



**FIFA**

*For the Good of the Game*



## Law 12 Fouls and Misconduct (*Part 2 - Misconduct*)



### Topics

- Disciplinary sanctions
- Cautionable offences
  - **Unsporting behaviour**
  - **Showing dissent by word or action**
  - **Delaying the restart of play**
- Sending off offences
  - **Serious foul play**
  - **Violent conduct**
  - **Denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity**





## Disciplinary Sanctions

**O**nly a player, substitute or substituted player may be shown the red or yellow card.



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- All players, substitutes and substituted players come under the jurisdiction of the referee whether they are on the field of play or not.
- The use of the yellow card or red card is to give a clear indication that a sanction is being issued.



## Disciplinary Sanctions

**T**eam officials cannot be shown the red or yellow card.



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- If a team official is guilty of irresponsible behaviour, the referee will send the official from the technical area and its vicinity behind the boundary fences (where such a fence exists).
- The referee will report this conduct to the appropriate authorities.



## Disciplinary Sanctions

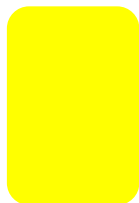
The referee has the authority to take disciplinary sanctions, as from the moment he enters the field of play until he leaves the field of play after the final whistle.

Yellow or red cards can be shown by the referee during the half-time interval.



## Cautionable Offences

There are seven offences for which a **player** is cautioned and shown the yellow card if he:

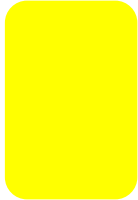


1. Is guilty of unsporting behaviour.
2. Shows dissent by word or action.
3. Persistently infringes the Laws of the Game.
4. Delays the restart of play.
5. Fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick **or throw-in**.
6. Enters or re-enters the field of play without the referee's permission.
7. Deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee's permission.



## Cautionable Offences

There are three offences for which a **substitute or substituted player** can be cautioned and shown the yellow card if he:



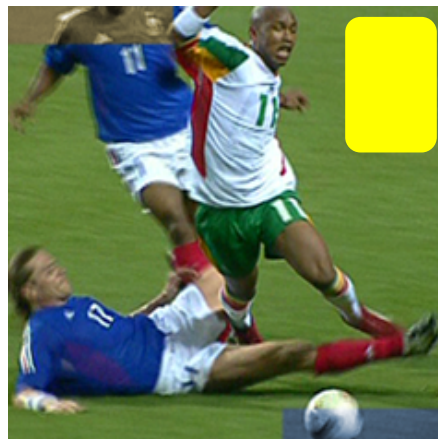
1. **is guilty of unsporting behaviour**
2. **shows dissent by word or action**
3. **delays the restart of play**



## Unsporting Behaviour (*Reckless tackle*)

Commits one of the first six offences penalised by a direct free kick or penalty kick in a **reckless manner**:

- “Reckless” means that the player has made the move with complete disregard for danger to, or consequences for, his opponent.



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## Unsporting Behaviour (*Reckless tackle*)

**C**ommits a technical foul designed to impede a promising attack;



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## Unsporting Behaviour (*Holding*)

**H**olds an opponent to prevent an opponent gaining possession of the ball or taking up an advantageous position;  
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## Unsporting Behaviour (*Handball*)

**H**andles the ball to prevent an opponent gaining possession or developing an attack;

**H**andles the ball to attempt to score a goal.



## Unsporting Behaviour (*Simulation*)

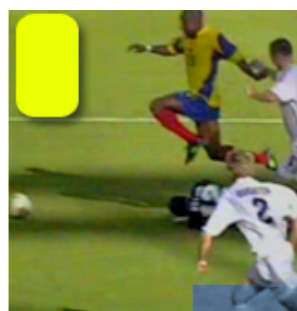
**A** player who attempts to deceive the referee by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled is guilty of simulation.

- **Disciplinary sanctions**

Caution for unsporting behaviour.

