



Law 11



Offside



Objectives



- ❖ At the end of this lesson the student will be able to:
 - ◆ Identify offside position.
 - ◆ State what constitutes involvement in active play.
 - ◆ List the three restarts when there is no offside offence.
 - ◆ Apply a uniform interpretation of the Law in all situations.



Topics



- ❖ Explanation
- ❖ Elements of the Law
 - ◆ Offside position
 - ◆ Involvement in active play
 - ◆ Judgment
 - ◆ Not offside
 - ◆ Sanctions
- ❖ Lots of examples



Explanation



Offside refers to the English term for a team - **SIDE** - thus...

When a player is in an “offside” position, he/she is “off the team” and cannot participate in that play.

O - F - F - S - I - D - E



Elements of the Law



- ❖ A player is in an offside **position**:
 - ◆ When nearer to the opponent's goal line than **both** the ball and the second-to-last opponent.
 - ◆ Unless he/she is:
 - in own half of the field.
 - level (even) with the second-to-last opponent.
 - level with the last two opponents.



Elements of the Law (con'd)



- ❖ A player in an offside position is only penalized if:
 - ◆ at the moment the ball touches or is played by a teammate, he/she 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.



Elements of the Law (con'd)



- ❖ It is not an offence in itself to be in an offside position.
- ❖ Timing: Judgment of offside position occurs at the moment the ball is touched or played by a teammate, **not when the player receives the ball.**



Touching or Playing the Ball



“TOUCHED”

or

“PLAYED BY”

have the same meaning as

“MADE CONTACT WITH”



Special Situations



- ❖ There is no offside offence if a player receives the ball directly from:
 - ◆ a goal kick, or
 - ◆ corner kick, or
 - ◆ a throw-in.



Sanctions



**“For any offside offence,
the referee awards an
indirect free kick to the
opposing team to be taken
from the place where the
infringement occurred.”**

**Not where the whistle
sounded!**





Area of Active Play



Is that sector of the
field where players
actively participate
in **that** play.



Determination of Offside



- ❖ Is the player in the attacking half?
- ❖ Is the player nearer to the goal than the ball?
- ❖ Is the player nearer to the goal than the second-to-last defender?

If yes to all the above, then:

- ❖ Is the player interfering with play or an opponent, or gaining advantage?

If yes, there is an offside infringement.



Determination of Position



- ❖ Being “nearer to the opponent’s goal line than both the ball and the second-to-last opponent” means that:
 - ◆ Any part of the **head, body** or **feet** is nearer to the opponent’s goal line.
 - ◆ The **arms are not included** in this definition.*



Interfering with Play



“Interfering with play”
means playing or touching
the ball passed or touched
by a teammate.*



Interfering with an Opponent



“Interfering with an opponent”
means preventing an opponent
from playing or being able to
play by obstructing his/her line
of vision or movements or by
making distracting gestures.*



Gaining an Advantage



“Gaining an advantage”
means playing a ball that
rebounds off a post or a
crossbar or an opponent,
having been in an offside
position.*



Non-Involvement



- ❖ There is a clear intention to not participate in play when a player is:
 - ◆ Standing still.
 - ◆ Moving away from active play.
 - ◆ Stepping off the field of play.



Role of the Officials



- ❖ It is the **assistant referee's** responsibility to determine **position** and **activity** of the players.
- ❖ The **referee** makes the final decision to stop the game.



Scenario 1



Interfering with Play



- An attacker in an **offside position** (A), not interfering with an opponent, **touches the ball**.
- The assistant referee should raise the flag when the player **touches the ball**.



Scenario 2



Interfering with Play



- An attacker in an **offside position** (A), not interfering with an opponent, **does not touch the ball**.
- The player cannot be penalized because he/she did not **touch the ball**.



Offside Position and Activity



Offside position is not an offence in itself.

