

Assistant Referee Duties

Law 11 - Offside

Niagara Soccer Association

2013



Assistant Referee Duties

This presentation was produced by the NSA to review Assistant referee duties and signals as outlined in the Laws of the Game for Law 11 - Offside – 2012/2013.

What is Offside Position?

Offside position

It is not an offence in itself to be in an offside position.

A player is in an offside position if:

- he is nearer to his opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second-last opponent

A player is not in an offside position if:

- he is in his own half of the field of play or
- he is level with the second-last opponent or
- he is level with the last two opponents

Offside - Offence

Offence

A player in an offside position is only penalised if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in active play by:

- interfering with play or
- interfering with an opponent or
- gaining an advantage by being in that position

Offside offence – interfering with play

- “interfering with play” means playing or touching the ball passed or touched by a team-mate

Offside - Offence

Offence

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- interfering with play or
- interfering with an opponent or
- gaining an advantage by being in that position

Offside offence – interfering with an opponent

- “interfering with an opponent” means preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent’s line of vision or movements or making a gesture or movement which, in the opinion of the referee, deceives or distracts an opponent

Offside - Offence

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A player in an offside position is only penalised if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in active play by:

- interfering with play or
- interfering with an opponent or
- gaining an advantage by being in that position

Offside offence – gaining an advantage

- “nearer to his opponents’ goal line” means that any part of a player’s head, body or feet is nearer to his opponents’ goal line than both the ball and the second-last opponent. The arms are not included in this definition

Offside - Offence

Offence

A player in an offside position is only penalised if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in active play by:

- interfering with play or
- interfering with an opponent or
- gaining an advantage by being in that position

Offside offence – Gaining an unfair Advantage

- “gaining an advantage by being in that position” means playing a ball that rebounds to him off a goalpost or the crossbar having been in an offside position or playing a ball that rebounds to him off an opponent having been in an offside position

No Offside offence

No offence

There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:

- a goal kick
- a throw-in
- a corner kick

- Assistant Referee Positioning and Proper Signalling is important in order to minimize player and bench dissent when deciding on Offside offences.

Offside Signal

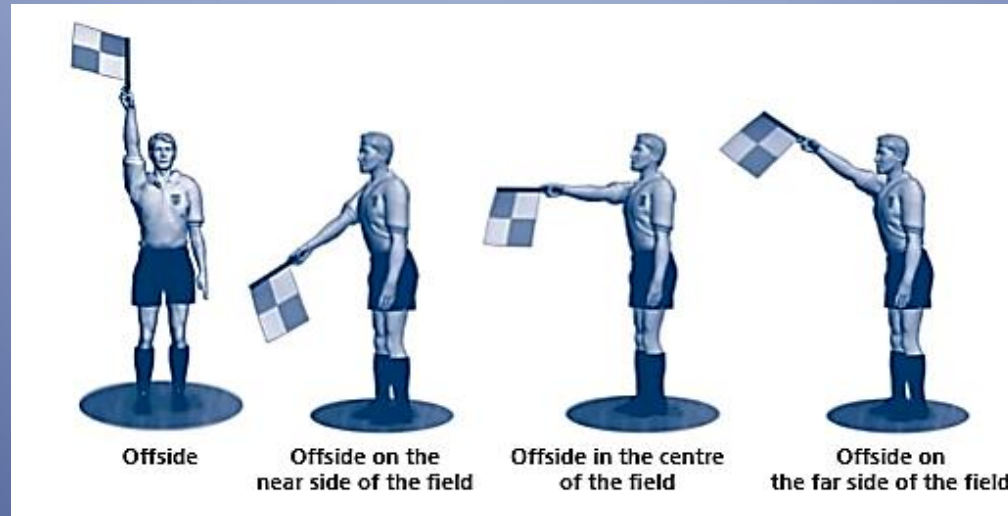
Offside

The first action the assistant referee makes after an offside decision is to raise his flag. He then uses his flag to indicate the area of the pitch in which the offence occurred.

If the flag is not immediately seen by the referee, the assistant referee must keep signalling until it has been acknowledged or the ball is clearly in the control of the defending team.

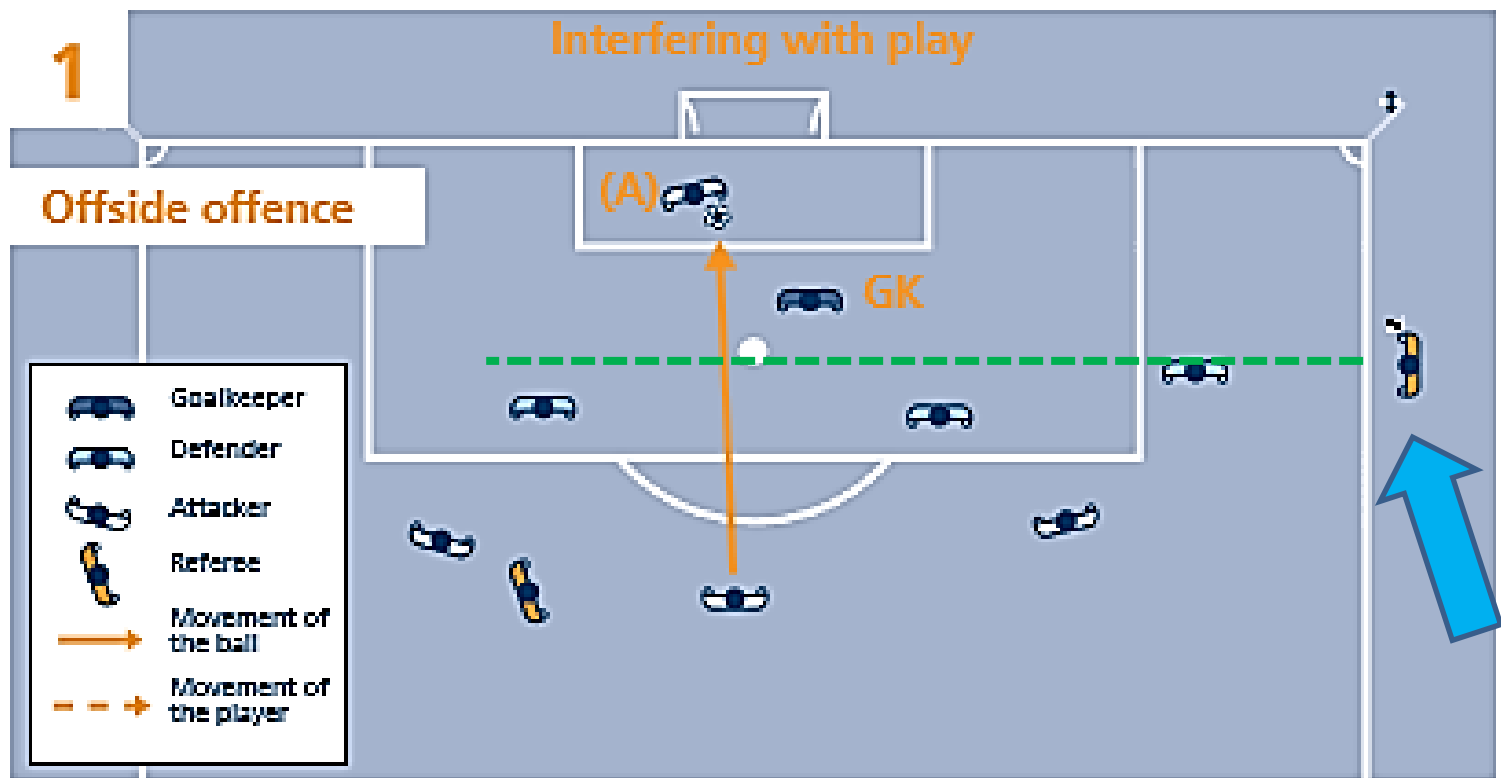
The flag must be raised using the right hand, giving the assistant referee a better line of vision.

