



Law 11 objective of presentation is the introduction to the concept of what “challenging an opponent for the ball” means, along with video examples to illustrate the concept.

Terminology and video examples to illustrate gaining an advantage are provided.



Interfering

- “Interfering with an opponent” means:
 - Preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent’s line of vision
 - Challenging an opponent for the ball




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Considerations

- Is the player in an offside position interfering with an opponent? If so, how?
- Is the player in an offside position interfering with the goalkeeper? If so, how?
- Does the player in an offside position challenge an opponent for the ball?

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Use of the FIFA Considerations.

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Challenging for the Ball


- Clear action
- Within playing distance
- Impacts ability of the opponent to play the ball
- No specific distance
- Interpret playing distance correctly

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A player in an offside position is deemed to be challenging an opponent for the ball if he or she makes a clear action within playing distance which impacts the ability of the opponent to play the ball.

Challenging an opponent for the ball has no specific distance.

Therefore, the referee must interpret the playing distance and its impact correctly.

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Challenging for the Ball

- Clearly obstructing line of vision (goalkeeper)
- Challenging an opponent for the ball (field player)
- Challenging an opponent for the ball (goalkeeper)

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3 Video examples to illustrate the concept of interfering with an opponent and challenging an opponent for the ball.

Show clips as a reference point of the concept.

For clips #2 and #3, point out that the playing distance could be greater when the opponent is a goalkeeper and that the referee will need to interpret correctly.



3 Video examples to illustrate the concept of interfering with an opponent and challenging an opponent for the ball.

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Gaining an Advantage

- “Gaining an advantage by being in an offside position” means playing a ball
 - Rebounds or deflected from goalpost, crossbar or an opponent having been in an offside position
 - Rebounds, deflected or is played from a deliberate save by an opponent having been in an offside position

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2 Video examples to illustrate gaining an advantage from a rebound and deflection or deliberate save by an opponent.



3 Video examples to illustrate the concept of interfering with an opponent and challenging an opponent for the ball.

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Gaining an Advantage

- A player in an offside position receiving the ball from an opponent, who deliberately plays the ball (except from a deliberate save), is not considered to have gained an advantage
- Reaction or action by defender

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Video example of gaining an advantage that is not considered an offense (receiving the ball from an opponent who deliberately plays the ball).



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Gaining an Advantage

- **Offside**
 - Reaction: not a deliberate play
 - Unexpected: no clear line of sight
 - Factors: time, distance, speed of ball
 - A reflex movement

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Wording to help differentiate between reaction and action.

Poor execution of action still considered deliberate play.

Previous video clip example.

Focus is on the action of the player, not the result.

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Gaining an Advantage

- **Not Offside**
 - Action: deliberate play
 - Option: choose to perform an action
 - Calculated movement toward ball
 - Poor execution of action

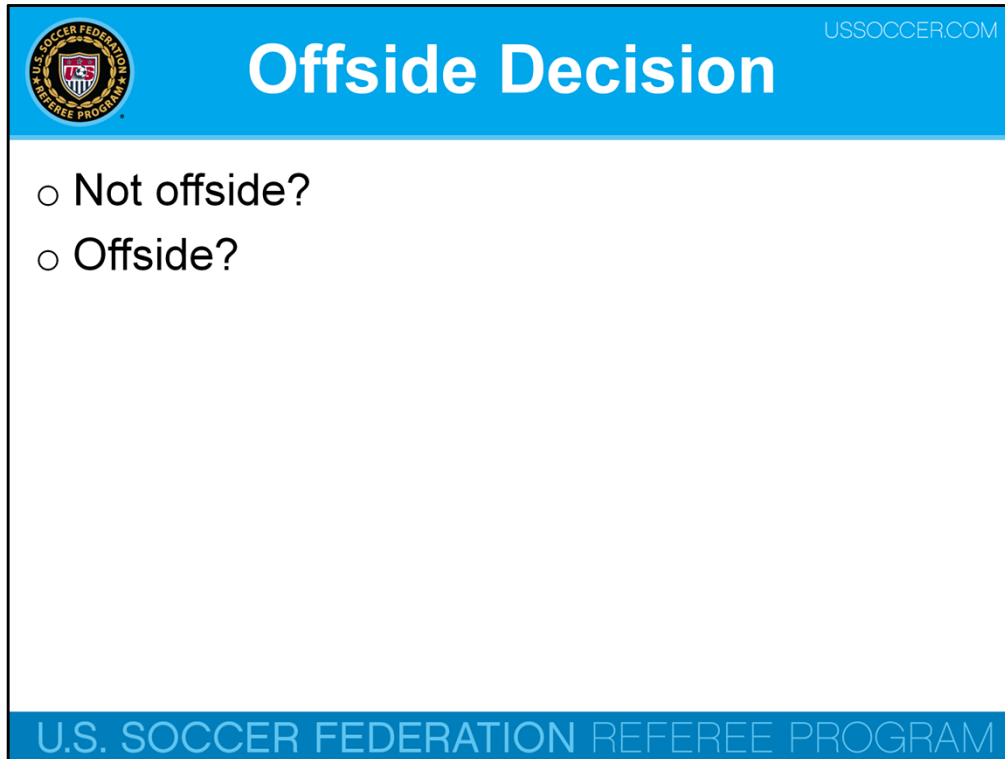
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Video #1

