



LEICESTER
SOCCER CLUB

REFEREE TRAINING





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REFEREE TRAINING GOALS

I. REVIEW GAME RULES

Make sure that our U6/U8 referees understand the rules of each division and how to manage their responsibilities.

II. OUTLINE BEST PRACTICES

Teach youth referees best practices - which will allow them to help keep players safe on the playing field.

III. BUILD CONFIDENCE IN ABILITY

Help youth referees perform their duties with confidence, ensuring a better overall experience for players and coaches.



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I. PRE-GAME RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Check Field Conditions

B. Check In With the Players



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I. PRE-GAME RESPONSIBILITIES ***FIELD CONDITIONS***

A. CHECK IN WITH COORDINATORS

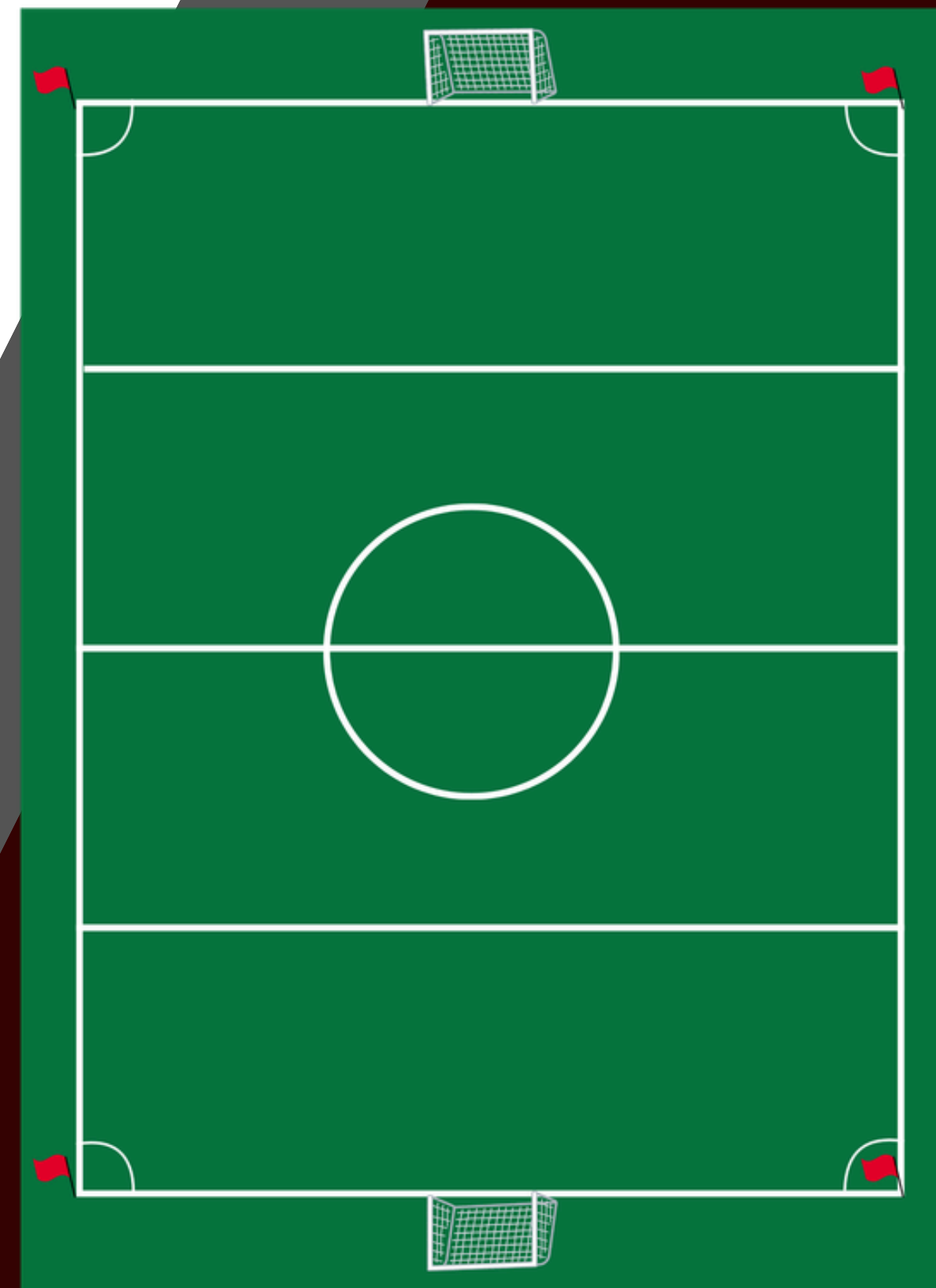
It is good practice to find the In-Town Coordinator upon your arrival, and ask if there is anything you can help with.