AR – Offside Offence Signals



Two Step Signal. – Step 1 – Stop, face the Field, raise your flag straight up with your Right arm. Hold and wait for the Referee to acknowledge your signal. Step 2- Once the Referee has accepted your Offside signal, point to the place on the field where the Offside Offence occurred.

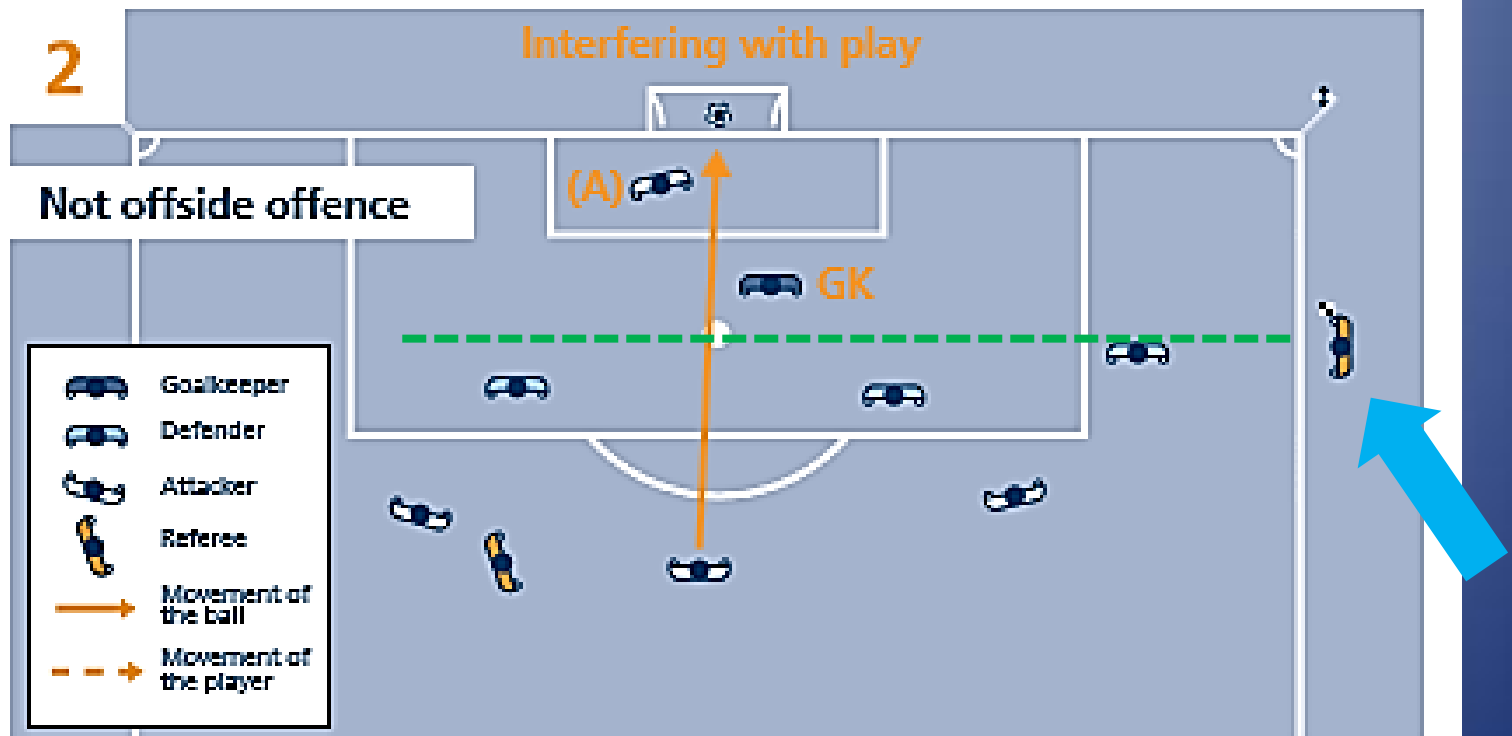
Offside Offence



An attacker in an offside position (A), not interfering with an opponent, touches the ball.

The assistant referee must raise the flag when the player touches the ball.

