# Fouls

Fouls are penalised with a direct free kick, penalty kick or indirect free kick.

### Fouls penalised with a direct free kick

A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following seven offences in a manner considered by the referees to be careless, reckless or using excessive force:

• Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent

• Trips an opponent

• Jumps at an opponent

• Charges an opponent

• Strikes or attempts to strike an opponent

• Pushes an opponent

• Tackles an opponent

A direct free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following three offences:

• Holds an opponent

• Spits at an opponent

• Handles the ball deliberately (except for the goalkeeper within his own penalty area)

A direct free kick is taken from the place where the offence occurred

(see Law 13 – Position of free kick).

The above offences are accumulated fouls.

### Fouls penalised with a penalty kick

A penalty kick is awarded if any of the above ten offences is committed by a player inside his own penalty area, irrespective of the position of the ball, provided it is in play.

### Fouls penalised with an indirect free kick

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper commits any of the following four offences:

• Controls the ball with his hands or feet in his own half of the pitch for more than four seconds

• After playing the ball, he touches it again in his own half of the pitch after it has been deliberately played to him by a team-mate without an opponent playing or touching it

• Touches the ball with his hands inside his own penalty area after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team-mate

• Touches the ball with his hands inside his own penalty area after he has received it directly from a kick-in by a team-mate

An indirect free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if, in the opinion of the referees, a player:

• plays in a dangerous manner in the presence of an opponent

• impedes the progress of an opponent

• prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from his hands

• commits against a team-mate one of the nine offences penalised with a direct free kick if they are committed against an opponent

• commits any other infringement not previously mentioned in Law 12 or in any other Law, for which play is stopped to caution or dismiss a player

The indirect free kick is taken from the place where the offence occurred

(see Law 13 – Position of free kick).