



FIFA

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Law 6

The Assistant Referee



Topics

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- Duties and Responsibilities
- Positioning & Teamwork
- Gestures
- Running Technique
- Signal Beep
- Flag Technique



Two assistant referees are appointed. Their duties, subject to the decision of the referee, are to indicate:

- when the whole of the ball **has passed out of** the field of play
- which side is entitled to **a corner kick, goal kick or throw-in**
- when a player may be penalised for being in an **offside position**
- when a **substitution** is requested

Continued...

Two assistant referees are appointed. Their duties, subject to the decision of the referee, are to indicate:

- when misconduct or any other incident has occurred **out of the view** of the referee
- when offences have been committed whenever the assistants are **closer to the action** than the referee (this includes, in particular circumstances, offences committed in the penalty area)
- whether, **at penalty kicks**, the goalkeeper has moved forward before the ball has been kicked and if the ball has crossed the line



Duties and Responsibilities

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The assistant referees help the referee to control the match in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

They also assist the referee in all other matters involving the running of the match at the request and direction of the referee. This commonly includes such matters as:

- **inspecting the field, the balls used, and player equipment**
- **determining if problems with equipment or bleeding have been resolved**
- **monitoring the substitution process**
- **maintaining back-up records of time, goals and misconduct**



Positioning

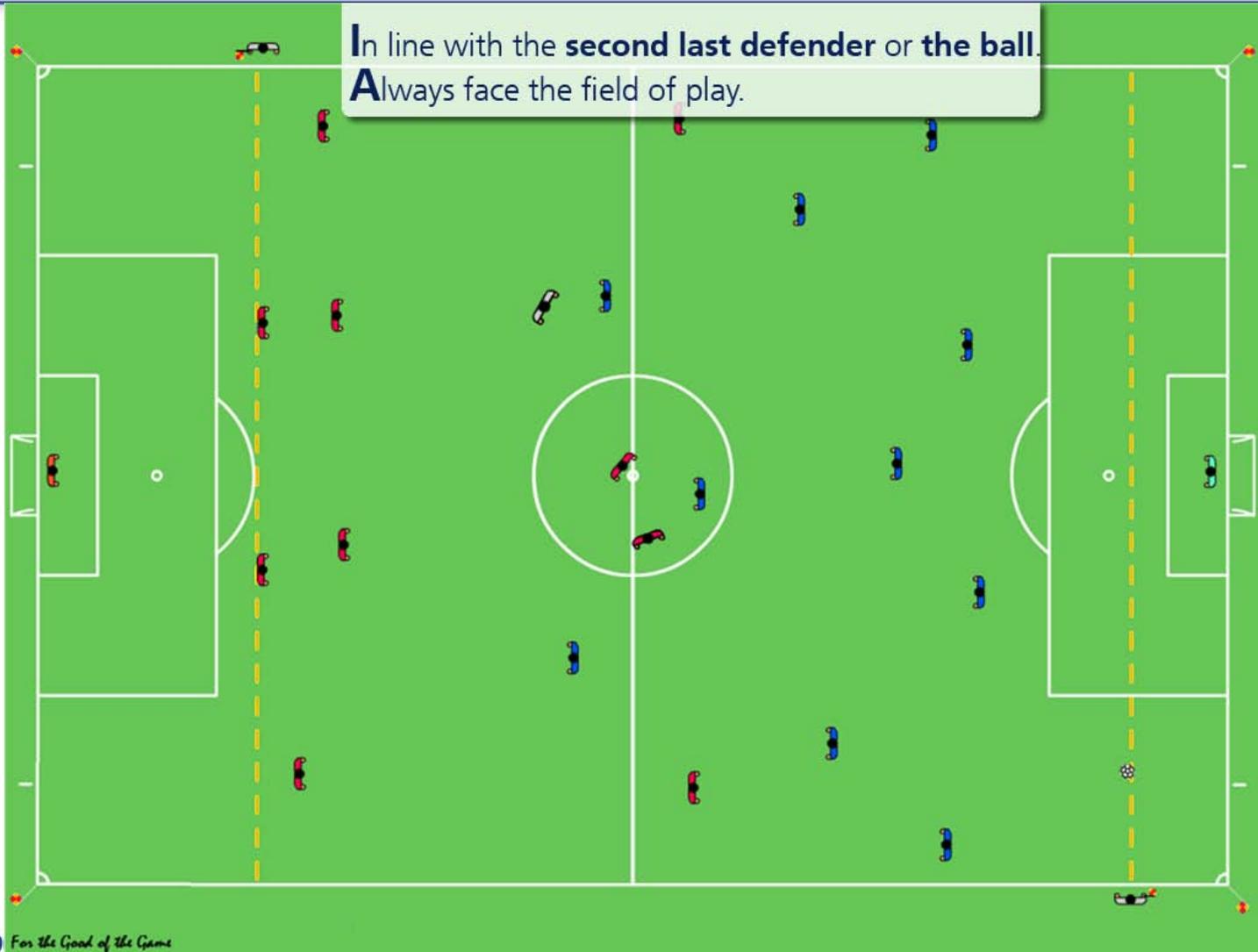
1. Kick off





Positioning

2. General Positioning

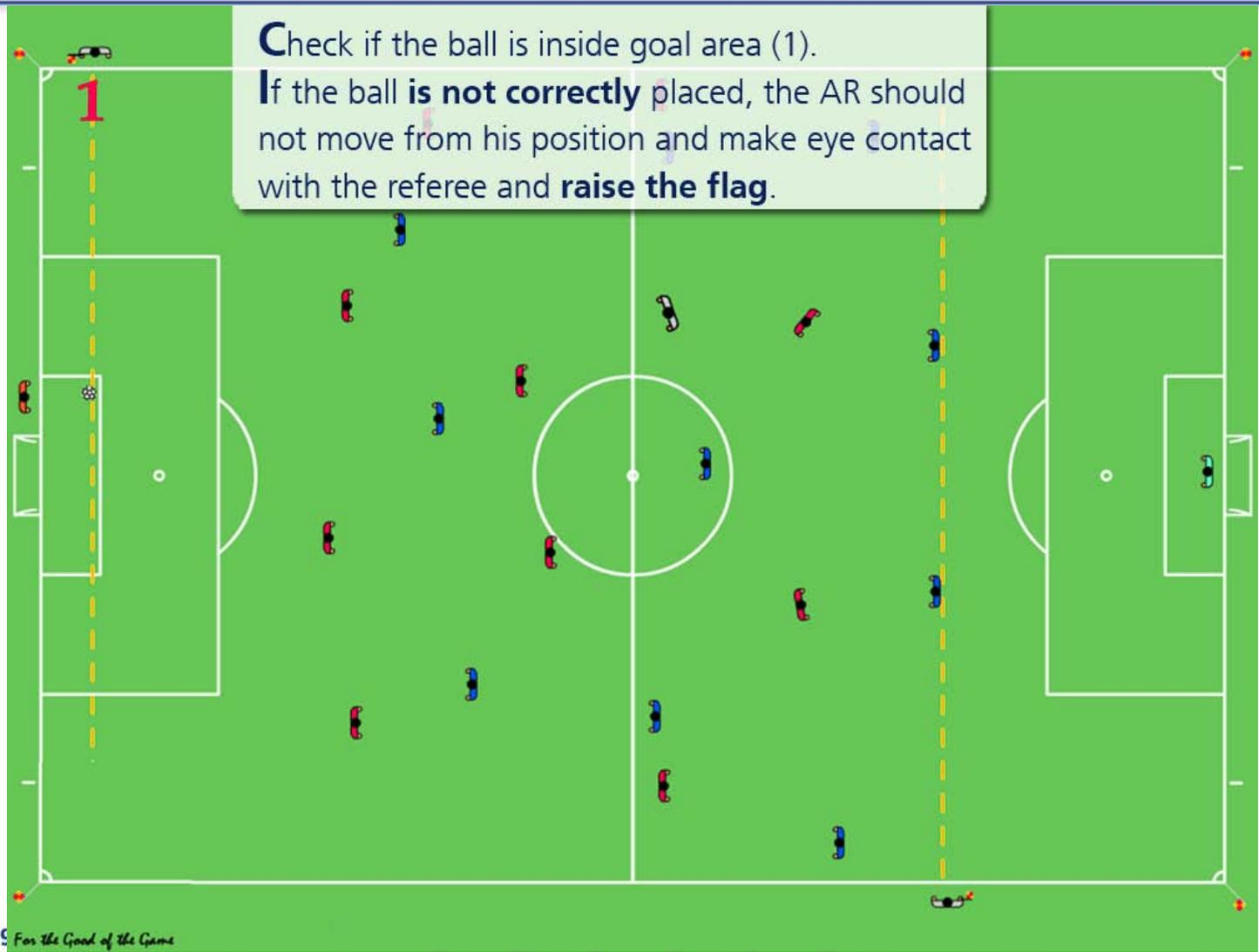




Positioning

3. Goal kick

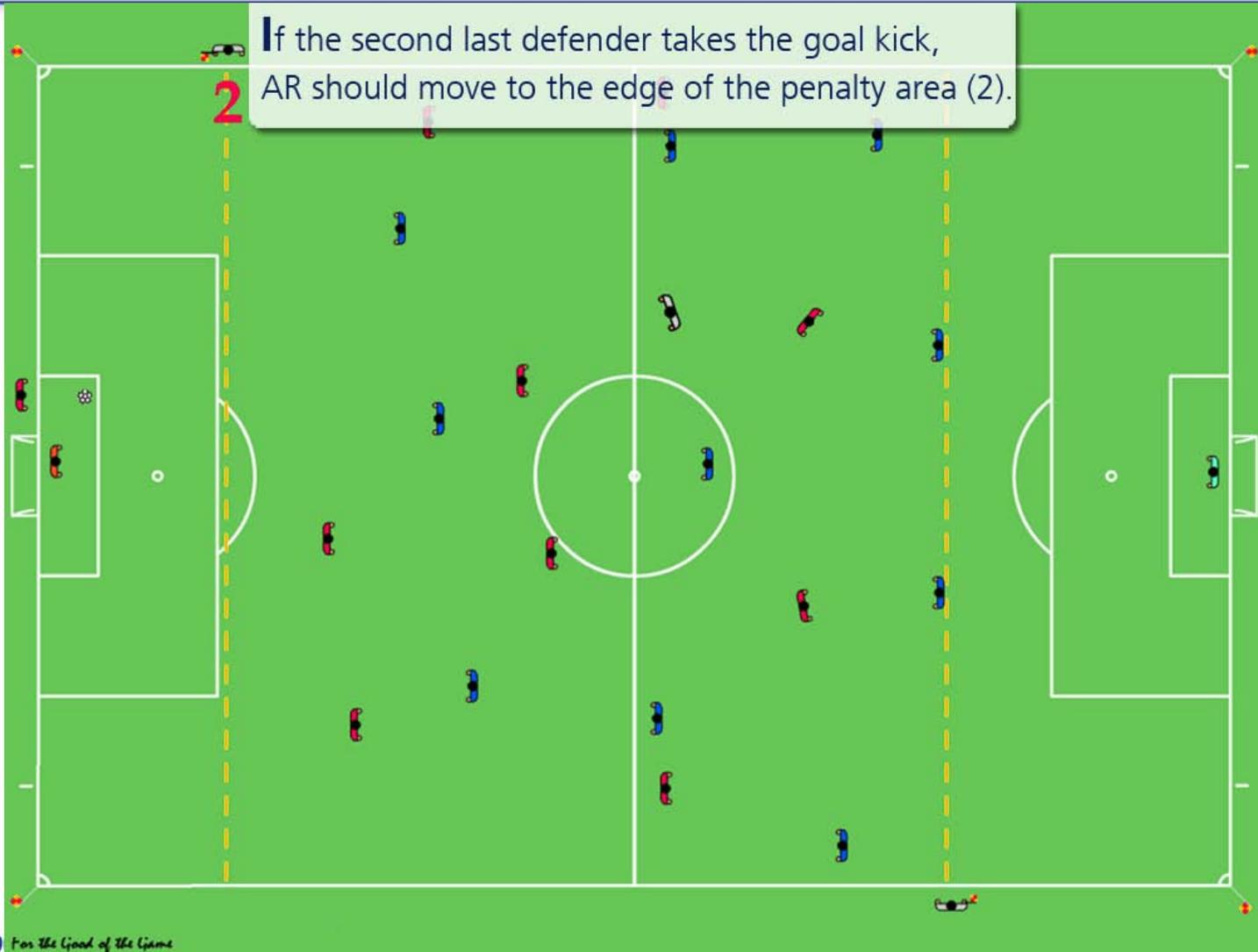
Check if the ball is inside goal area (1).
If the ball **is not correctly** placed, the AR should not move from his position and make eye contact with the referee and **raise the flag**.





