

BUILD OUT LINES – EFFECTIVE FOR 7v7 DIVISIONS FALL 2017/SPRING 2018

Rules and Requirements:

- The build out line promotes playing the ball out of the back in a less pressured setting
- When the goalkeeper has the ball in his or her hands during play from the opponent, the opposing team must move behind the build out line until the ball is put into play
 - The goalkeeper can pass, throw or roll the ball into play. (Punts and drop kicks are not allowed.) The goalkeeper can (but is not required to) wait until the opposing players have moved behind the buildout line. (See below.)
 - If a goalkeeper punts or drop kicks the ball, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense
 - If the punt or drop kick occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred
 - After the ball is put into play by the goalkeeper, the opposing team can cross the build out line and play resumes as normal
- The opposing team must also move behind the build out line during a goal kick until the ball is put into play. NOTE: On a goal kick, the ball is not in play until it leaves the penalty area, so the opposing team should NOT cross the build out line until the ball leaves the penalty area
- The build out line will also be used to denote where offside offenses can be called
 - Players cannot be penalized for an offside offense between the halfway line and the build out line
 - Players can be penalized for an offside offense between the build out line and goal line

Practical Applications:

- Ideally, the goalkeeper will wait to put the ball into play once all opponents are past the build out line
- However, the goalkeeper can put the ball into play sooner but he or she does so accepting the positioning of the opponents and the consequences of how play resumes
- To support the intent of the development rule, coaches and referees should be mindful of any intentional delays being caused by opponents not retreating in a timely manner or encroaching over the build out line prior to the ball being put into play
- Coaches are responsible for addressing these types of issues with their players
- Referees are allowed to manage the situation with misconduct if deemed appropriate
- Referees are advised to be flexible when enforcing the 6 second rule and are told that counting the time of possession should only begin when all opponents have moved behind the build out line

Demarcation:

WYSL Rule IV.4: “Fields used for [7v7] divisions are required to have a buildout line marked on each half of the field, which should be equidistant between the penalty area line and the halfway line. While it is preferred to mark the build out line with the normal field lining used for the touch lines and end lines, the buildout lines may be demarked by chalk or other temporary lines. In the absence of such markings, the build out lines may be created by placing a pair of cones or comparable objects on opposite sides of the field, more than a yard outside of the respective touch lines, such that each build out line would consist of the points between the pair of cones, inside of the touch lines. Whether temporary markings or cones or other objects are used, the referee must determine that such marking or objects do not adversely impact the safety of the field and are sufficiently visible to apply the applicable Standards of Play.”