Red attacker is in an offside position and makes a clear action that impacts an opponent's ability to play the ball.

The movement and lunge toward the ball by the red attacker freezes the goalkeeper which causes the goalkeeper to hesitate, expecting a possible redirection of the ball.

Focus of the clip is the clear action of the attacker in the offside position challenging the goalkeeper for the ball.

The result is an offside offense so it is not a goal.



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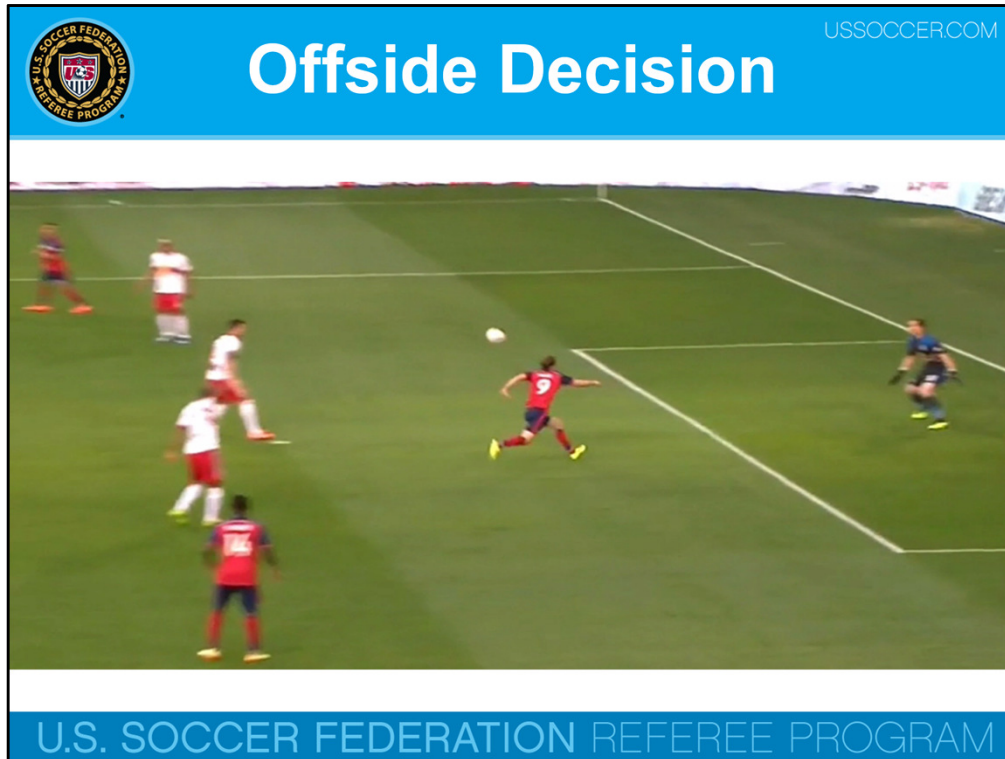


Red attacker #9 is in an offside position when the ball is played by teammate.



Red attacker #9 starts to move toward where the ball is going to land.

What is the playing distance?




As the ball is falling, red attacker #9 makes a clear action of moving toward and feinting at the ball to momentarily freeze the goalkeeper.

Does this impact the ability of the opponent to play the ball?

Challenging an opponent for the ball has no specific distance.

Therefore, the referee must interpret the playing distance and its impact correctly.



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Offside Decision

- Not offside?
- Offside?