Offside position and activity in play constitute an **infringement.**



Scenario 3



Interfering with Play

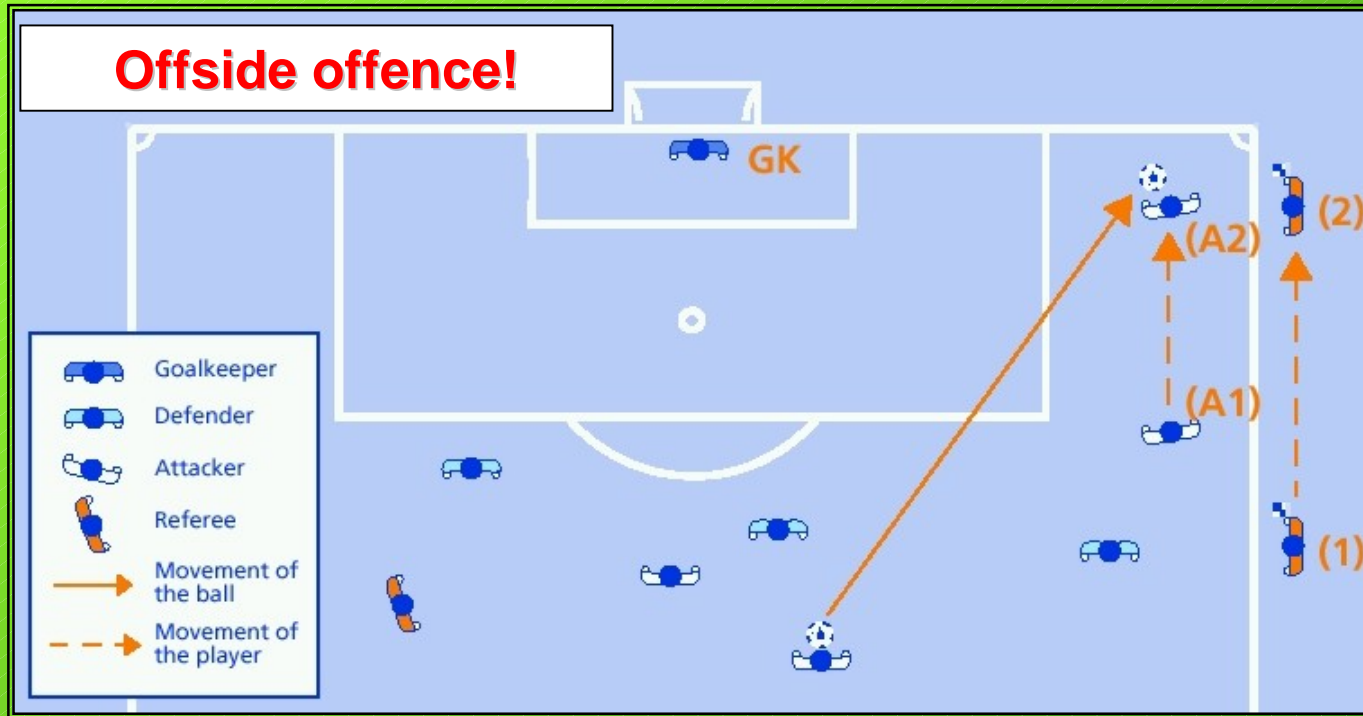


- An attacker in an **offside position** (A) runs towards the ball and a teammate in an **onside** position (B) also runs towards the ball and plays it.
- Player (A) cannot be penalized because he/she did not **touch the ball**.

Scenario 4



Interfering with Play



- An attacker in an **offside position** (A1) runs towards the ball and plays it (A2).
- The assistant referee should raise the flag when the player **touches the ball** (A2).



Role of Assistant Referee



- ❖ In order to determine offside **position** and **activity**, the assistant referee must be concerned about and concentrating totally on the task.
- ❖ The assistant referee **cannot be a spectator** of the game.

