DIRECT KICK

An informative newsletter brought to you by Catoosa Soccer Association

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Skills Development Camp July 16-18

There are still plenty of slots available for the 2018 Catoosa Soccer Association Skills Development camp with the Wolverhampton Wanderers FC of the English Premier League (EPL)! The camp will be held Monday July 16—Wednesday July 18 at Rodger berry Sports Complex, 9am-3:30pm. The cost is $105 per player. Campers who register at least two weeks from the start will receive a camp shirt.

The gate will open between 7:30 and 8:00am each morning if parents need to drop players off on the way to work. CSA will provide a light lunch/snack each day for all campers and volunteers.

In addition to the skills camp, CSA is providing an extra day free of charge to registered campers. This extra day will be on Thursday, 6-8pm. The focus for this evening will be agility, strength, and speed. Nationally renowned coach Reginal Reynolds will be providing the format. (To give you an idea of his knowledge, Coach Reynolds has worked with the OKC Thunder, the Tulsa Shock, and national sports camps across the nation.)

The camp and skills training is a great opportunity for players to learn from best programs in the world. It is also a chance for coaches to learn, as well! Please be looking for more details to come your way in the near future!

Register for the camp at **www.bit.ly/catoosa**.

Fireworks Fundraiser

We will once again operate a fireworks stand at the Blue Whale, partnering with Big Blast Fireworks. This fundraiser begins on June 20 and will run through July 5th. We need everyone's help, and there is plenty of time to plan around schedules to help out. The sign-up is online and can be found through **SignUpGenius.com**.

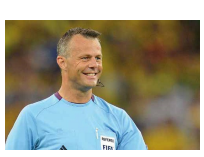
Please, don't wait for someone else to help! Let us count on you!

Fall Registration Open!

Registration for the fall 2018 season is now open. All players, coaches (including assistants), and team managers must complete this registration. An "Early Bird" discount is available for those who register before August 1. There is also a family discount for players in the same family, registering at the same time, and is available for up to 5 players after the first registered player.

Individual account login information has been sent to all players that were registered this past spring. Registration will end on Sunday, August 12 at 11:59pm. **Click here to register**!

Laws of the Game Explained: Direct Free Kick vs Indirect Free Kick vs Drop Ball



So, the referee blew his whistle. Now what? After a judgement call is made by a referee, SOMETHING has to happen, and that something is dependent on the infringement. Whatever that something is, it is non-negotiable...it is written in the Laws of the Game!

First, let's look at the definition of a Direct Free Kick (DFK) and of Indirect Free Kick (IFK).

The Laws of the Game states that a DFK 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: charges, jumps at, kicks or attempts to kick, pushes, strikes or attempts to strike (including head-butt), tackles or challenges, trips or attempts to trip." With a DFK, the kicker may score a goal DIRECTLY, without the ball touching another player. Another thing to consider is that the ball MUST be in play for a DFK to be awarded. If the ball is not in play, then play is restarted in the same manner it would have been had the offense not occurred.

According to the Laws, an IFK indirect free kick is awarded if, while the ball is in play, a player: 1) plays in a dangerous manner, impedes the progress of an opponent without any contact being made, 2) is guilty of dissent, using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures or other verbal offences, 3) prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from the hands or kicks or attempts to kick the ball when the goalkeeper is in the process of releasing it, 4) or commits any other offence, not mentioned in the Laws, for which play is stopped to caution or send off a player. An IFK is also awarded for an offside offense.

An indirect free kick is also awarded if a goalkeeper, inside their penalty area, commits any of the following offences: 1) controls the ball with the hands for more than six seconds before releasing it, 2) touches the ball with the hands after releasing it and before it has touched another player, it has been deliberately kicked to the goalkeeper by a team-mate, or receiving it directly from a throw-in taken by a team-mate.

For clarity, a goalkeeper is considered to be in control of the ball when: the ball is between the hands or between the hand and any surface (e.g. ground, own body) or by touching it with any part of the hands or arms except if the ball rebounds accidentally from the goalkeeper or the goalkeeper has made a save and is holding the ball in the outstretched open hand or bouncing it on the ground or throwing it in the air just before releasing the ball into play. A goalkeeper cannot be challenged by an opponent when in control of the ball with the hands.

The last two things to note about an IFK is that, when awarded, 1) the ball MUST touch another player after the kicker before entering the goal in order for a score to be awarded and 2) the referee indicates that an IFK has been awarded with one han raised until the ball has been touched by a second player. Please note that another player does not have to deliberately play the ball; the ball must simply TOUCH at least one player after the kicker puts the ball into play.

Finally, a Drop Ball is the restart used when something "odd" happens that stops or interferes while the ball is in play, such as an inadvertent whistle, a dog running onto the field and snatching the ball, the ball becoming flat, or a bird strike (yes, it has happened). The ball is in play once the referee drops it and the ball touches the ground. A drop ball is similar to an IFK in that a goal cannot be directly scored by a player involved with the drop ball. There is no set number of players that must be involved, as either team can have 0 or 11 players involved.

In short, for the most part, DFKs are awarded when an offence is committed against another player, Whereas IFKs are awarded for non-contact offences (of course, there are exceptions to each). Hopefully, you now have a better understanding of the differences between the DFK and IFK.