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Video #2 DC at PHL

2 DC attackers are in an offside position to the left and near the goalkeeper when their teammate shoots the ball near the penalty mark.

Neither attacker clearly obstructs the line of sight of the goalkeeper nor is there a clear action that impacts the goalkeeper.

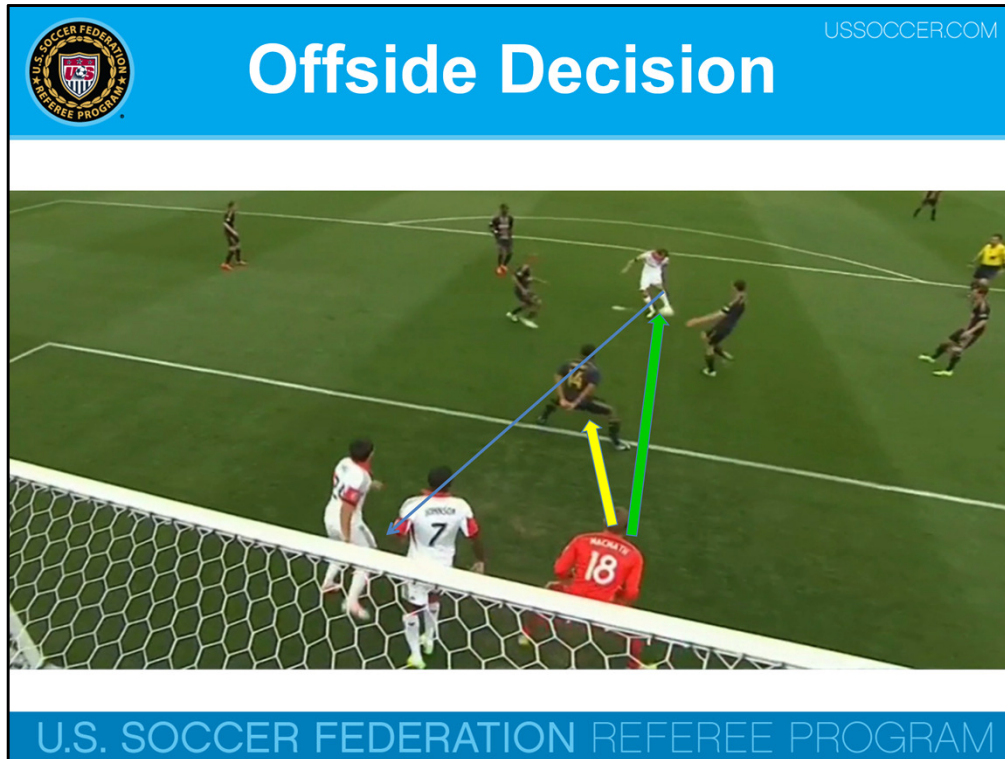
The result is a no offside offense so is a good goal.



3 Video examples to illustrate the concept of interfering with an opponent and challenging an opponent for the ball.

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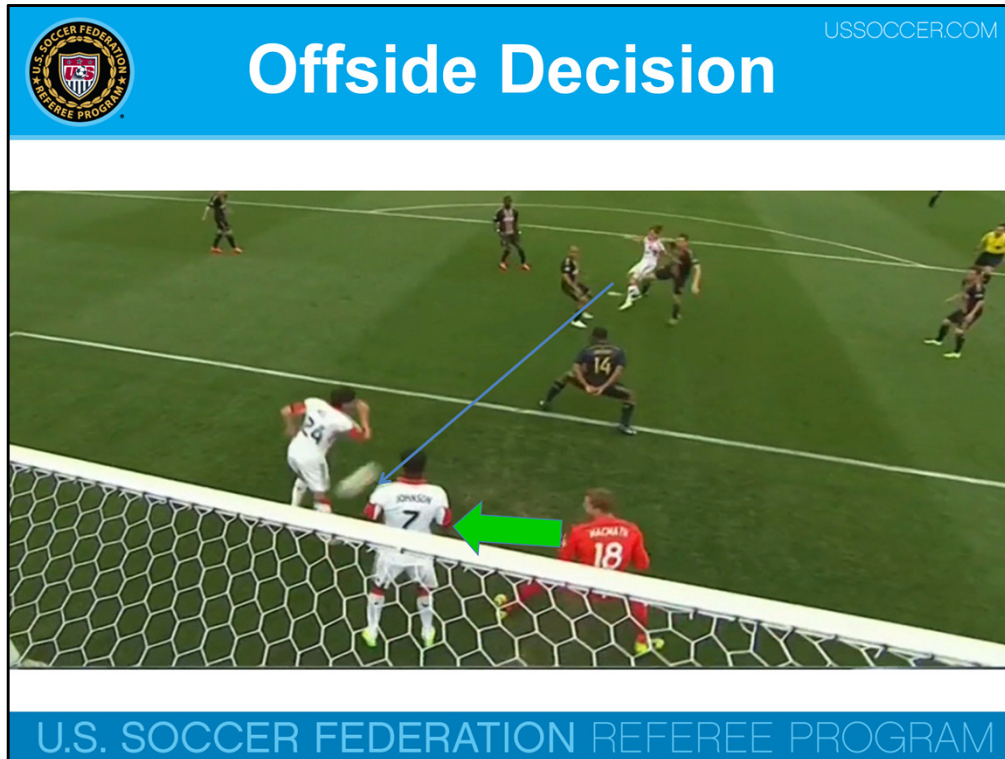