Scenario 5



Interfering with Play



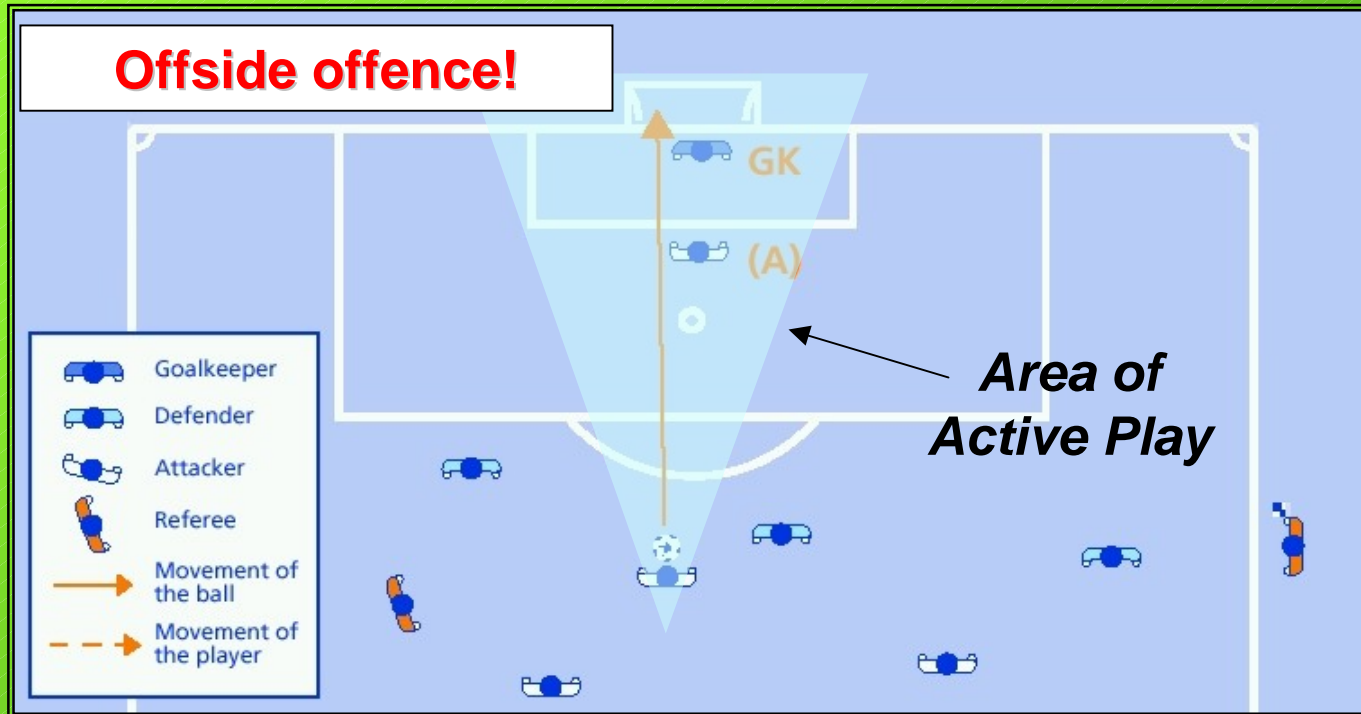
- An attacker in an **offside position** (1) runs towards the ball and **does not touch it** (2).
- The assistant referee should signal **"goal kick"**.



Scenario 6



Interfering with an Opponent



- An attacker in an **offside position** (A) is obstructing the goalkeeper's line of vision.
- The player should be penalized because he/she **prevents an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball.**