Positioning

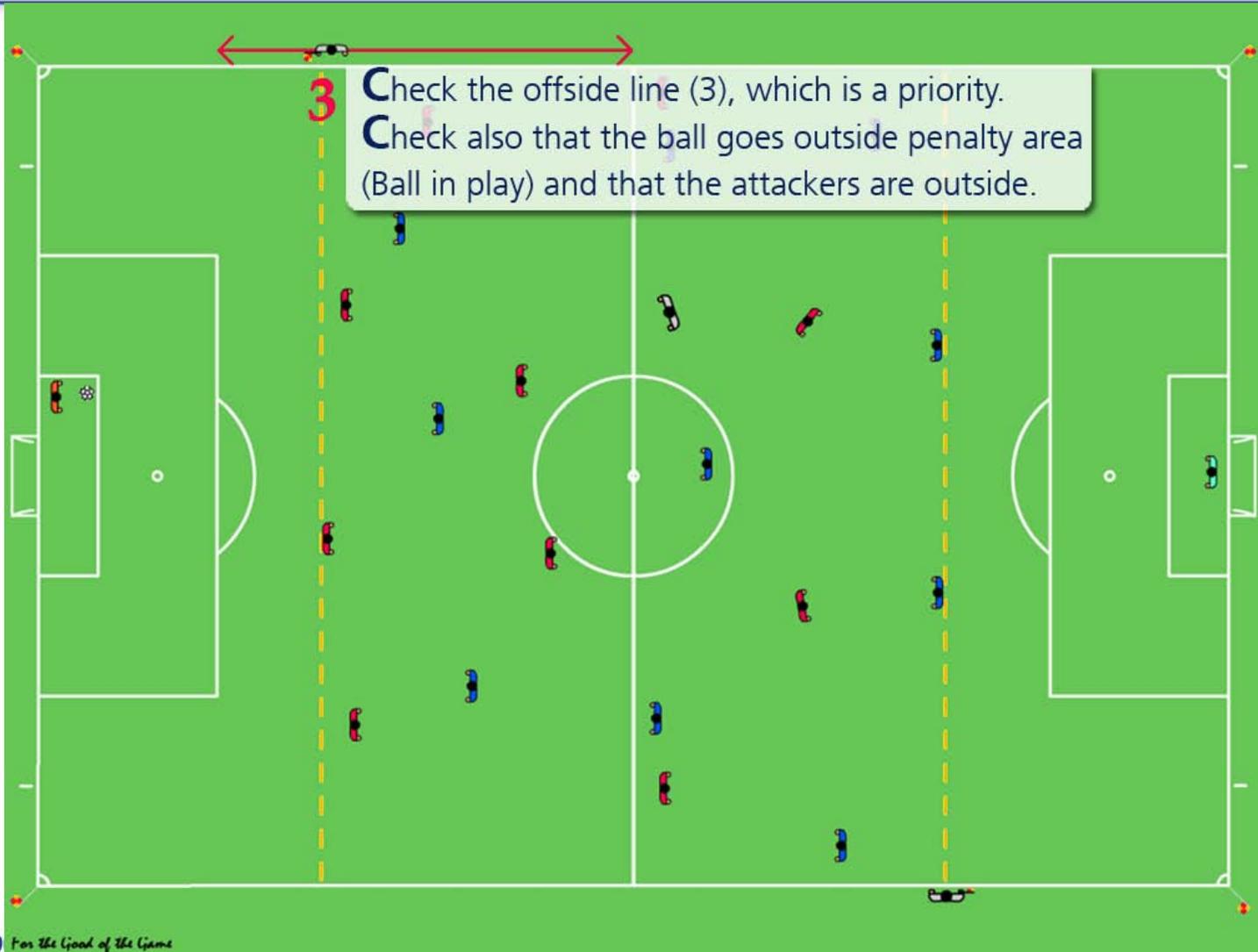
3. Goal kick





Positioning