Attackers in white are standing in offside positions.

The goalkeeper's view of the ball is not obstructed by an opponent as illustrated by the green arrow.

The goalkeeper's view of the ball is possibly obstructed by a teammate as illustrated by the yellow arrow.


The path of the ball between the attackers in offside positions is illustrated by the blue arrow.



Attackers in white make no clear action to impact the goalkeeper to play the ball.

The path of the ball between the attackers is too late to obstruct the vision of the goalkeeper.

The result is no offside offense, good goal.



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Offside Decision

- Not offside?
- Offside?

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Video #3 USA vs Colombia

The yellow attacker in an offside position turns to allow the ball to roll past his feet.

The action of the attacker does not impact the opponent.

The goalkeeper moves out to cut down the angle of the ball as an onside positioned teammate runs toward the ball and cuts across the mouth of the goal in front of the goalkeeper.

The result is no offside offense so it is a good goal.



3 Video examples to illustrate the concept of interfering with an opponent and challenging an opponent for the ball.

Show clips as a reference point of the concept.

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There is a yellow attacker in an offside position when his teammate plays the ball forward.



The yellow attacker in an offside position turns and allows the ball to roll past without touching the ball.

The goalkeeper is too far away to come out to get ball.

The yellow left winger makes a run at the ball from an onside position.



The yellow attacker in an offside position is a player in the middle of two other yellow teammates.

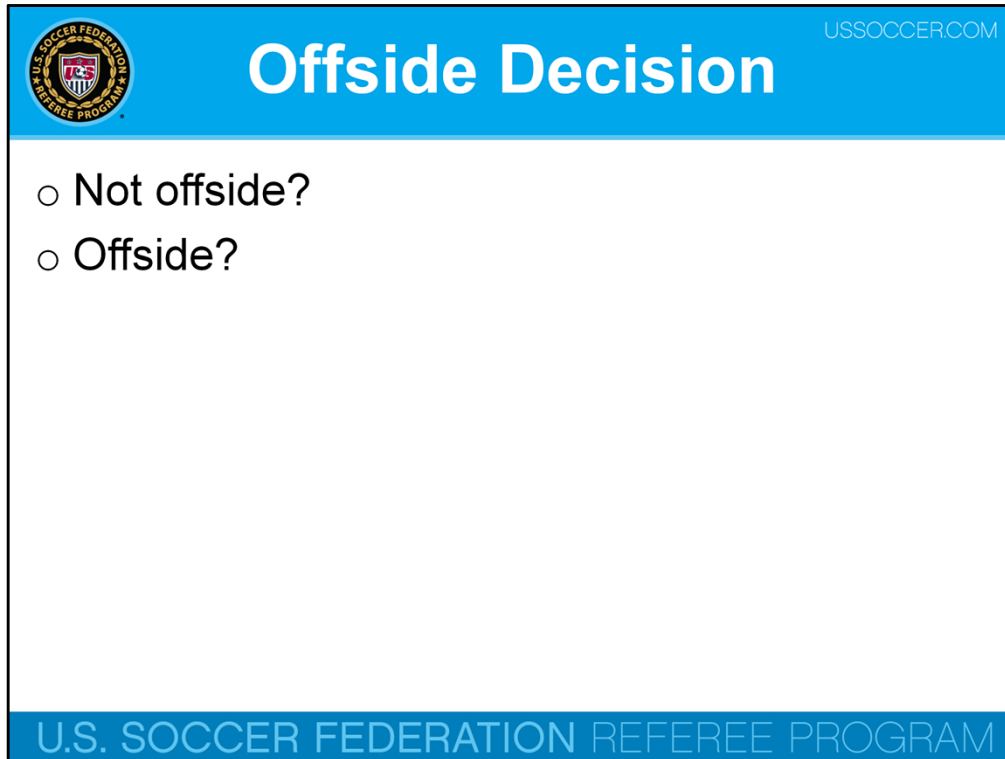
The goalkeeper moves to the top of the goal area to cut down any shooting angles.