Role of the Goalkeeper

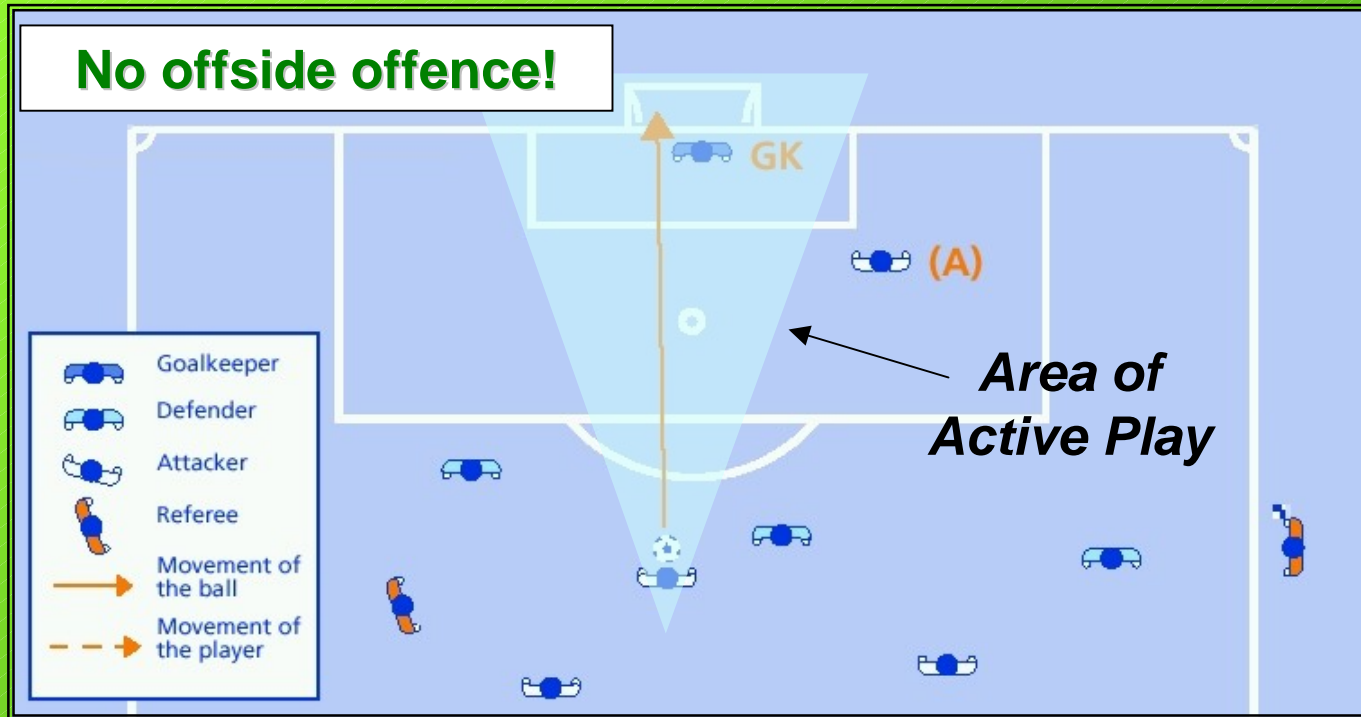


- ❖ As play approaches the goal, the goalkeeper's primary focus is **on the ball**. Offside decisions are the responsibility of the officials, **not the goalkeeper**.
- ❖ Goalkeepers should not allow themselves to be distracted merely by the nearby presence of opponents, whether they are in an offside position or not.

Scenario 7



Interfering with an Opponent



- An attacker in an **offside position** (A) is **not** obstructing the goalkeeper's line of vision nor making a gesture or movement that could be deemed deceiving or distracting.
- The player should **not be penalized**.

Scenario 8



Interfering with an Opponent



- An attacker in an **offside position** (A) runs towards the ball but does **not** prevent opponent (B) from playing or being able to play. Player (A) is not making a gesture or movement that deceives or distracts (B).
- Player (A) should **not be penalized**.