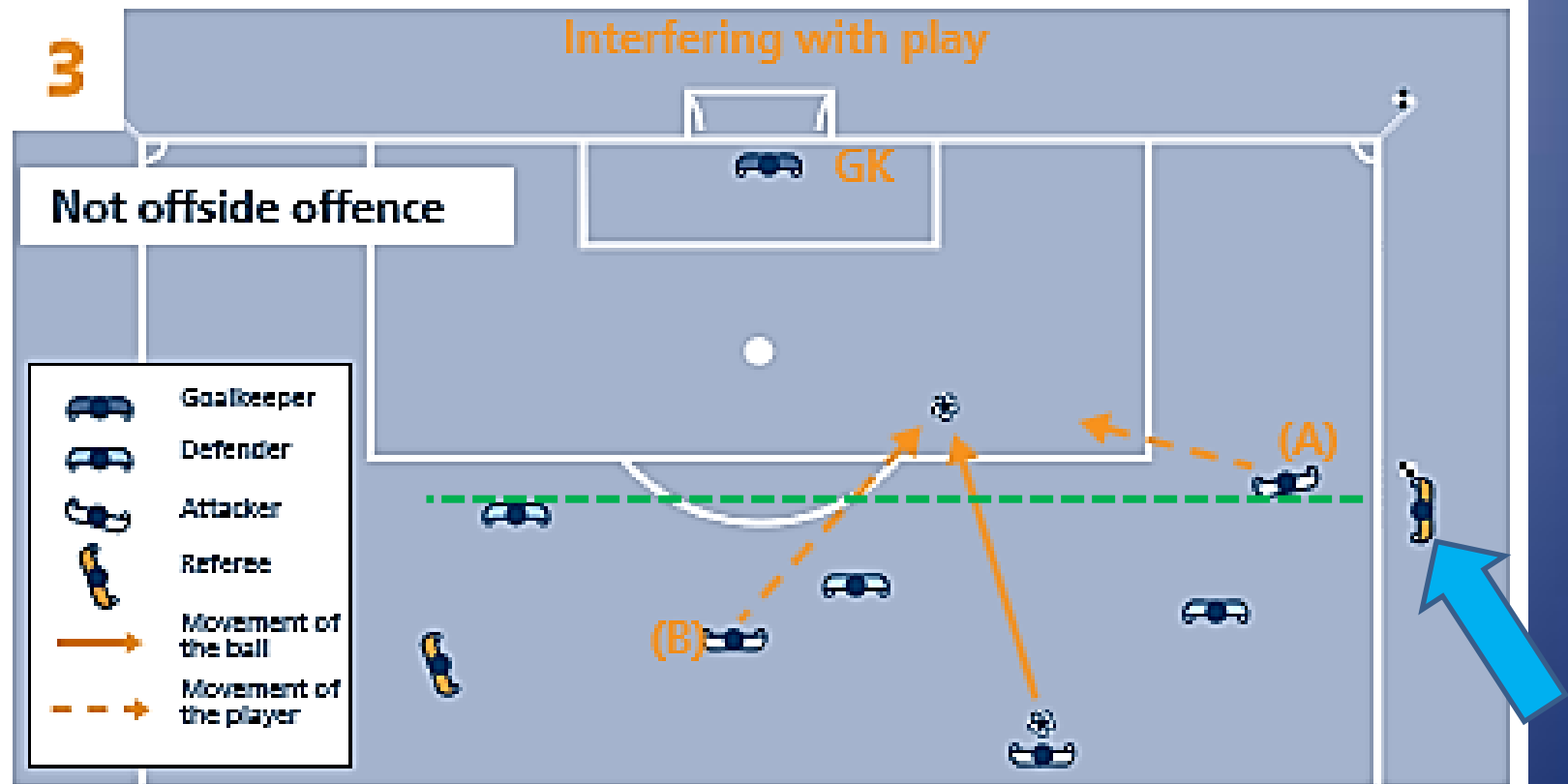
Offside - No Offence



An attacker in an offside position (A), not interfering with an opponent, does not touch the ball.

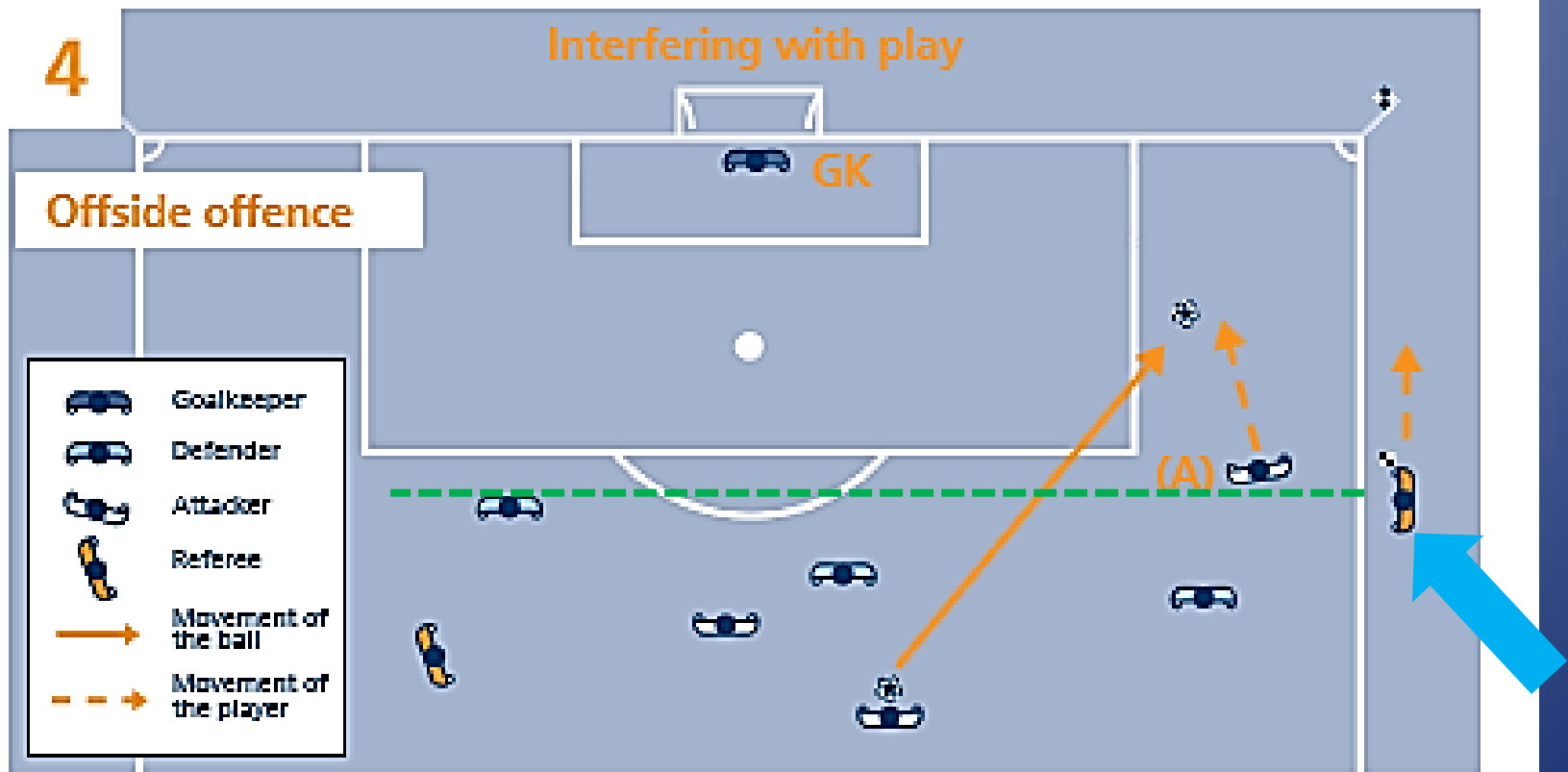
The player cannot be penalised because he did not touch the ball.