B. CHECK THE CORNER FLAGS

Before the game begins make sure that the corner flags are in the proper position. They should be aligned with the back corner of the end line and sideline.

C. CHECK THE GOALS

Before the game begins make sure that goals are lined up exactly on the end line. Make sure that the ground pins are holding the goal in place.



I. PRE-GAME RESPONSIBILITIES ***THE PLAYER CHECK IN***

A. INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Make sure to introduce to the coaches and give them a two minutes warning until you check in the players.

B. CLEATS, JEWELRY, ETC.

To begin checking in the players have them line up on the sideline. You will check to make sure they are wearing Soccer Cleats (image), and that all jewelry is removed.

C. GAME PLAY REMINDERS

Remind players about the “Scoring Line”, the “Build Out Line”, and to “Make Plays on the Ball, Not the Person”.





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II. GAME RULES

- A. U6/U8 Field Geography
- B. The Scoring Line
- C. Corner Kicks & Goal Kicks
- D. Throw Ins
- E. Fouls
- F. The Hand Shake Line

II. GAME RULES FIELD GEOGRAPHY

The Center Circle:

At the start of each quarter, and after each goal, play begins with one team starting play in the center circle.

The Scoring Line:

No Goals can be scored beyond the Scoring Line. It's presence is meant to encourage passing & dribbling.

The Build Out Line:

On all goal kicks the opposing team is required to retreat to the Build Out Line.

Corner Kicks:

A corner kick may be taken from any point on the half circle located in all four corners.

Goal Kicks:

Goal Kicks are to be taken from the Scoring Line.



II. GAME RULES **SCORING LINE**

I. INTENT OF THE SCORING LINE

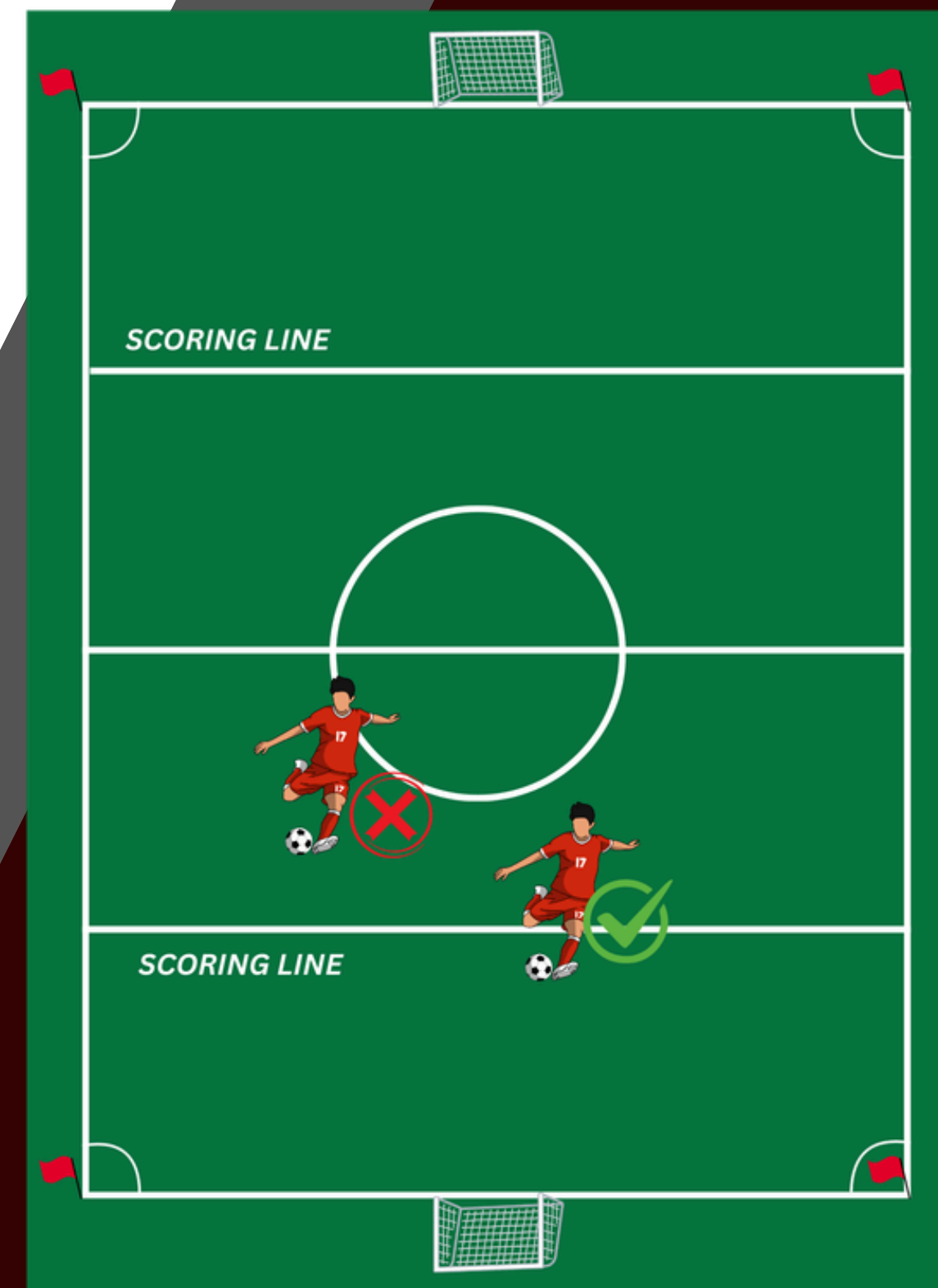
The intent of the scoring line is to encourage players to pass the ball to teammates and apply their dribbling skills, as opposed to simply “booting the ball”.

