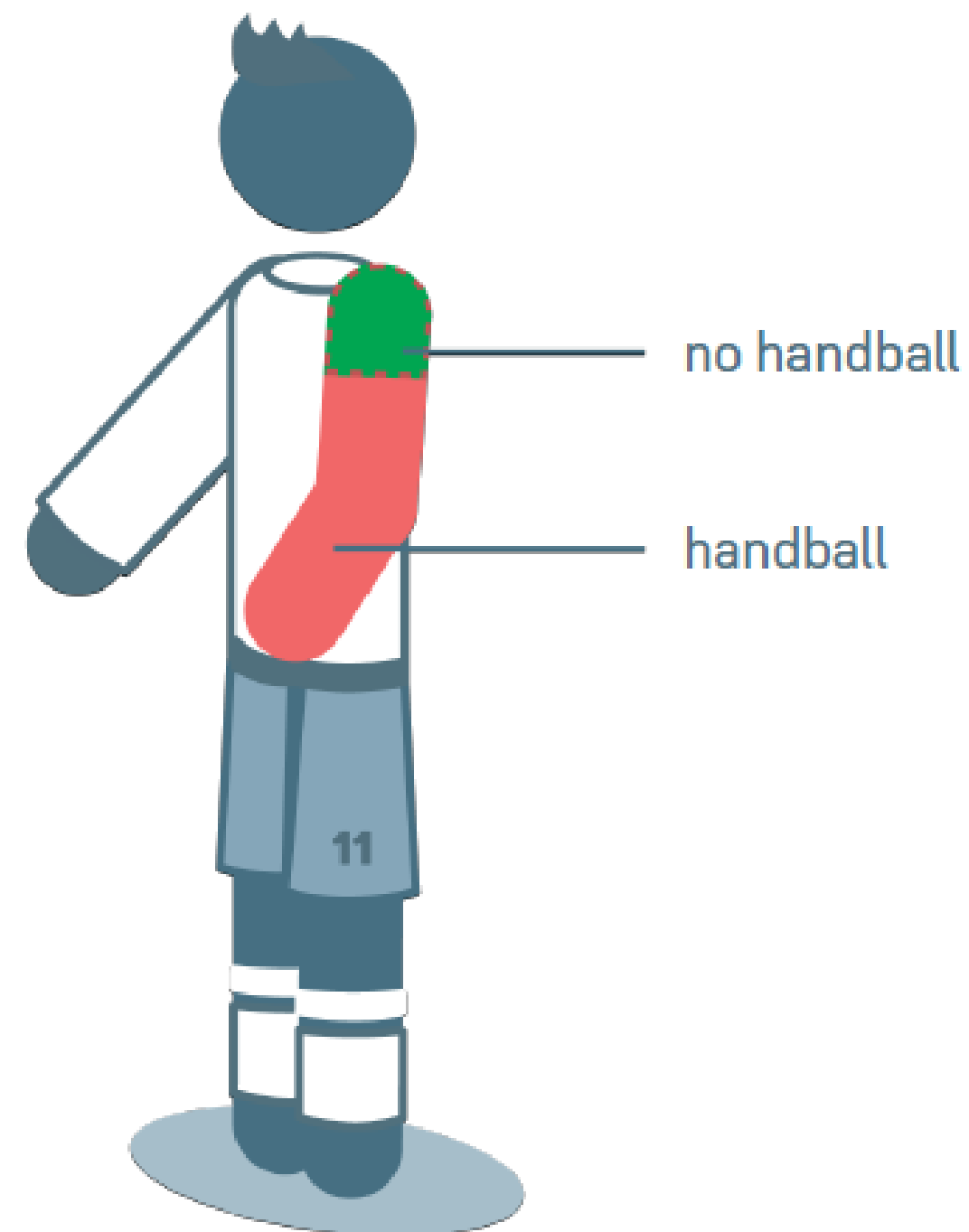
*\*ball travels short distance and/or very few passes*

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### Handball

- the boundary between the shoulder and the arm is defined as the bottom of the armpit



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## Goalkeeper

- If the goalkeeper takes a FK or GK and then touches the ball again before it has touched another player it is an IDFK. If this stops a promising attacker it is a YC, if it is a DOGSO offence it is a RC – this applies even if the GK handles the ball

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## Penalty Kicks and Kicks from the Penalty Mark (KFPM)

- Goalkeeper offence is not penalised if the kick misses or rebounds (no touch from the goalkeeper) unless kicker clearly affected

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- Goalkeeper offence is not penalised if the kick misses or rebounds (no touch from the goalkeeper) unless kicker clearly affected
- If goalkeeper offence results in a retake, goalkeeper is warned for 1<sup>st</sup> offence; YC for any further offence(s)
- YCs and warnings (players & team officials) are not carried forward into KFPM

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## VAR protocol

- Only one 'TV signal' is required for a VAR-only review
- Expectation that reviews for subjective decisions will be 'on-field reviews'

## Glossary

- Holding – only if impedes a player's movement
- A player's position at a restart is the position of the feet (or any part of the body touching the ground) - *except for Offside*

## Corona virus (COVID 19)

- Top competitions ending in 2020 now have option to allow teams to use 5 substitutes, but:
  - only 3 substitutions opportunities (excluding half-time)
  - if both teams make a substitution at the same time it will count as one opportunity for both teams
- Competitions can discontinue using VAR; if continue ALL parts of protocol apply
- Spitting (unless directed at someone) is not a YC – post-match disciplinary matter