Offside – No Offence



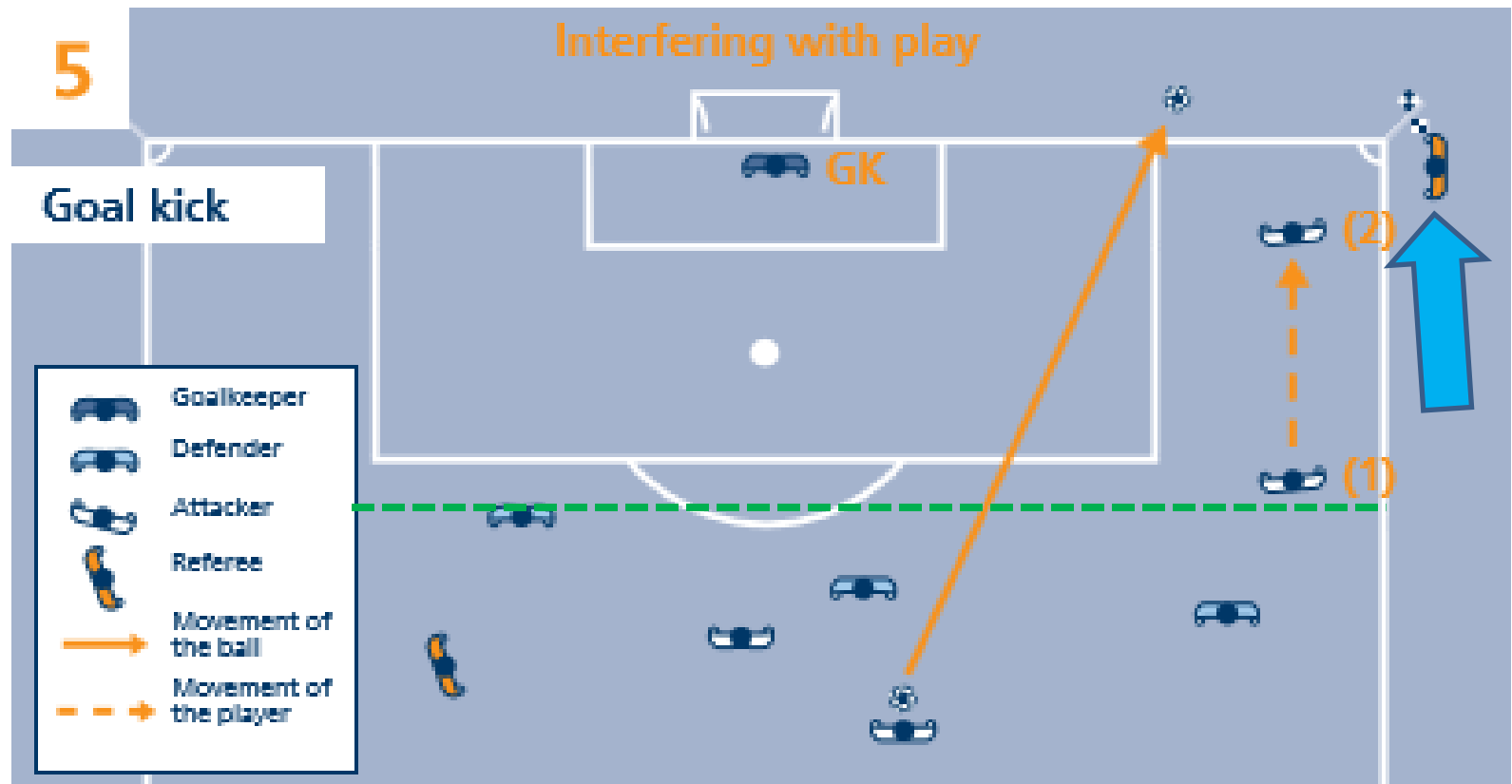
An attacker in an **offside position** (A) runs towards the ball and a team-mate in an **onside position** (B) also runs towards the ball and plays it. (A) cannot be penalised because he did not touch the ball.

Offside - Offence



A player in an offside position (A) may be penalised before playing or touching the ball, if, in the opinion of the referee, no other team-mate in an onside position has the opportunity to play the ball.

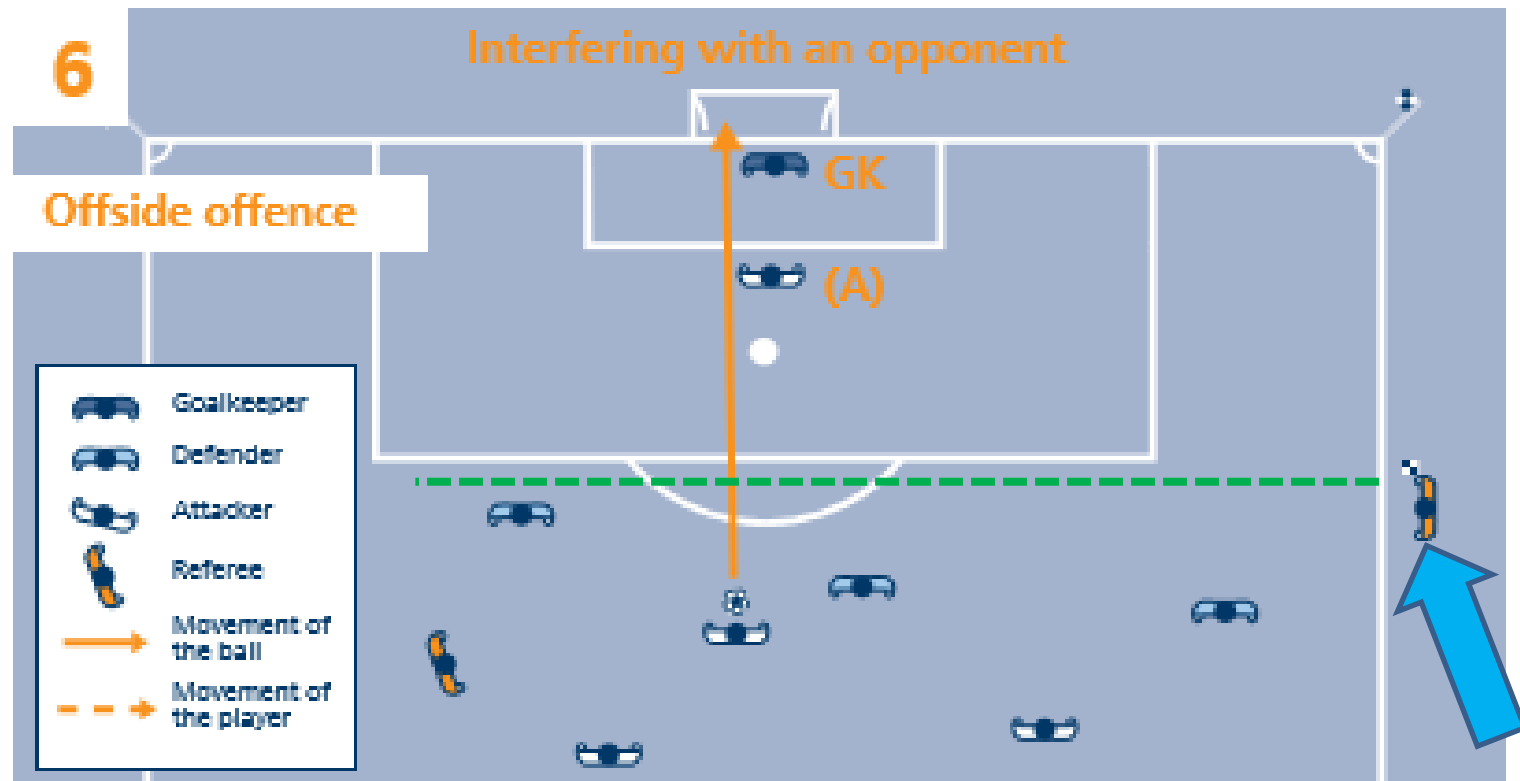
Offside – No Offence



An attacker in an offside position (1) runs towards the ball and **does not touch** the ball.