The yellow left wing player comes from an onside position and collects the ball before the goalkeeper can get to the ball.

The action of the yellow attacker that is third furthest from the goal does not impact the ability of the goalkeeper (nor any other opponents') to play the ball.

The yellow player between the ball and defender is the attacker that originally played the ball.



Video #4

A red attacker crosses the ball into the penalty area with a teammate in an offside position near the back post.

A blue defender makes a deliberate action to jump up and move his head toward the ball to play the ball.

The focus of this clip is the action of the defender, not the result of the action.

The defender deliberately plays the ball with an opponent in an offside position.

The result is no offside offense so it is a good goal.



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The red attacker crosses the ball into the penalty area with a teammate in an offside position near the back post.



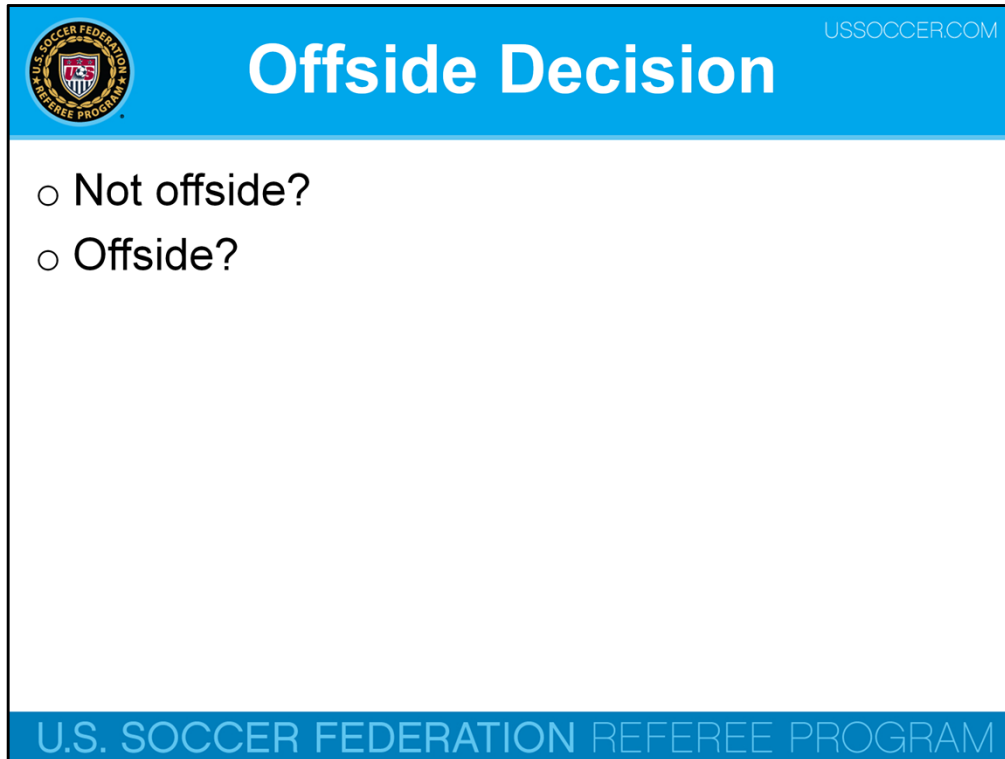
The crossed ball is heading for the near side of goal area.

The defender in black between the ball and the closest red attacker sets his feet, faces the ball and jumps toward the ball to make deliberate contact with the ball.



The focus of this clip is the action of the defender, not the result of the action.

The defender deliberately plays the ball to an opponent in an offside position.



Video #5

The concept of this video involves interfering with an opponent at a free kick.

This action must result in the referee team penalizing the attacker for an offside infraction.

