

Offside

An Offside position: A player is considered to be in an offside position when, at the moment the ball is played forward by one of their team-mates, that player is in their attacking half of the field of play and only has one opponent (usually the goalkeeper) closer to their attacking goal than they are.

***It is not an offence to be in an offside position.** Players should be encouraged by their coach to move into an onside position **before** the ball is played to them.*

When a player on the attacking team receives the ball having been in a position that the referee considers as being offside;

- i) The referee shall delay the blowing of the whistle;*
- ii) The referee shall shout the words "advantage offside";*
- iii) The referee shall raise one arm indicating an offside offence. The arm shall remain raised until the ball is touched by another player*

- iv) Play shall be allowed to continue and*
 - a. If that player scores a goal directly from play as a result of being offside (i.e goes directly on to beat only the goalkeeper without the ball being touched by another player), the referee shall disallow the goal and award an indirect free-kick to the opposing team from the place where the shot at goal was taken*

 - b. If there are subsequent actions of play (an interchange of passes by the attacking team or the player in possession is challenged by an opponent and the ball is touch by another player) and a goal is scored, then the goal shall be allowed to stand.*

Where there is doubt as to whether a player has received the ball in a clear and obvious offside position (eg. around 2m closer to the attacking goal than the second last opponent when the ball was played) then the advantage should be given to the attacking team.

Referees and Game Leaders may need to remind coaches to ask players to adopt onside positions. This may be necessary where coaches are not actively doing so.

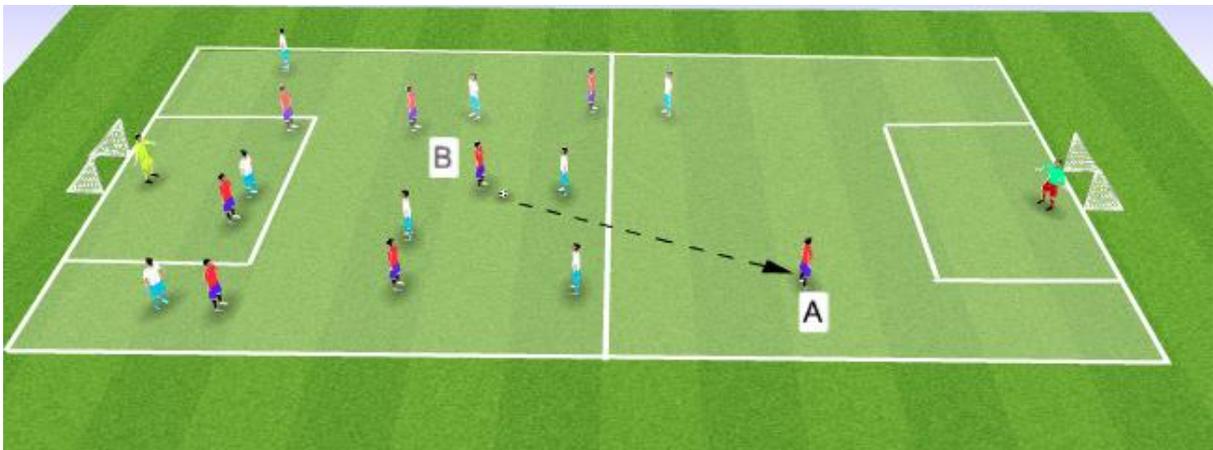
Explanations

Not Offside



Player A is standing in an offside position. It is not an offence to be in this position as the player has not received the ball.

