

BUILT OUT LINE AND 7 vs 7 PLAY

US Soccer has introduced the following policy and field marking change in 7v7 play. The use of a BUILT OUT LINE for the U8, U9 & U10 levels is now required. The installation and use of the build out line will be used to promote playing the ball out of the back (defensive) area in an unpressured situation. The punting of the ball by the goalie will no longer be allowed.

The guidelines as adopted by US Club, USYSA, AYSO and SAY regarding the use of the line during game play are as follows:

1. Any infraction regarding a "head ball," the Goalie "punting" and/or dropkicking the ball will result in an indirect free kick.
2. Goal Keepers cannot punt or Drop Kick the ball at any time; they must throw, roll or placekick the ball. If the goal keeper does punt or drop kick the ball, the restart will result in an indirect free kick from where the offense occurred.
3. On Goal Kicks the opposing team should be outside of the Built Out line before the kick can be taken. However the goal keeper does not have to wait until the other team is over the line to take the kick. If the goalie puts the ball in play before the opposing team has crossed the line, the ball is immediately in play no matter where the opposing players are at that time. The referees should encourage the opposing team to retreat past this line. They cannot reenter the area until the ball has clearly passed the penalty area.
4. On all free kicks inside the penalty area, the opposing team must be making an effort to retreat past the build out line, However if the kicking team decides to quick kick the restart than its fair play for the opposing team to play the ball as long as they have made a clear effort to retreat and the ball has cleared the penalty area.
5. OFF SIDES: OFF SIDES CAN ONLY BE CALLED IF THE ATTACKING TEAM IS INSIDE THEIR ATTACKING SIDE OF THE BUILT OUT LINE. The midfield line no longer has anything to do with off sides.

Go to the Forms section under Tab #18 for a field diagram showing the Built Out line. The line is to be installed halfway between the top of the penalty box line and the middle line, straight across the field from sideline to sideline