II. HOW THE SCORING LINE WORKS

Any goal that is scored beyond the scoring line will not count as a goal. Referees should remind players of this in their pre-game meeting.

If a goal is scored beyond the scoring line:

- A. The Referee Must Wave the Goal Off
- B. The Opposing Team Gets a “Goal Kick”.
- C. The Scoring Team, must retreat to the “Build Out Line”



II. GAME RULES

CORNER & GOAL KICKS

I. CORNER KICKS

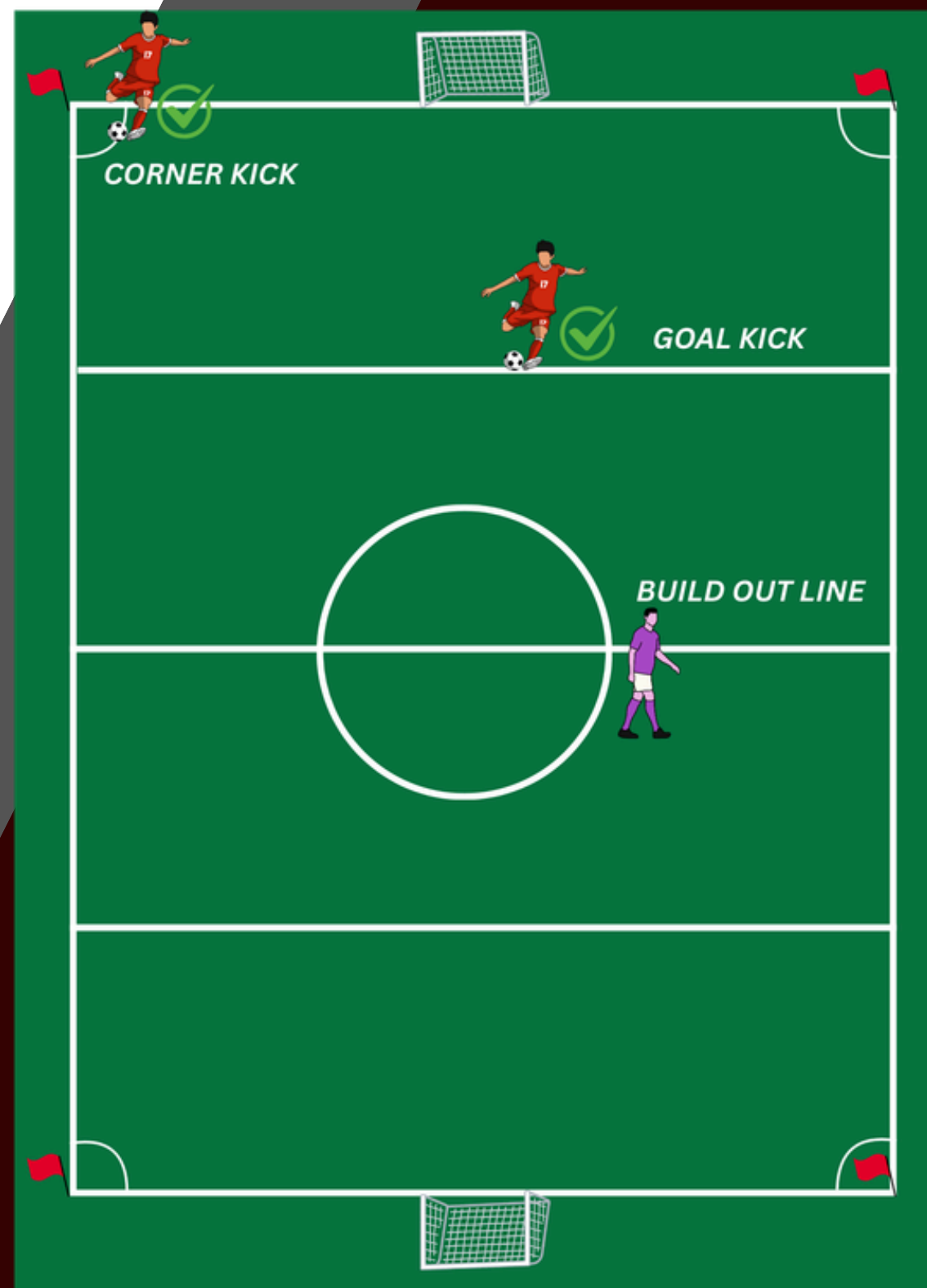
Corner Kicks should be taken from nearest corner where the ball left the field of play. The ball can be played from any spot along on the quarter circle.