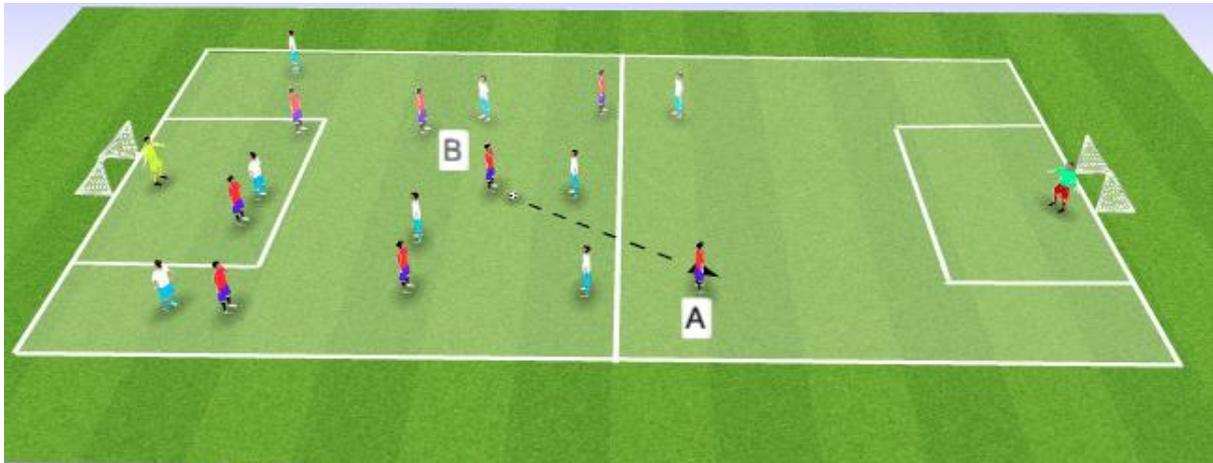
Offside



Player B has made a pass to Player A. The referee should allow play to continue and shout out “advantage offside” and raise an arm in the air.