- **Restart of play**

Indirect free kick where it occurred.\*

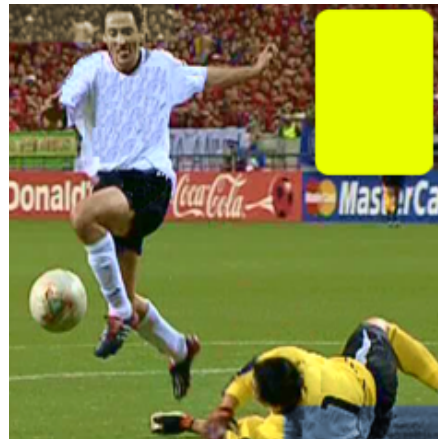




## Unsporting Behaviour (*Simulation*)

### Directive

- If **blatant simulation**, caution
- If **minimal contact**, consider cautioning player

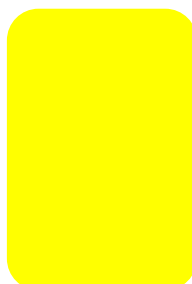


## Unsporting Behaviour (*Other examples*)

**C**hanges places with the goalkeeper during play or without the referee's permission;

**U**ses a deliberate trick while the ball is in play in order to circumvent Law 12 (decision 3);

**V**erbally distracts an opponent during play or at a restart.





## Showing dissent by word or action



**T**he captain of a team has no special status or privileges under the Laws of the Game but he has a degree of responsibility for the behaviour of his team.

**A** player who is guilty of dissent by protesting at a referee's decision must be cautioned.

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## Showing dissent by word or action

**A** player who assaults a referee or who is guilty of using offensive, insulting or abusive language or gestures must be sent off.



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## Delaying the restart of play

Referees must caution players who delay the restart of play by tactics such as:

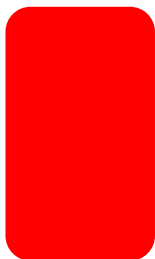
- Taking a free kick from the wrong position with the sole intention of forcing the referee to order a retake.
- Appearing to take a throw-in but suddenly leaving it to one of his team-mates to throw-in.
- Kicking the ball away or carrying it away with the hands after the referee has stopped play.
- Excessively delaying the taking of a throw-in or free kick.
- Delaying leaving the field when being substituted.
- **Provoking a confrontation by deliberately touching the ball after the referee has stopped play.**



## Sending-Off Offences

There are seven offences for which a **player, substitute or substituted player** can be sent off and shown the red card if he:

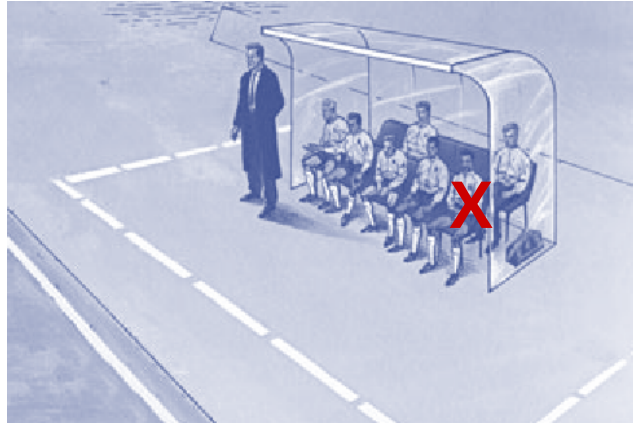
1. Is guilty of serious foul play.
2. Is guilty of violent conduct.
3. Spits at an opponent or at any other person.
4. Denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his own penalty area).
5. Denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick.
6. Uses offensive or insulting or abusive language and/or gestures.
7. Receives a second caution in the same match.





## Sending-Off Offences

A player, **substitute or substituted player** who has been sent off **and shown the red card** must leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area.



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## Serious Foul Play

A player is guilty of serious foul play if he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent when challenging for the ball when it is in play.

