

CWPA Online Referee Education

February 2019 Release

Computer Required with Internet Access. Questions/feedback can be sent by email or text:
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Topic: Penalty Fouls Part I

We are going to deal with Penalty Fouls in a two part series. This session will deal primarily with **Rule 8 Section2. Within 5-Meter Area To Prevent Goal**

“For a defending player to commit any foul within the 5-meter area but for which a goal probably would have resulted.”

Referees need to focus on the offensive players position relative to the defense or defender when considering a no-call, exclusion foul or penalty foul within the 5-meter area. Here are six thoughts for focus.

1. Is the player within the 5-meter area?
2. What position is the offensive player relative to the defender and relative to the goal? Is the player facing the goal and do you think it would be a probable goal if the defender was not there or fouling?? Is the advantage clear and was it gained legally?
3. Hand on the ball is not a foul unless striking/kicking or a player safety issue. Hand off the ball greatly increases the potential for a foul, whether holding/sinking or just impeding.
4. Have **patience** when making your judgement, it might just result in a shot attempt, a natural goal scored or a good defensive play.
5. Remember it's the defender's responsibility to show he or she is not fouling.
6. The time in the game, the score of the game should not make a difference. Call what you see in a timely fashion and be consistent from start to finish and from game to game.

Here are several video clips to depict different situations for reviewing penalty foul situations.

Dartfish.tv videos:

<https://www.dartfish.tv/Player?CR=p7695c298041m4646427&CL=1>

01-Penalty Foul and Administration of

Duration: 00:32

In limited collection:[19-0219-Referee Education](#)

The open player on the counter attack gets inside the 5 meter line with two defenders trailing. The ball is on the right side and gets passed to him center goal positioning. The open player needed to slow down to receive the pass which allowed the defenders to close the gap. One defender uses his right hand to press down on the open player sinking him as his hand momentarily touches the ball. The open player feels the defender and releases the ball as he is sinking from the defenders pressure thus creating a penalty foul situation which is called by the attack referee.

Note: the player taking the penalty shot is a lefty so the perimeter referee takes control of administering the penalty foul while the attack referee moves back to cover the other players. The referee positions on the 5M line to position the shooter and to make sure the defenders on either side are spaced far enough away from the shooter. Next the referee walks down near the goal line to make sure the goalie's head is on the goal line. Once the referee see's the players are positioned properly he raises his arm, blows the whistle and drops his arm simultaneously which signals the shooter to take the shot in an uninterrupted motion without moving inside the 5M line before the shot is taken.

<https://www.dartfish.tv/Player?CR=p7695c298041m4648478&CL=1>

02-Penalty foul-M-CF positions inside_F

Duration: 00:51

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The ball starts at P5 position, moves to P4 and is passed into the CF with good inside water positioning. The CFD and CF were in a mutual two hand lock-up which is a neutral situation. If either player attempts to break from this position and is prevented by holding it would be either an offensive foul or defensive exclusion (penalty foul potential). The use of two hands is illegal but if you don't see the instigator it can become a neutral situation as demonstrated. In this situation the CF releases to receive the ball and makes a stunning play to draw a penalty foul. Once a defender plays from behind to get at the ball in the hand of the offensive player, he is destined to foul by sinking when the ball is released or knocked away.

<https://www.dartfish.tv/Player?CR=p7695c298041m4659254&CL=1>

03-W-CF TurnGoalie_F

Duration: 00:21

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The ball will start at the P4 position with the CF at center goal about 3-meters from the goal line. The CF has a good position to receive the ball and the CFD is not contesting her position. The

ball comes into the CF from P4 and she commences to turn toward the goal with the ball sliding in front of her. The CFD never attempted to show she was not fouling by immediately putting her hands in the air vertically. The CF tries to move to the ball but is prevented to do so because the CFD is pulling back. The goalie comes out to make an attempt to reach the ball but the penalty foul was called by the attack referee. An observation after the video was produced: The CF actually used her right hand to pull down on the CFD's right forearm initially to control the defender and keep her behind and on the CF's back. If the referee could see this subtle action it would be an offensive or contra foul and the ball turned over. It was very quick and subtle action.

<https://www.dartfish.tv/Player?CR=p7695c298041m4648484&CL=1>

04-W-Penalty Angle P1 Drive-in_F

Duration: 00:17

In limited collection: [19-0219-Referee Education](#)

Because of a drop defender on the CF, P4 has the ball with no defender. P4 looks to the far side and sees P1 make a move on her defender to get inside water positioning at an angle to the goal. P4 makes the pass to P1 and her defender holds/sinks to try and recover from her attention deficit mistake. It's a scenario inside the 5M line with the potential for a goal. Whether she is inside or outside the goal post makes no difference. It's the defenders responsibility to show she is not fouling. The offensive player in this situation would have an excellent opportunity to score a goal without the defender fouling her. Yes, I would view this as a probable goal situation. The defender would have been better off letting her go (not fouling) and see if the goalie could block a shot attempt from short range. Remember the Penalty Rule does not mention consideration of position outside the goal post, just: "Within the 5M.....any foul.....probable goal." These are the key words to focus on when making your decision.

<https://www.dartfish.tv/Player?CR=p7695c298041m4646549&CL=1>

05-2M-CF inside_pass into Penalty-F

Duration: 00:36

In limited collection: [19-0219-Referee Education](#)

This scenario takes place late in the counter with an offensive player in the P5 area uncovered with the ball looking to execute a dry pass into a player occupying the CF position in front of the goal. Just before the pass is released the CFD attacks the CF position hands down and sinking. The CF makes a futile attempt to reach the ball for an attempt on goal. The quality of the pass should not be an issue to the attack referee rather the defender is fouling a player in an advantage position for a probable goal. Especially with the goalie out of position. Pass too high should not come into the equation when making this judgement call. It's the responsibility of the defender to show he is not fouling.

<https://www.dartfish.tv/Player?CR=p7695c298041m4646525&CL=1>

06-2M-M-No Call or Penalty_F

Duration: 00:38

In limited collection: [19-0219-Referee Education](#)

The ball is going to be passed into the CF from the P1 position. The attack referee can see the CFD holding with his arm over the CF shoulder before the pass goes from the P3 area over to P1. However, the CF has a good ball-side advantage to receive an incoming pass from P1 so no foul should be called at this time. In fact, just before the pass comes in from P1 the CF is about to position himself with inside water to the goal and there is a good passing lane to receive the ball. The CF is inside the 5M line and the situation for the attack referee is going to be a possible penalty foul or an attempt for a natural goal. The ball is passed in and the CFD immediately goes vertical with two hands/arms straight up demonstrating he is not fouling. The CFD knows he has help from a teammate who dropped in from the top defensive perimeter. At this point the CF has full control and is able to move to the ball for a shot attempt but the drop defender gets to the ball at the same time and steals the ball giving it to the goalie. This sequence is a great example of the attack referee having good focus and patience to watch the advantage develop and give the players the opportunity to play the ball. The CF had the opportunity to play the sequence out without the defense fouling. If the CFD had been late in showing his hands or was leaning/sinking on the CF it would have been a different situation (potential penalty foul)