Point to Remember



IT IS

NOT AN OFFENCE

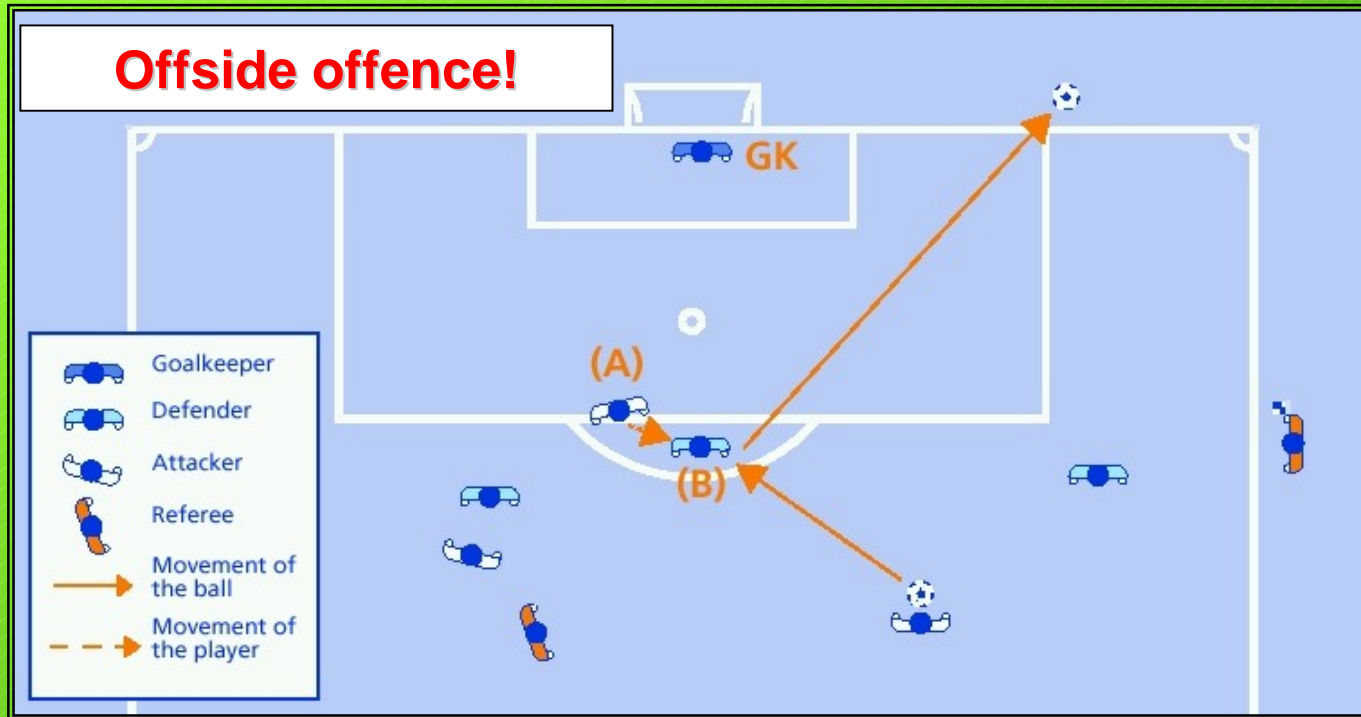
TO BE IN AN

***OFFSIDE
POSITION.***

Scenario 9



Interfering with an Opponent

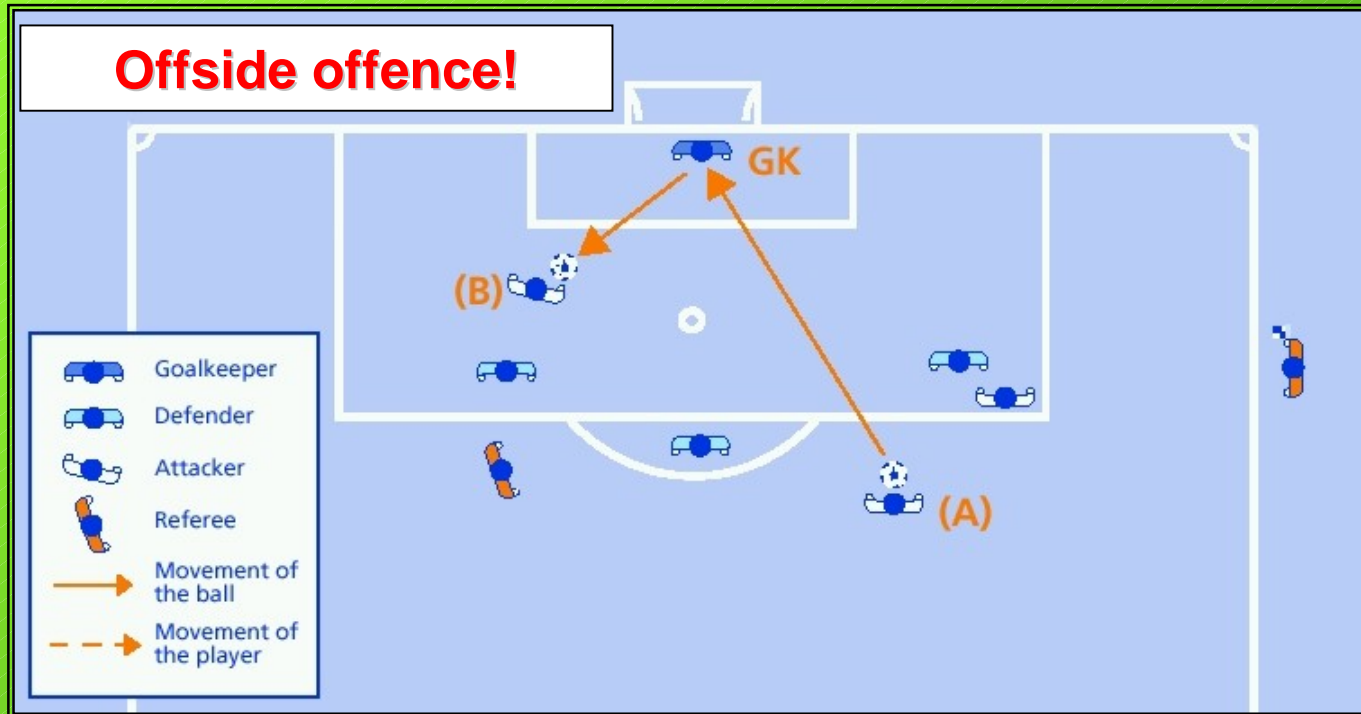


- An attacker in an **offside position** (A) runs towards the ball preventing opponent (B) from playing or being able to play the ball. Player (A) is **making a gesture that distracts** (B).
- Player (A) should be **penalized**.