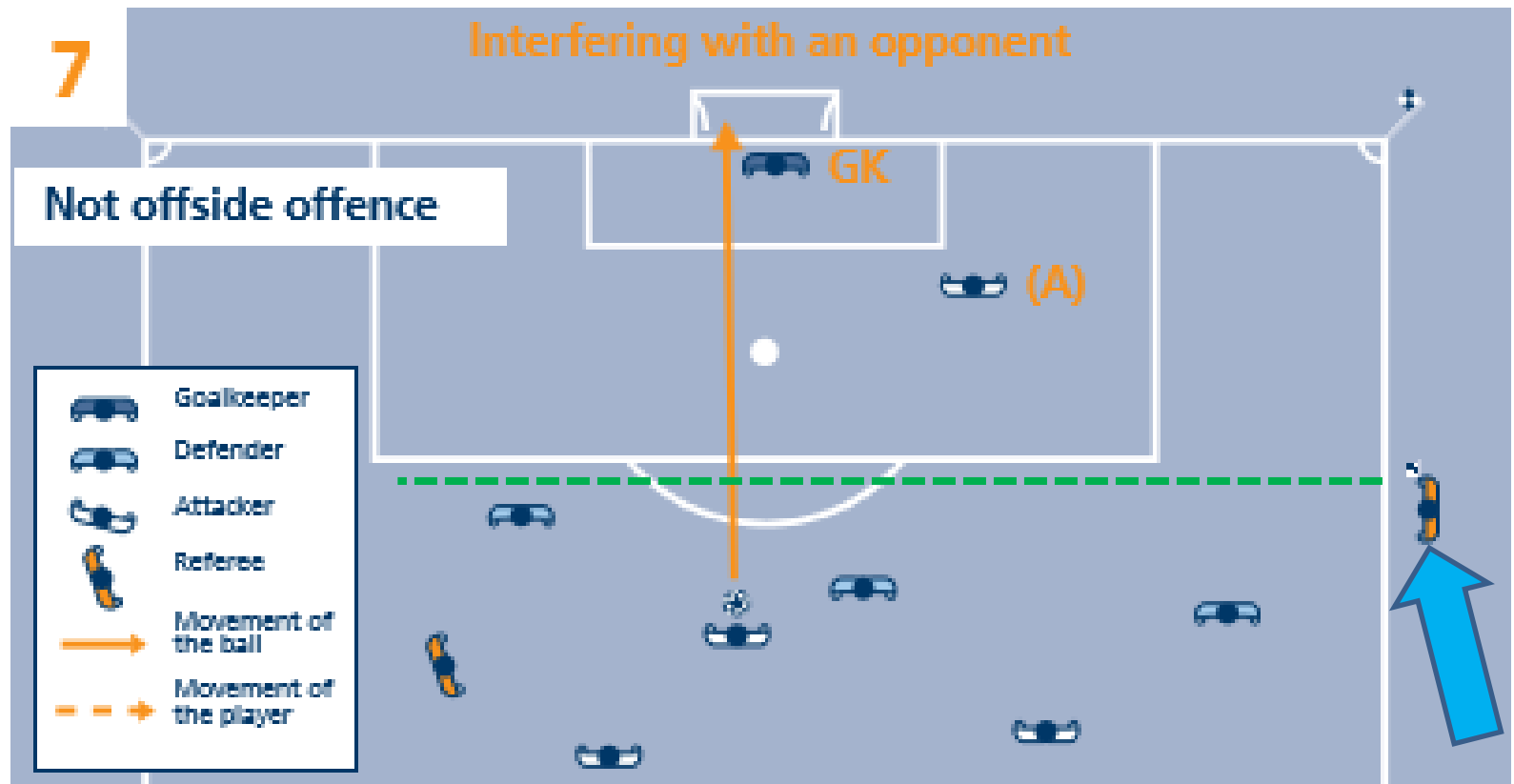
The assistant referee must signal "goal kick".

Offside - Offence



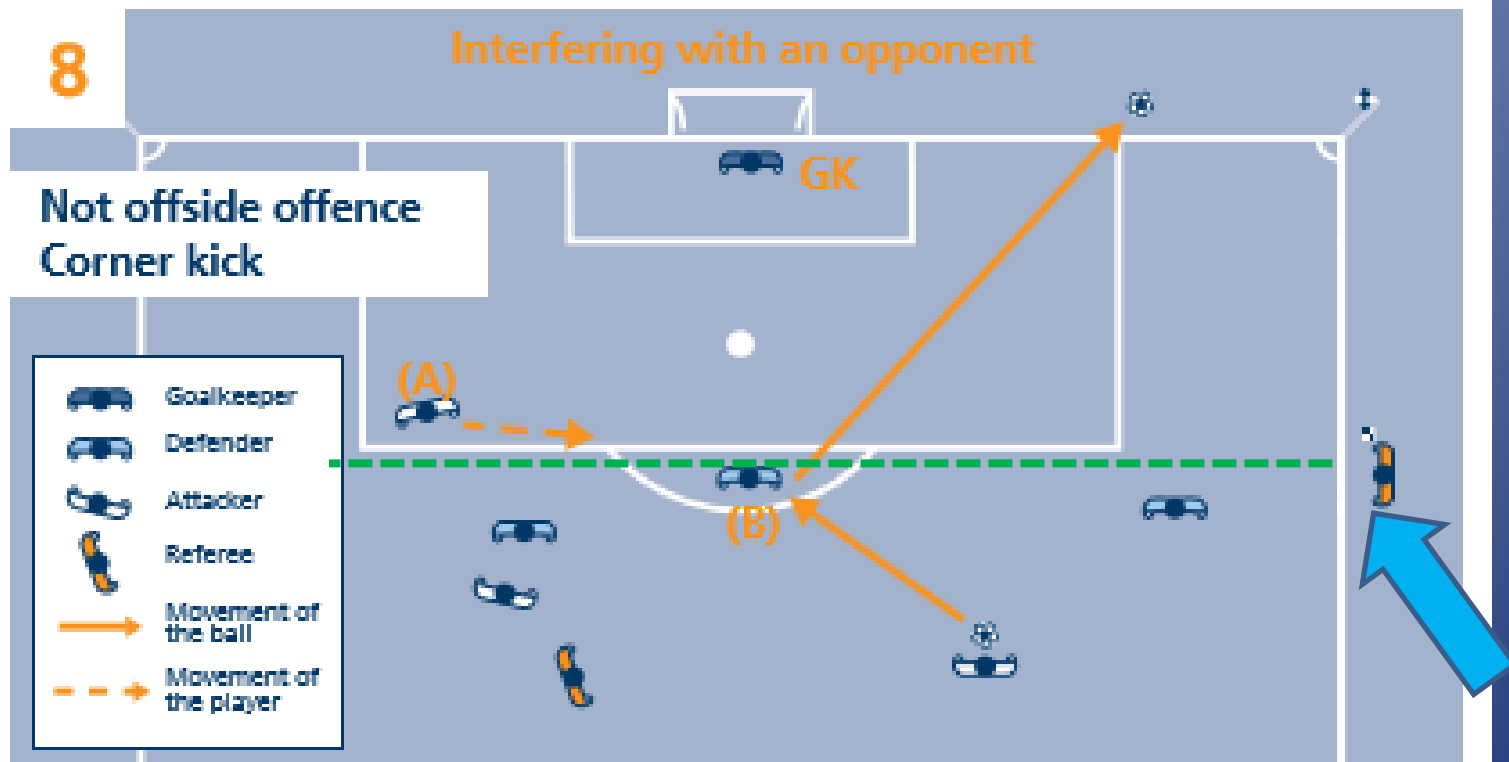
An attacker in an offside position (A) is obstructing the goalkeeper's line of vision. He must be penalised because he prevents an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball.

Offside – No Offence



An attacker in an offside position (A) is not obstructing the goalkeeper's line of vision or making a gesture or movement which deceives or distracts him.