The attacker takes an offside position behind the defensive wall for the purpose of clearly obstructing the line of vision of an opponent.

The referee team is encouraged to be proactive and use preventative techniques to deter the attacker from taking the offside position and action.

The referee cannot tell attacker to move.

The referee can inform the attacker that if he remains in the offside

position when the free kick is taken, he will be penalized for an offside infraction.

The result is an offside offense, therefore it is not a goal.



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The attacker that is in an offside position prior to the free kick turns to face the goalkeeper to clearly obstruct his line of vision.

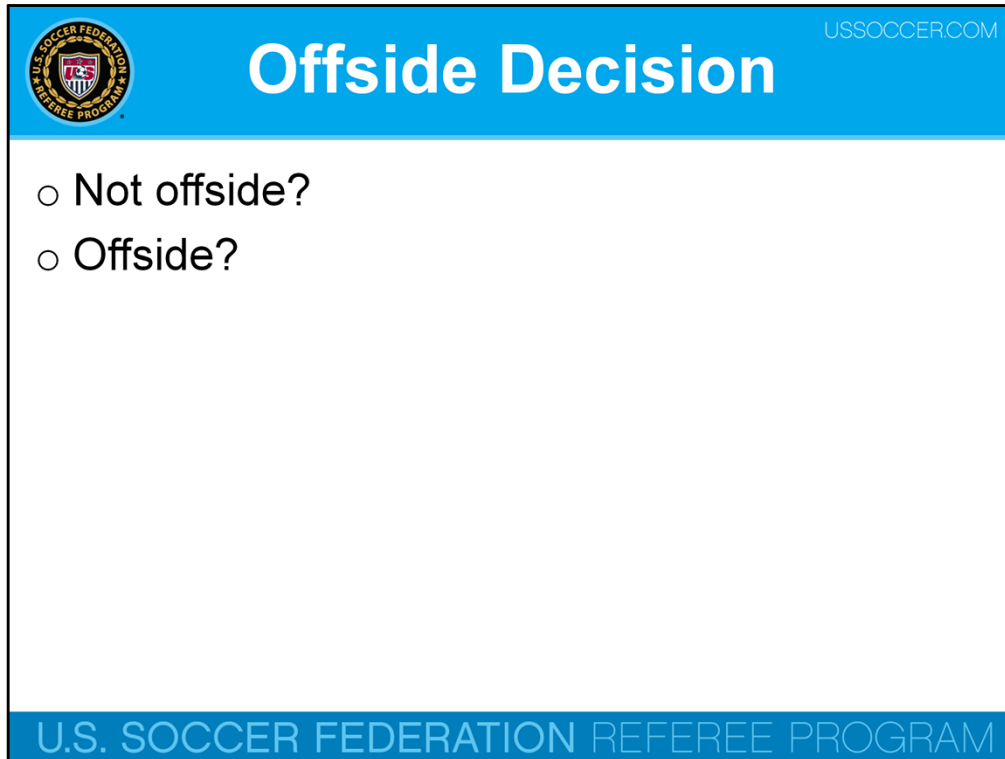


The attacker that is in offside position prior to his teammate playing the free kick turns one last time to make sure he is clearly obstructing the line of vision.



The attacker in the offside position ducks down after his teammate shoots the ball toward the goal.

The path of the ball is directly in-line with the offside positioned attacker.



Video #6

The talking point in addition to the concept on this video is the difference between a dynamic play and a free kick set piece (as in the previous clip).

Is it a clear action that impacts the opponent to play the ball?

The player 20 yards out from goal shoots the ball into the opposite upper corner of goal with a teammate in an offside position.

The goalkeeper sees the ball the entire time from the player striking the ball until the ball goes over his outstretched hand into the upper corner of goal.

The action of the offside player had no impact on the goalkeeper's ability to play the ball.

The results is no offside offense, so it is a good goal.



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This clip is the 2011 MLS Goal of the Year.




The action of the attacker in the offside position has no impact on the opponent, which is the goalkeeper.

The goalkeeper has a clear unobstructed view of the ball entire time.



The goalkeeper fully extends but is unable to reach the ball.

The result is no offside offense, so it is a good goal.

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Challenging for the Ball


- Summary
 - Clear action
 - Within playing distance
 - Impacts ability of opponent to play the ball
 - No specific distance
 - Interpret playing distance impact correctly
 - With goalkeeper expanded playing distance

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