Scenario 10



Gaining an Advantage



- The shot by a teammate (A) rebounds from the goalkeeper to player (B) who **gains an advantage** from the situation.
- Player (B) should be penalized for **playing the ball** having been previously in an **offside position**.

Scenario 11



Gaining an Advantage



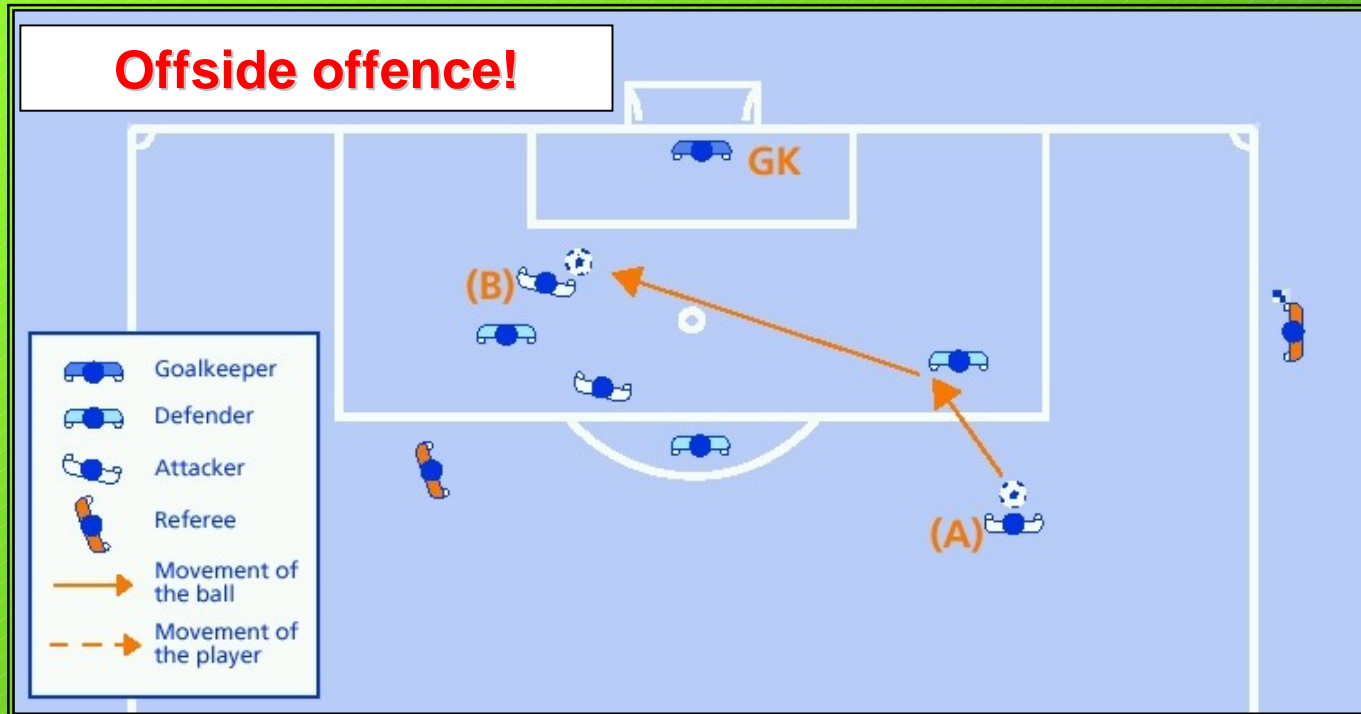
- The shot by a teammate (A) rebounds from the goalkeeper. Player (B), in an **onside position**, plays the ball.
- Player (C), in an offside position, should **not be penalized** because he/she **did not touch the ball**. No advantage was gained from offside.