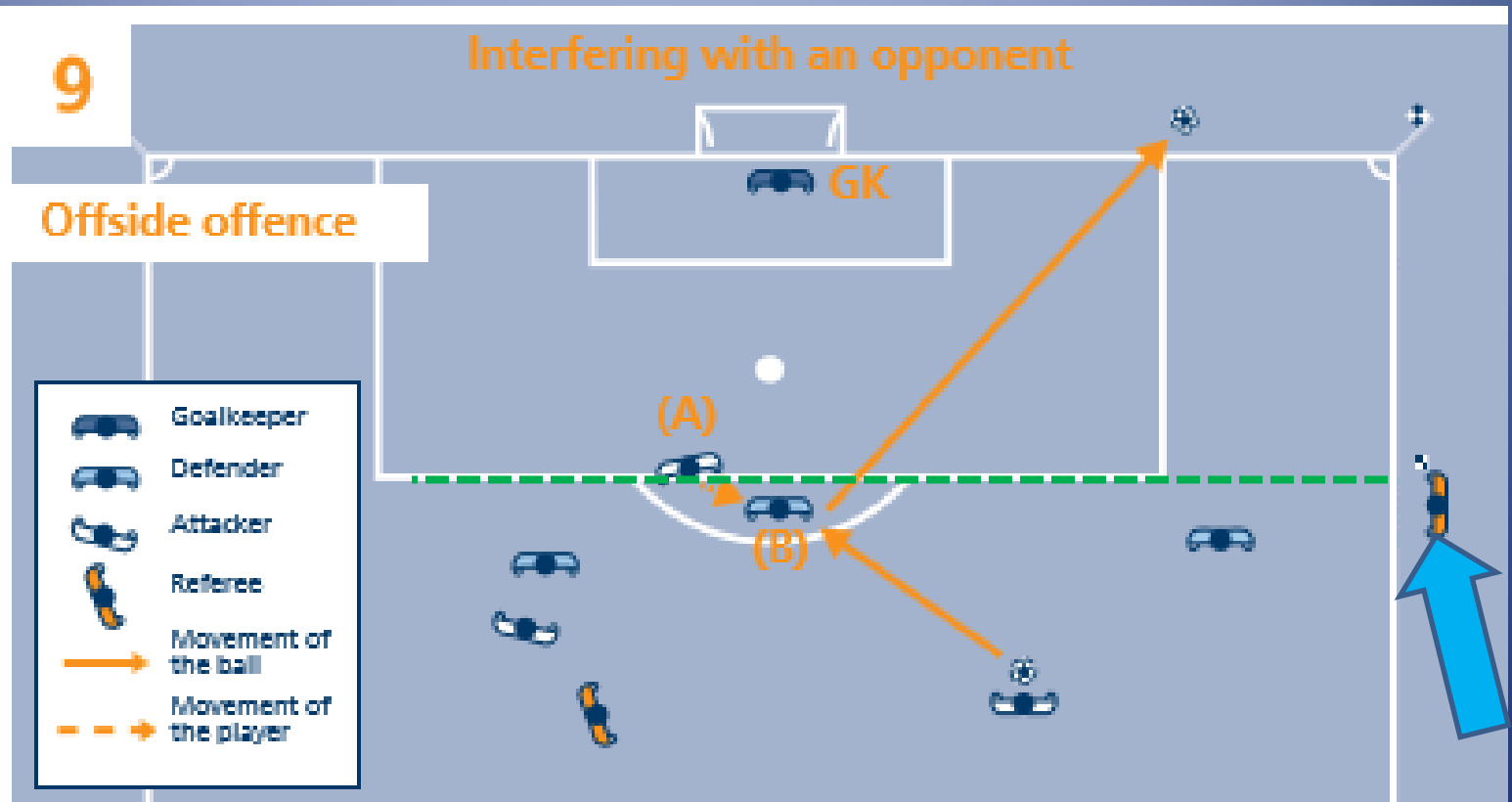
Offside – No Offence



An attacker in an **offside position** (A) runs towards the ball but he does not prevent the opponent from playing or being able to play the ball.

(A) is **not** making any gesture or movement which deceives or distracts (B).

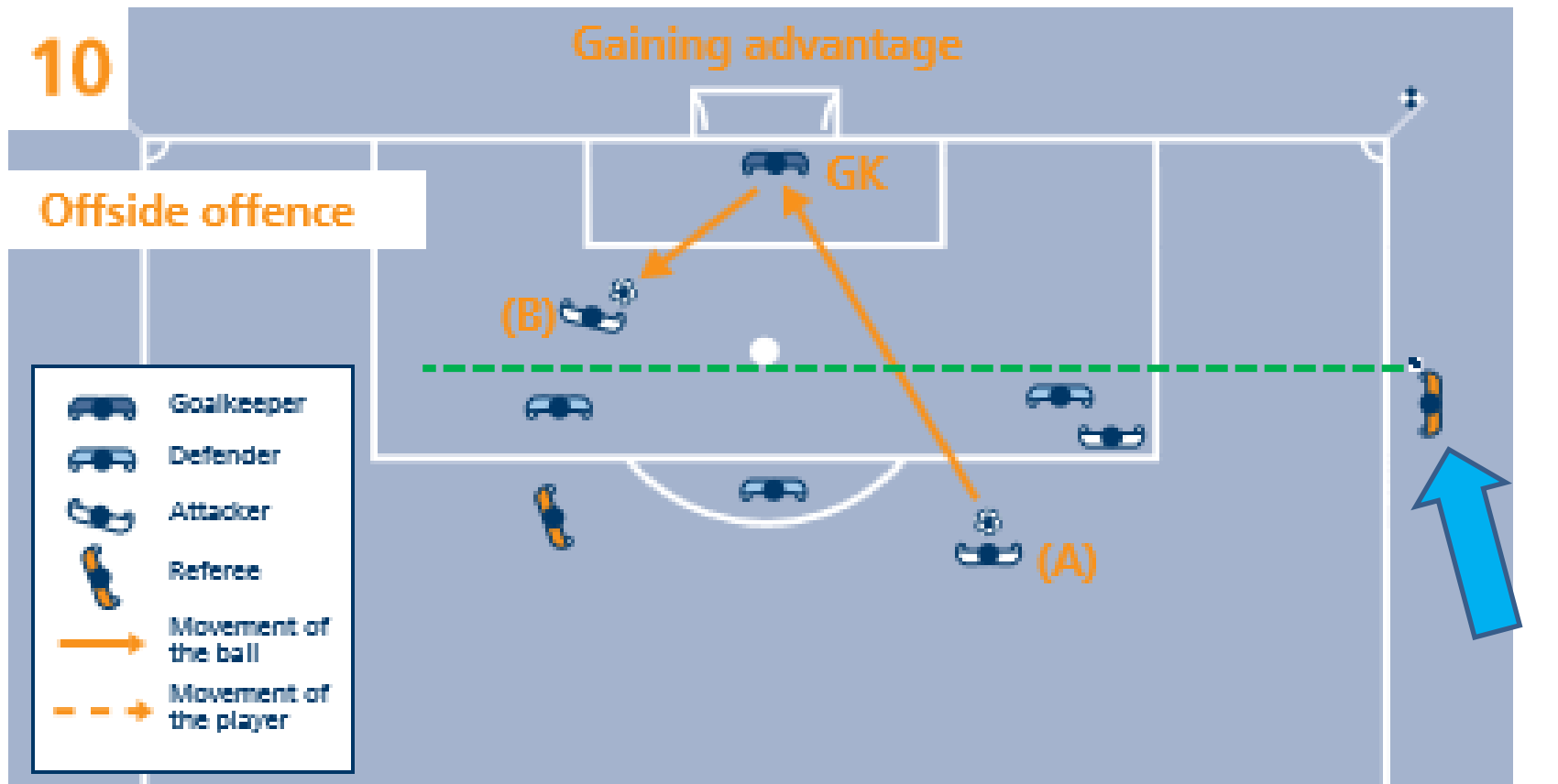
Offside - Offence



An attacker in an **offside position** (A) runs towards the ball preventing the opponent (B) from playing or being able to play the ball.