II. GOAL KICKS

All goal kicks should be taken from the Scoring Line. It does not matter which player takes the Goal Kick (In U6/U8 there is no goalie to do so).

All players of the opposing team must retreat beyond the build out line.

- A. The Build Out Line is the Midfield Line
- B. The Referee should Enforce this Rule, and if possible enforce that two defensive players are on the opposing scoring line.



II. GAME RULES **THROW INS**

I. BE CLEAR & CONCISE

As soon as the ball goes out of bounds on the sideline make sure to announce which color should take the throw in as well as point in the direction the ball will go.

II. LEGAL THROWS

Referees should make sure that the throw in is legal. If the throw in is NOT legal, the referee should blow the whistle and make sure it is retaken. If the throw-in is done incorrectly the second time you should ignore it.

A Legal Throw-In:

- A. The Player's Feet Should be Out of Bounds
- B. The Player Should have Two Feet on the Ground
- C. The Ball Should be thrown above their Shoulders.



II. GAME RULES **FOULS**

I. HAVE SAFETY IN MIND

It is extremely important that the referees have player safety in mind at all times! The referee should blow the whistle and award a free kick *EVERY* time they observe a foul. All free kicks will be deemed “direct kicks”.

II. FOULS TO LOOK FOR

Slide Tackling: this is not allowed at U6/U8 level.

Pushing: under no circumstances is pushing allowed.

Wild Kicking: this is hard to referee, but players should be trying to win the ball as opposed to kicking wildly.

Excessive Body Contact: body to body contact that is not necessary to win the ball is deemed a foul.





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II. GAME RULES **THE HAND SHAKE LINE**

I. HAVE A PRESENCE

The Referees should carefully observe the handshake line between each team and make sure to report any poor sportsmanship to the coaches. It is good practice to high five the teams as they finish the handshake line.

II. BEST PRACTICES

Best Practices for the Hand Shake Line:

1. Stand about ten feet from the player sideline
2. Observe for any Poor Sportsmanship
3. High Five all Players at the Conclusion of the event.

II. FINAL CHECK IN

Before leaving the complex check in with the coordinators to see if there is anything you can help with before you leave.





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III. BEST PRACTICES

1. Preparation
2. Substitutions
3. On the Field



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III. BEST PRACTICES PREPARATION

I. PREPARING FOR THE EVENT

Your In-Town Coordinators should supply you with the necessary equipment for U6/U8 refereeing. Make sure you attend the preseason meeting each season.

I. EQUIPMENT EXPECTATIONS

There is a short list of required equipment that is necessary each week.

