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Continuing Education Webinar Series
Referee Program
Handling the Ball

Handling the Ball



Four (4) points in the Law define **handling offenses**

- **If a player:**
 1. deliberately touches the ball with their hand/arm
 2. scores in the opponent's goal directly from their hand/arm
 3. immediately, after ball touches their or teammate's hand/arm:
 - scores in the opponent's goal
 - created a goal-scoring opportunity
 4. touches the ball with their hand/arm when:
 - the hand/arm has made their body unnaturally bigger
 - the hand/arm is above/beyond their shoulder level

Handling the Ball



There is one exception for the fourth point:

- **If a player:**

4. touches the ball with their hand/arm when:

- the hand/arm has made their body unnaturally bigger
- the hand/arm is above/beyond their shoulder level (**unless the player deliberately plays the ball which then touches their hand/arm**)

Handling the Ball – No Offense



The next four (4) points in the Law describe instances where **NO offense** is committed

“... Except for the [previously listed] offenses, it is NOT an offense **if the ball touches a player’s hand/arm...**”

1. directly from the player’s own head or body
2. directly from the head or body of another player who is close
3. the hand/arm is close to the body and does NOT make the body unnaturally bigger
4. the hand/arm is between the body and the ground to support, but not extended laterally or vertically away from the body

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THANK YOU