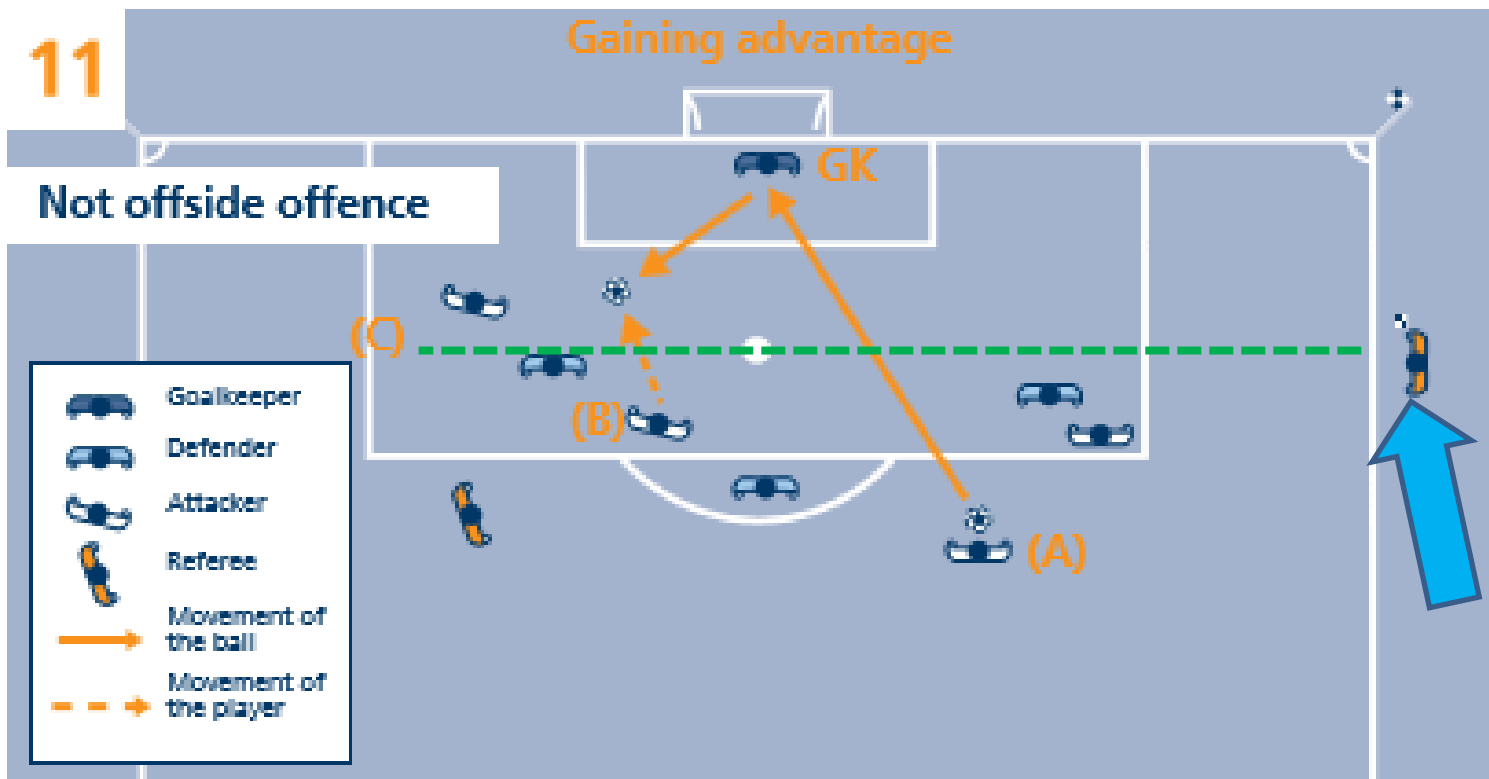
(A) is making a gesture or movement which deceives or distracts (B).

Offside - Offence



The shot by a team-mate (A) rebounds from the goalkeeper to (B) who is penalised for **playing the ball** having previously been in an offside position.

Offside – No Offence



The shot by a team-mate (A) rebounds from the goalkeeper. (B) is in an onside position and plays the ball.

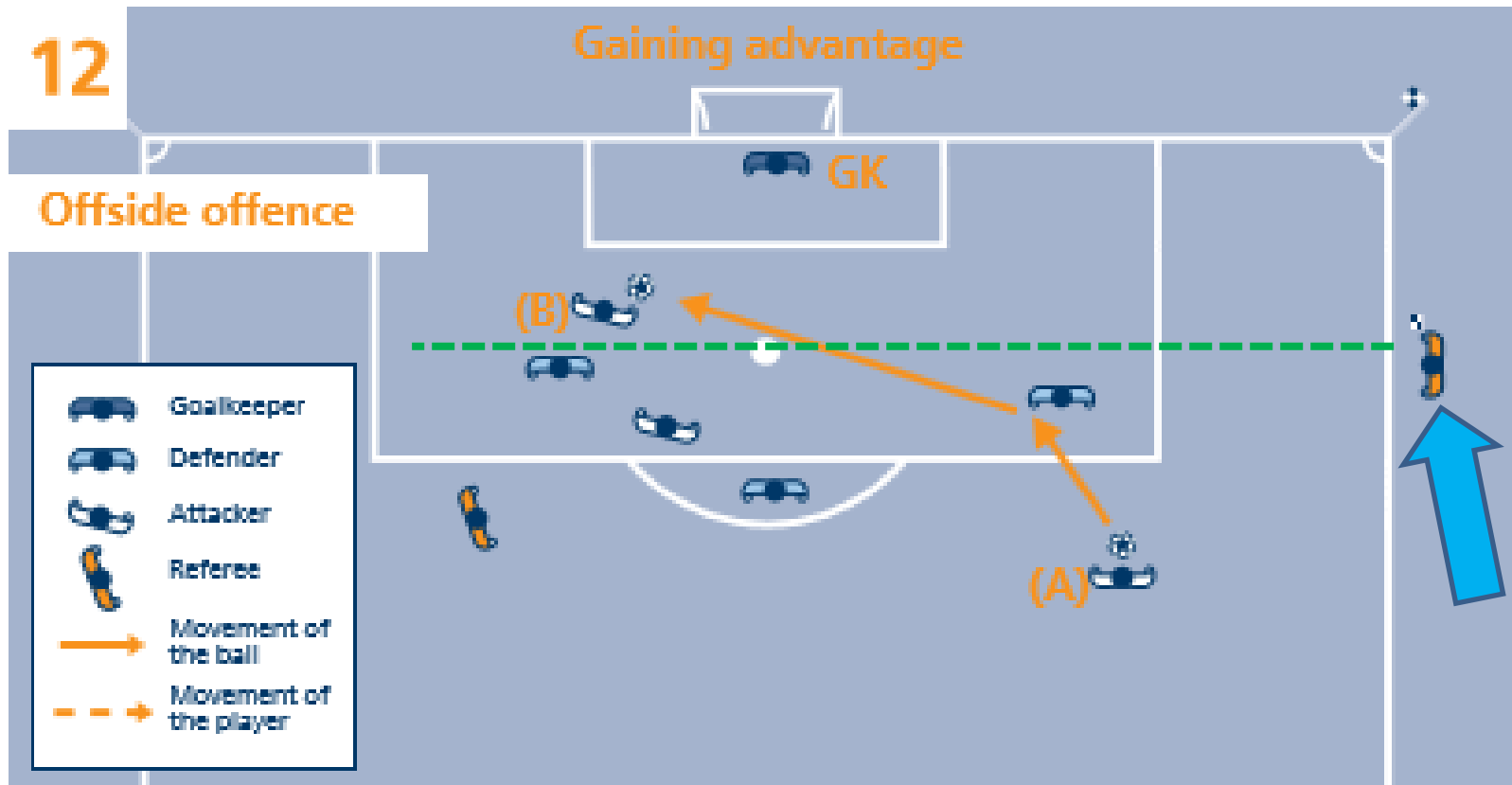
(C) in an **offside position** is not penalised because he did not gain an advantage from being in that position because he did not touch the ball.