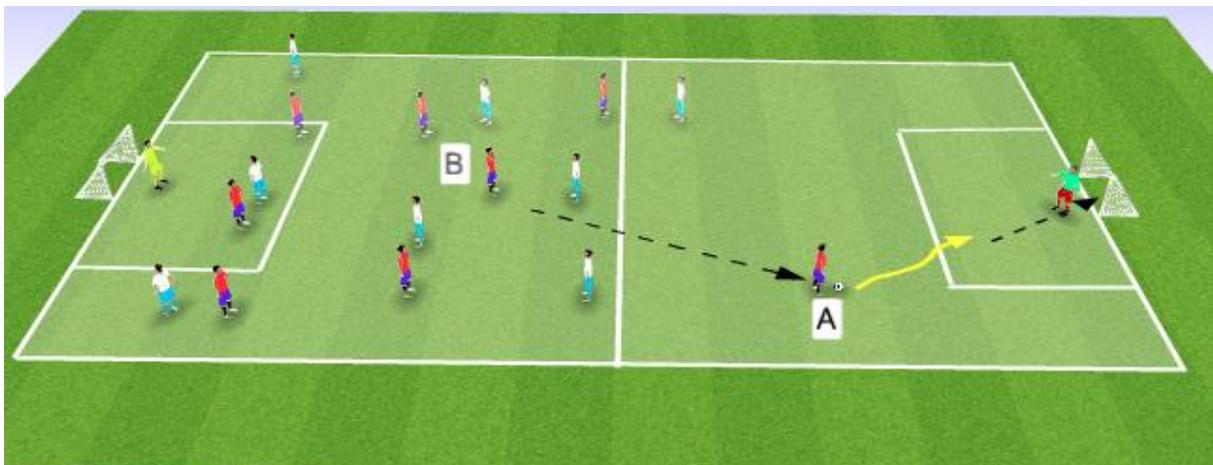


Allow advantage



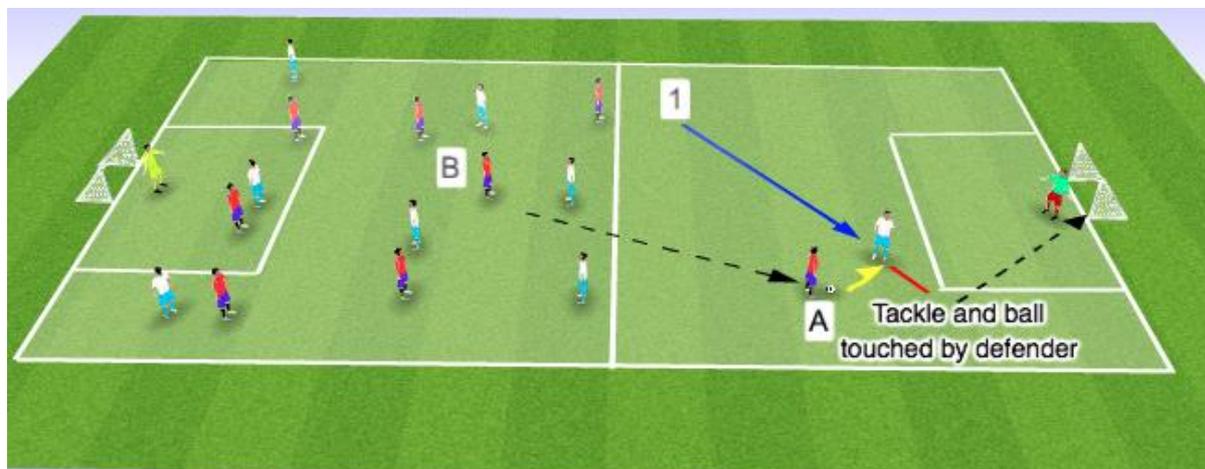
Player A receives a pass from Player B however it is hard to judge whether it is clear and obvious that the player is offside. Play is allowed to continue as normal.

No Goal



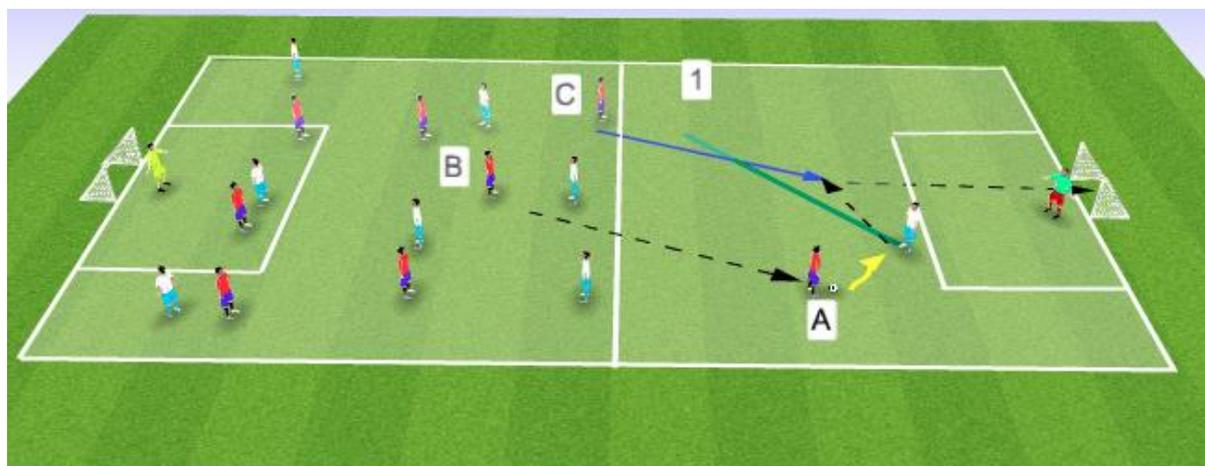
Player A, who was in a clear and obvious offside position now continues and scores directly from this (i.e. the ball is not touched by another player), the game shall be stopped and an indirect free kick awarded from the position from where the shot at goal was made.

Goal Awarded



Should Defender 1 recover and challenge Player A in a tackle where the defender touches the ball, play shall be allowed to continue and, if a goal is scored, it shall be allowed to stand.

Goal Awarded



Should Player A pass to a team mate (Player C) who has come from an onside position and who then scores a goal, the goal shall be allowed to stand.