- **"Using excessive force"** means that the player has far exceeded the necessary use of force and is in danger of injuring his opponent.



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## Serious Foul Play

**A**ny player who lunges at an opponent when challenging for the ball from the front, from the side or from behind using one or both legs, with excessive force and endangering the safety of an opponent, is guilty of serious foul play.



## Serious Foul Play

**T**he advantage rule should not be applied unless there is a clear subsequent opportunity to score a goal.





## Serious Foul Play

### Disciplinary sanctions

- **Send the player off.**

### Restart of play

- **Direct free kick** where it occurred.\*
- **Penalty kick** (if inside the offender's penalty area)



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## Violent Conduct

**A** player is guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball.

**V**iolent conduct may occur either on the field of play or outside its boundaries, whether the ball is in play or not.

**H**e is also guilty of violent conduct if he uses excessive force or brutality against a team-mate, spectator, match official or any other person.

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## Violent Conduct

### Against an opponent:

- **Ball out of play**
  - **Disciplinary sanction**
    - Send off.
  - **Restart of play**
    - According to the previous decision.
- **Ball in play (offence inside the field of play)**
  - **Disciplinary sanction**
    - Send off.
  - **Restart of play**
    - DFK where it occurred\* or penalty kick.

...More



## Violent Conduct

### Against an opponent:

- **Ball in play (offence outside the field of play)**
  - **Disciplinary sanction**
    - Send off.
  - **Restart of play**
    - Dropped ball\* where the ball was located.



# Violent Conduct

## Against a team-mate:

- **Ball out of play**
  - **Disciplinary sanction**
    - Send off.
  - **Restart of play**
    - According to the previous decision.
- **Ball in play (offence inside the field of play)**
  - **Disciplinary sanction**
    - Send off.
  - **Restart of play**
    - Indirect free kick where it occurred.\*



# Violent Conduct

## Against a team-mate:

- **Ball in play (offence outside the field of play)**
  - **Disciplinary sanction**
    - Send off.
  - **Restart of play**
    - Dropped ball\* where the ball was located.



# Violent Conduct

## Against another person:

- **Ball out of play**
  - **Disciplinary sanctions**
    - Send off.
  - **Restart of play**
    - According to the previous decision.
- **Ball in play (offence inside the field of play)**
  - **Disciplinary sanctions**
    - Send off.
  - **Restart of play**
    - Indirect free kick where it occurred\* (Referee or AR)
    - Dropped ball where the ball was located\* (other)



# Violent Conduct

## Against another person:

- **Ball in play (offence outside the field of play)**
  - **Disciplinary sanctions**
    - Send off.
  - **Restart of play**
    - Dropped ball\* where the ball was located.



# Violent Conduct Mass Confrontation

## Directives:

- Violent conduct often leads to mass confrontation.
- Try to prevent it with active intervention.



# Violent Conduct Mass Confrontation

## Directives:

- If a mass confrontation occurs, manage it without directly engaging the players – keep your hands off them.
- Identify the responsible players and those who run from a distance to become involved.



## Denying an Obvious Goal-scoring Opportunity

There are two sending-off offences that deal with denying an opponent an obvious opportunity to score a goal:

- If a player denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball.
- If a player denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick (direct or indirect) or a penalty kick.



## Denying an Obvious Goal-scoring Opportunity

If the referee makes use of the advantage during an obvious goal-scoring opportunity and a goal is scored directly, despite the opponent's handling the ball or fouling an opponent, **the player cannot be sent off but he can still be cautioned.**





# Denying an Obvious Goal-scoring Opportunity

**C**riteria for deciding when to penalise for denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity:

- **The direction of the play.**
- **The location of the foul.**
- **The proximity of the player to the ball.**
- **The probability of controlling the ball.**
- **The location and number of opponents.**
- **The opportunity for the attempt on goal.**