Offside - Offence

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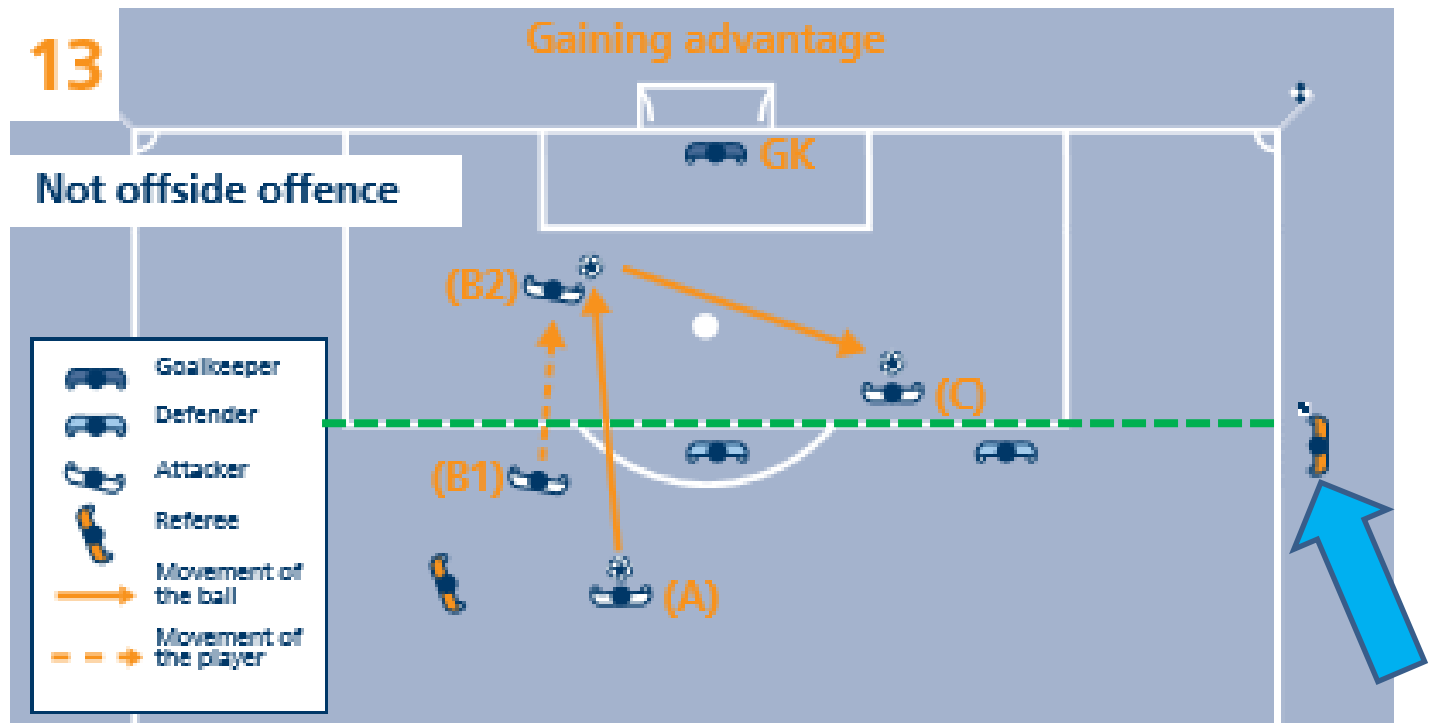
Gaining advantage

Offside offence



The shot by a team-mate (A) rebounds off an opponent to attacker (B) who is penalised for **playing the ball** having previously been in an offside position.

Offside – No Offence



An attacker (C) is in an **offside position**, not interfering with an opponent, when a team-mate (A) passes the ball to player (B1) in an onside position who runs towards the opponents' goal and passes the ball (B2) to team-mate (C). Attacker (C) cannot be penalised because when the ball was passed to him, he was in an **onside position**.

Offside Offence

Infringements

When an offside offence occurs, the referee awards an indirect free kick to be taken from the position of the offending player when the ball was last played to him by one of his team-mates.

Upon accepting the Assistant Referee's signal for an Offside, the Referee will stop play by blowing his/her whistle and awarding the defending team an indirect free kick from the place where the offence took place. The Assistant Referee holds his/her position on the touch line, until the ball is placed in the correct position to restart play.

Defender Leaving the Field

Any defending player leaving the field of play for any reason without the referee's permission shall be considered to be on his own goal line or touch line for the purposes of offside until the next stoppage in play. If the player leaves the field of play deliberately, he must be cautioned when the ball is next out of play.

If a Defending Player deliberately leaves the field in order to put an attacking player offside, he is considered to still be on the field and there is no offside offence committed.

Attacking Player Leaves the Field

It is not an offence in itself for a player who is in an offside position to step off the field of play to show the referee that he is not involved in active play. However, if the referee considers that he has left the field of play for tactical reasons and has gained an unfair advantage by re-entering the field of play, the player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour. The player needs to ask for the referee's permission to re-enter the field of play.

If, an Attacking Player deliberately leaves the field to show that they are not active or involved in the play, it is allowed and there is no offside offence committed.

Attacking Player – Stationary

If an attacking player remains stationary between the goalposts and inside the goal net as the ball enters the goal, a goal must be awarded. However, if the attacking player distracts an opponent, the goal must be disallowed, the player cautioned for unsporting behaviour and play restarted with a dropped ball from the position of the ball when play was stopped, unless play was stopped inside the goal area, in which case the referee drops the ball on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the ball was located when play was stopped.

If, an Attacking Player does not move and does not distract or interfere with a defender or the goal keeper and does not touch the ball, there is no offside offence committed and the goal must be allowed.

AR Signals – Law 11

The NSA has produced a separate presentation dealing with Assistant Referee Duties.

Please visit the Referee section of the NSA website:

www.niagarasoccerassociation.com

AR Duties and Signals

Produced by and for the
Niagara Soccer Association

Questions can be sent to the NSA
attention DRC.

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