

**INTER-ASSOCIATION COUNCIL OF  
ATHLETIC OFFICIALS**

New Officials Football Class  
Module 10  
Out of Bounds, Forward Progress & Dead Ball

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**Out of Bounds, Forward Progress & Dead Ball**

- Upon completing Module 10, the student should:
  - Be able to recognize when a player or ball is out of bounds (OOB)
  - Understand what forward progress is and be able to recognize it
  - Understand how a down ends and be able to recognize it when it occurs
  - Understand what causes a player to be considered "down" and be able to recognize it when it happens

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**Key Terms**

- Free Kick
- Snap
- Loose Ball
- Inadvertent Whistle
- Inbounds Lines (Hash Marks)

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### Putting the Ball in Play

- Ball remains dead until it is legally put into play (becomes "live") between the inbounds lines by...
  - A snap
  - A free kick
- Ball remains live until it next becomes dead

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### Out-of-Bounds

- Sidelines & end lines
  - Border the inbounds area of the field
  - Are themselves "out-of-bounds"
- Loose ball (such as a kick or a fumble)
  - Touches ANYTHING that is out-of-bounds
- Player or ball in player possession
  - Any part of a player or the ball touches anything that is out of bounds except:
    - Another player
    - An official

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### Out-of-Bounds

- Loose ball out-of-bounds
  - Marked at foremost point of the ball
    - where it crossed sideline (kick or fumble)
    - when touched in field of play by a person out-of-bounds (such as a player touching sideline while trying to recover a fumble or a wing official straddling the sideline)
- Ball in player possession out-of-bounds
  - Marked at foremost point of ball
    - when player crossed plane of sideline
      - Runner in contact with ground
      - Runner diving for yardage or goal line

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### Out-of-Bounds

- ◎ A player is considered to have established possession of a loose ball inbounds if:
  - The ball is live
  - The player holds or controls the ball and
  - First contacts the ground inbounds
    - with any body part, such as a knee or one foot
    - or opponent's contact prevents the player from returning to the ground in bounds

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### Forward Progress

- ◎ Foremost point of ball when it stops moving forward while in player possession by...
  - A runner on the ground
  - An airborne player making a catch, even if driven backward by an opponent
- ◎ Runner allowed to fight for more yardage

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### Dead Ball

- ◎ Ball becomes dead when:
  - Ball goes out of bounds
  - Runner goes out of bounds
  - Forward progress is stopped
  - Any part of runner touches ground except:
    - Hand or foot
    - Holder's knee(s)

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### Dead Ball

- ◎ Ball also becomes dead when:
  - Forward pass is incomplete
  - Joint (simultaneous) possession occurs
  - Legal kick breaks plane of receiver's goal line
  - Kickers recover a kick beyond LOS
  - After a completed fair catch
  - Helmet comes off runner with ball
  - No player attempts to recover a live ball laying motionless on the ground

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### Dead Ball

- ◎ Inadvertent whistle also kills a live ball
  - If during legal: kick, forward pass, or snap in flight
    - Must replay down
  - If ball in player possession, team has choice:
    - Replay down
    - Take play at spot when whistle sounded
  - If ball is loose after a fumble, backward pass, fumble, illegal forward pass or illegal kick, team last in possession has choice:
    - Replay down
    - Take play at spot where possession was lost
  - Foul before whistle takes precedence if penalty accepted

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### Forward Progress Stopped



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Continued Forward Progress, Not Down



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Inbounds Spot

- ⦿ "Hash marks" = "inbounds lines"
  - Used when ball becomes dead:
    - In side zone or out-of-bounds
    - Ball put at nearest inbound spot on same yard line
- ⦿ Offense has choice of ball placement between inbounds lines for a:
  - Kickoff
  - Try (snap or kick)
  - Snap following touchback
  - Free kick after safety
  - Snap/free kick after fair catch/awarded fair catch
  - Snap to start each series in overtime

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Out-of-Bounds, Forward Progress & Dead Ball Review

- ⦿ Name one way to put the ball in play.
- ⦿ Does a loose ball remain alive if it touches an official standing out-of-bounds?
- ⦿ If there is an inadvertent whistle during a kick, what must be done?

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Was forward progress stopped prior to fumble?



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## Module 10

© Questions?

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