Key Law Changes 2019-2020

Law 3: Substituted Players: Must leave at the nearest boundary line (unless referee decides otherwise).

Law 4: Undershirts: Patterned undershirts must match jersey sleeves.

Law 5: Cards for coaches and team officials: Shown yellow and red cards (if cannot identify person committing misconduct, senior coach is shown card).

Player remains on field: If PK is awarded, and injured player is treated on the field, the player can take the penalty kick.

Law 7: "Cooling" (hydration) breaks: 90 seconds to 3 minutes.

Law 8: Dropped Balls. If play is stopped for "other reasons" (e.g. injury):

- If the ball is in the penalty area, the ball is dropped to the goalkeeper.
- Otherwise, ball is dropped to player of the team that last touched the ball (where last touched).
- All other players (both teams) must be at least 4 yards away.

Coin toss: Team that wins toss chooses ball or side.

- Law 9: Ball touches referee. Ball is out of play (drop ball) if it remains on the field of play and:
 (a) team starts a promising attack; (b) ball goes directly in goal; or (c) team in possession changes.
- Law 10: Goal: Goalkeeper cannot score by throwing ball into opponent's goal.
- Law 12: Handball. Handball offense if player: (a) deliberately touches ball (new wording on criteria); (b) gains possession/control after inadvertent touch and then scores in opponent's goal or creates a goal scoring opportunity; or (c) scores in opponent's goal directly from hand/arm.
- Law 13: IFK Signal: Referee can lower arm when clear that goal cannot be scored directly.

 Wall: If 3 or more defenders in wall, attacking team players must remain 1 yard from wall until ball is in play. (Restart for offense: IFK)

Defense free kick inside PA: Ball in play when kicked and clearly moves. (See Goal kick).

Law 14: Penalty kick: Goal posts, crossbar, and nets must not be moving, and goalkeeper must not be touching them before kick is taken.

When kick taken, goalkeeper must have at least part of one foot touching on or in line with the goal line.

Law 16 Goal Kick: Ball is in play when kicked and clearly moves.

Opponents must be outside PA until ball is in play. On quick goal kick: (a) if opponent deliberately remains inside or enters PA before kick is taken, the goal kick is retaken (no card); (b) if opponent did not have time to leave PA, opponent may not interfere with or prevent taking of kick, but may intercept ball once it is play.

San Diego County Soccer Referees Association September 1, 2019