

Law 11 - Offside

1. Does a referee penalise a player who is in an offside position and moves off the field of play to show the referee that he is not involved in active play?

No. It is not an offence in itself to be in an offside position and there is no need for the player to leave the field of play.

However, if the referee considers that he has left the field for tactical reasons and has gained an unfair advantage by re-entering the field of play the player should be cautioned.

2. Is a teammate allowed to stand in an offside position when a penalty kick is being taken?

No. Players must be behind the penalty mark.

3. A defending player moves beyond his own goal line in order to place an opponent in an offside position. What action does the referee take?

The referee allows play to continue and cautions the defender when the ball is next out of play.

4. A player's movement takes him between the goal posts into the goal net and at the same time a teammate kicks the ball into the goal. What action does the referee take if:
 - a. the player who is between the goal posts remains stationary as the ball enters?

No action should be taken. A goal is awarded.

- b. the actions of the player distract an opponent?

The goal is disallowed and the player is cautioned for unsporting behaviour. Since the offence was committed off the field of play, play is restarted by a dropped ball at the place where it was located when play was stopped.*

5. A player moving quickly towards his opponent's goal is penalised for an offside offence. From what position is the resulting indirect free kick taken?

The kick is taken from his position when the ball was last played to him by one of his teammates.

6. A player plays a corner to a teammate. The teammate touches the ball and the player who took the corner kick runs from an offside position and plays the ball once again. Should this player be penalised?

Yes. He is penalised for offside. When the player who took the kick, kicks it a second time, he is in an offside position and has gained an advantage by being in that position.