1. Official LSC Referee Jersey
2. Whistle
3. A Timing Device (10:00 Minute Quarters)





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III. BEST PRACTICES PREPARATION

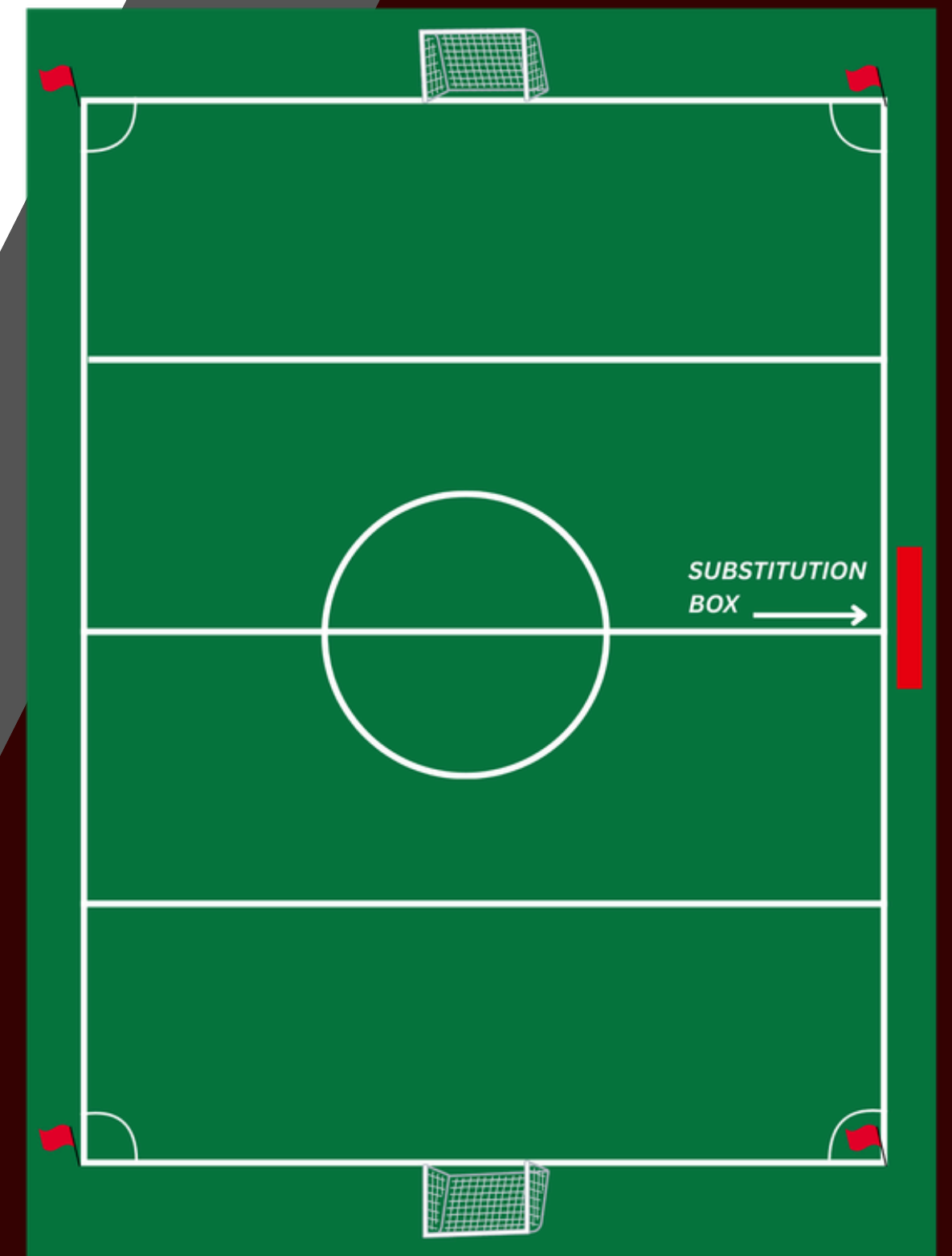
I. SUBSTITUTIONS

At the U6/U8 Level substitution rules are a bit looser than the travel level. Kids will get tired, get hurt, or need to exit rapidly. However, when possible we would encourage coaches to get their players to the substitution box.

II. WHEN TO ALLOW SUBS

At the U6/U8 Level substitution can be made at any break in the action. This would include; throw ins, goal kicks, corners kicks, and during any injuries.

Referees should discourage subbing during live action or during free kicks.





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III. BEST PRACTICES ON THE FIELD

I. BE HEARD!

To be an effective U6/U8 Referee you are going to have to be vocal. State which team has “possession”, point the direction its going in, and “Blow your Whistle!” when necessary.

II. MANAGE THE GAME

The job of the coaches is to manage the substitutions and help the players navigate the strategic element of the game. It is your job to manage the game! Call Fouls, declare out of bounds, allow substitutions, etc.

III. DON'T BE AFRAID TO TEACH

Don't be afraid to help the coaches teach the game, especially when the ball is on the parents' sideline.





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THANK YOU!

FOR GIVING
BACK!