Scenario 12



Gaining an Advantage



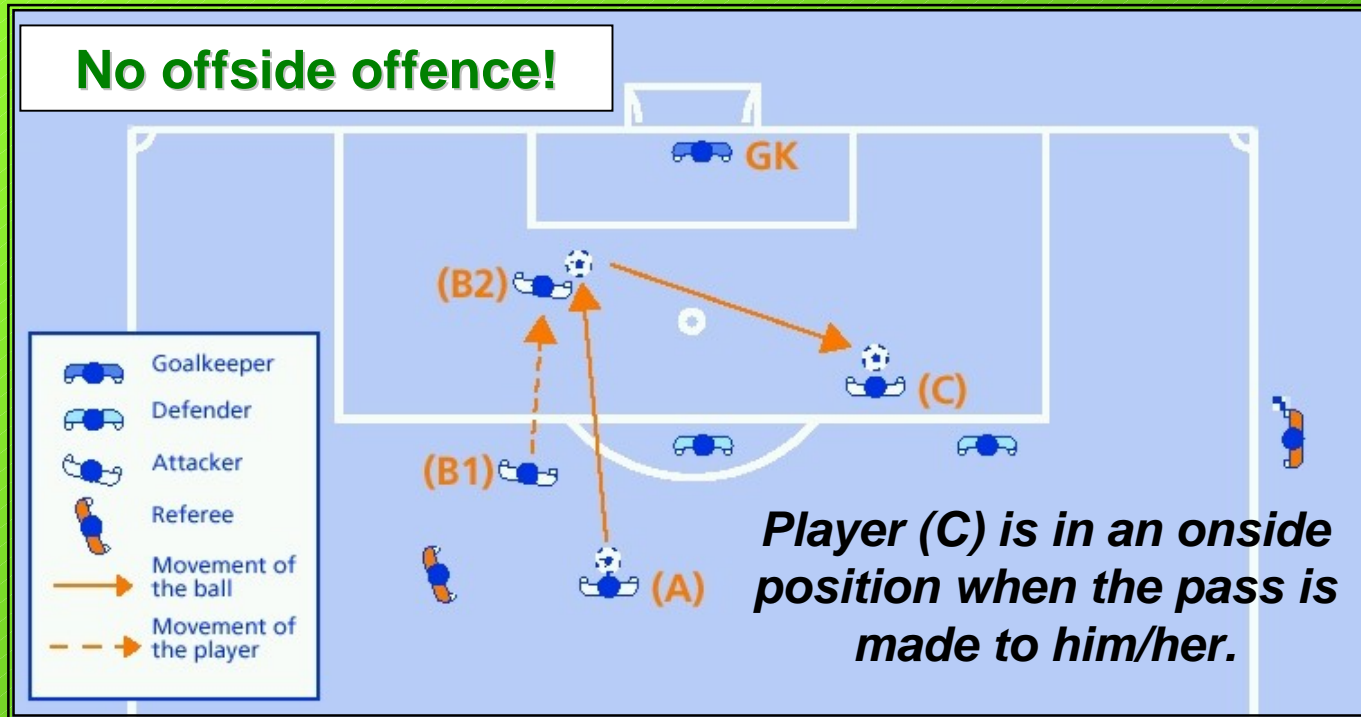
- The shot by a teammate (A) rebounds off an opponent to attacker (B), who plays the ball.
- Player (B) should be penalized for **playing the ball** having been previously in an **offside position**.



Scenario 13



Gaining an Advantage



- Player (C) is in an **offside position**, not interfering, when teammate (A) passes the ball to player (B1) who runs towards the goal and then passes the ball back (B2) to teammate (C) (now **onside**).
- Player (C) should **not be penalized**.



Review of Law 11



❖ How is offside position determined?

◆ *A player must be nearer to the opponent's goal line than both the ball and the second-to-last opponent, unless that player is:*

- *In own half of the field.*
- *Level with the second-to-last opponent.*
- *Level with the last two opponents.*

❖ Is it an offence to be in an offside position?

◆ *No, it is not an offence in itself.*



Review of Law 11 (con'd)



- ❖ In which circumstances should a player in an offside position be penalized?
 - ◆ *Only if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by a teammate, that player 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.*
- ❖ *In which three restarts can there not be an offside offence?*
 - ◆ *Goal kick, corner kick, or throw-in.*