

Association Football Rules – True or False?

One of the attractions of football is its simplicity but like any sport, it is governed by a number of rules and regulations. How well do you know your football rules?

Cut out the sorting pouch below along the thick black lines and score or fold along the dotted lines. Fold the bottom flaps upwards and the side flaps inwards. Glue or tape the flaps down to create a mini book with three pockets. Keep the centre pocket for storing statements and stick the 'True' and 'False' labels provided on the other pockets.

Cut out the statements and then, either via your own research or using the information provided with this resource, sort the statements into the correct pouches!

[illegible]

True

False

If you take a free kick and kick it straight into your own goal, the opposition get a corner.

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Substitutes can be sent off even though they are not on the pitch.

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If a dog runs onto the pitch, picks up the ball and carries it into the net, a goal is awarded.

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If a ball bursts on the way in to the net, the referee cannot allow the goal.

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If a player is able to throw the ball into the net from a throw-in, a goal is scored.

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Even if you head the ball to the goalkeeper, they are not allowed to pick it up with their hands.

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In a penalty shoot-out, the ball is not 'dead' until it has stopped moving.

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You can be offside even in your own half of the field.

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A player is not allowed to score in socks if one of their boots falls off.

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Players must wear boots with studs to play football.

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Players can pass a penalty if they want to.

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If a player needs to visit the bathroom, they can just run off and come back on when they have finished.

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Answers

If you take a free kick and kick it straight into your own goal, the opposition get a corner.	TRUE – An own goal may not be scored from a free kick so if the ball crosses the goal line a corner to the opposition is awarded.
Substitutes can be sent off even though they are not on the pitch.	TRUE – If a substitute commits an offence serious enough for a dismissal they can be shown the red card.
If a dog runs onto the pitch, picks up the ball and carries it into the net, a goal is awarded.	FALSE – As this is external interference in the game, the match would be restarted with a drop ball.
If a ball bursts on the way in to the net, the referee cannot allow the goal.	TRUE – for a goal to stand, the ball must be official size and weight as it crosses the goal line.
If a player is able to throw the ball into the net from a throw-in, a goal is scored.	FALSE – It is not permitted to score directly from a throw in.
Even if you head the ball to the goalkeeper, they are not allowed to pick it up with their hands.	FALSE – If you pass back to the goalkeeper with any legal part of your body (head, shoulder, knee) then they may pick the ball up.
In a penalty shoot-out, the ball is not 'dead' until it has stopped moving.	TRUE – There are some famous incidents where a goalkeeper has made a save and turned away to celebrate while the ball bounces back and over the line.
You can be offside even in your own half of the field.	FALSE – You cannot be offside in your own half of the field.
A player is not allowed to score in socks if one of their boots falls off.	FALSE – A player who loses a boot must replace it at the earliest opportunity but is allowed to score in the meantime.
Players must wear boots with studs to play football.	FALSE – The law merely states that players must have footwear so in theory they could wear trainers or even flippers!
Players can pass a penalty if they want to.	TRUE – As long as the penalty-taker's teammate is outside the penalty area at the point of initial contact, a player may choose to pass a penalty.
If a player needs to visit the bathroom, they can just run off and come back on when they have finished.	FALSE – A player should not leave or enter the field of play without the referee's permission but in this instance, the referee may just decide to remind the player of the rules rather than penalise them.