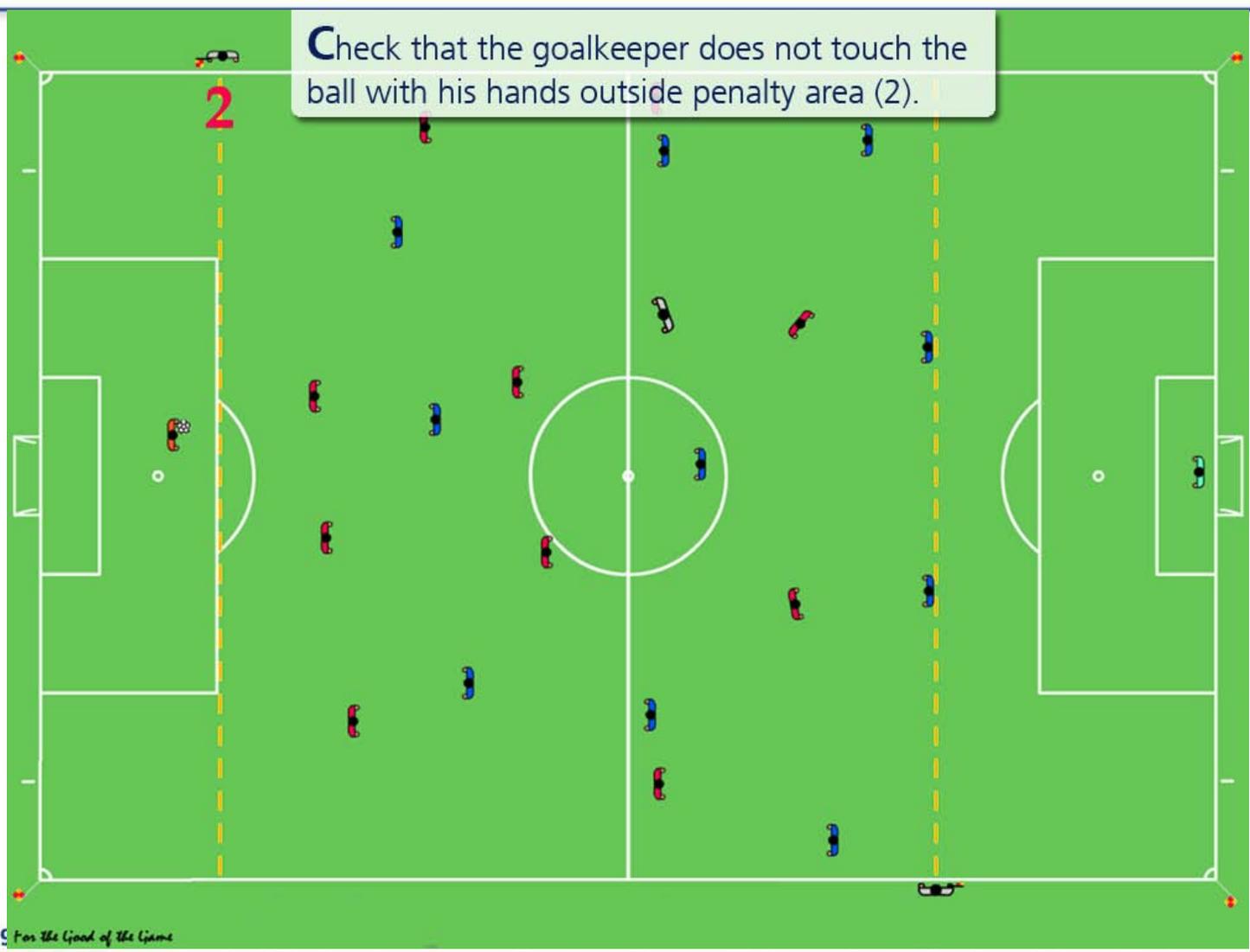
3. Goal kick





Positioning

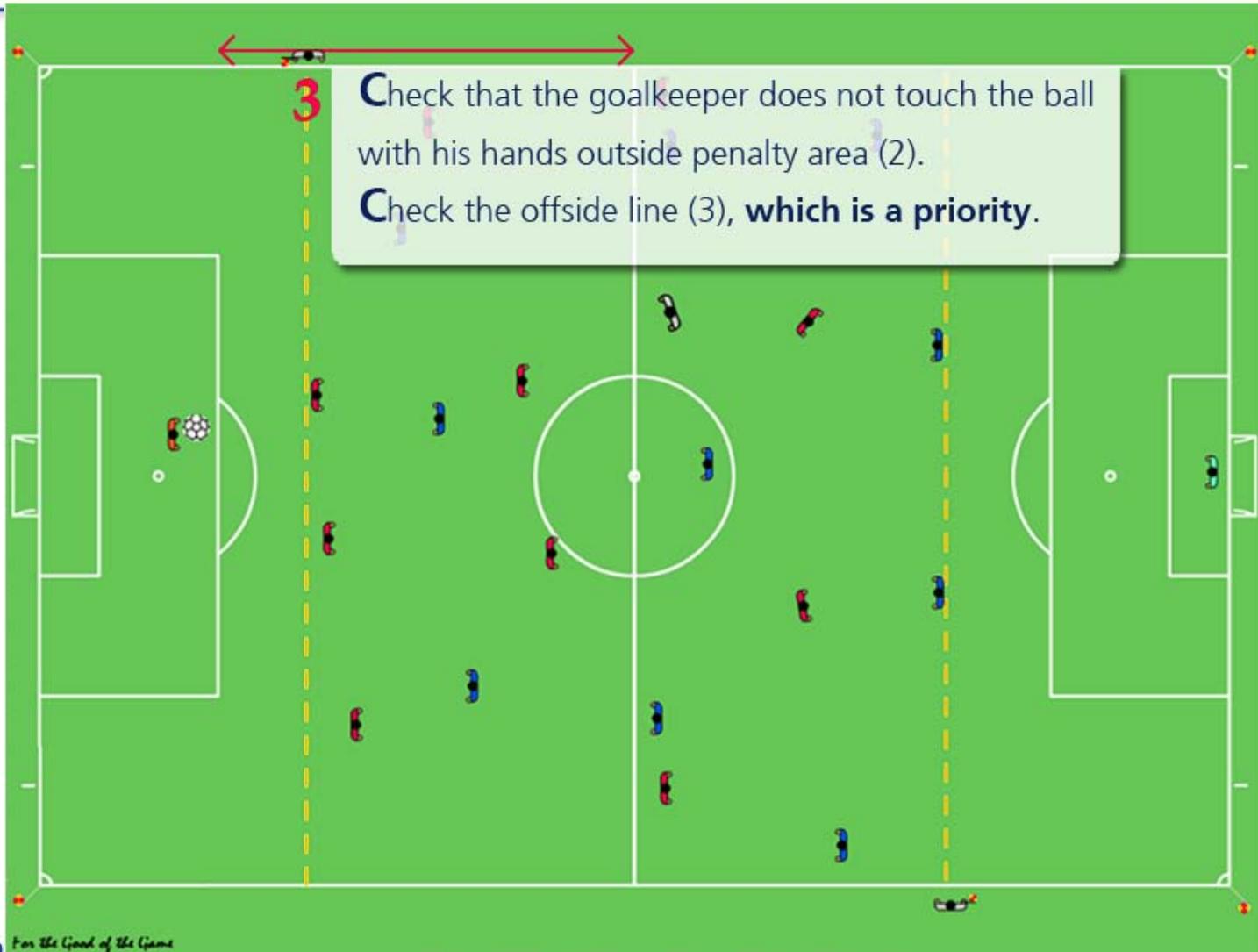
4. Goalkeeper releasing the ball





Positioning

4. Goalkeeper releasing the ball



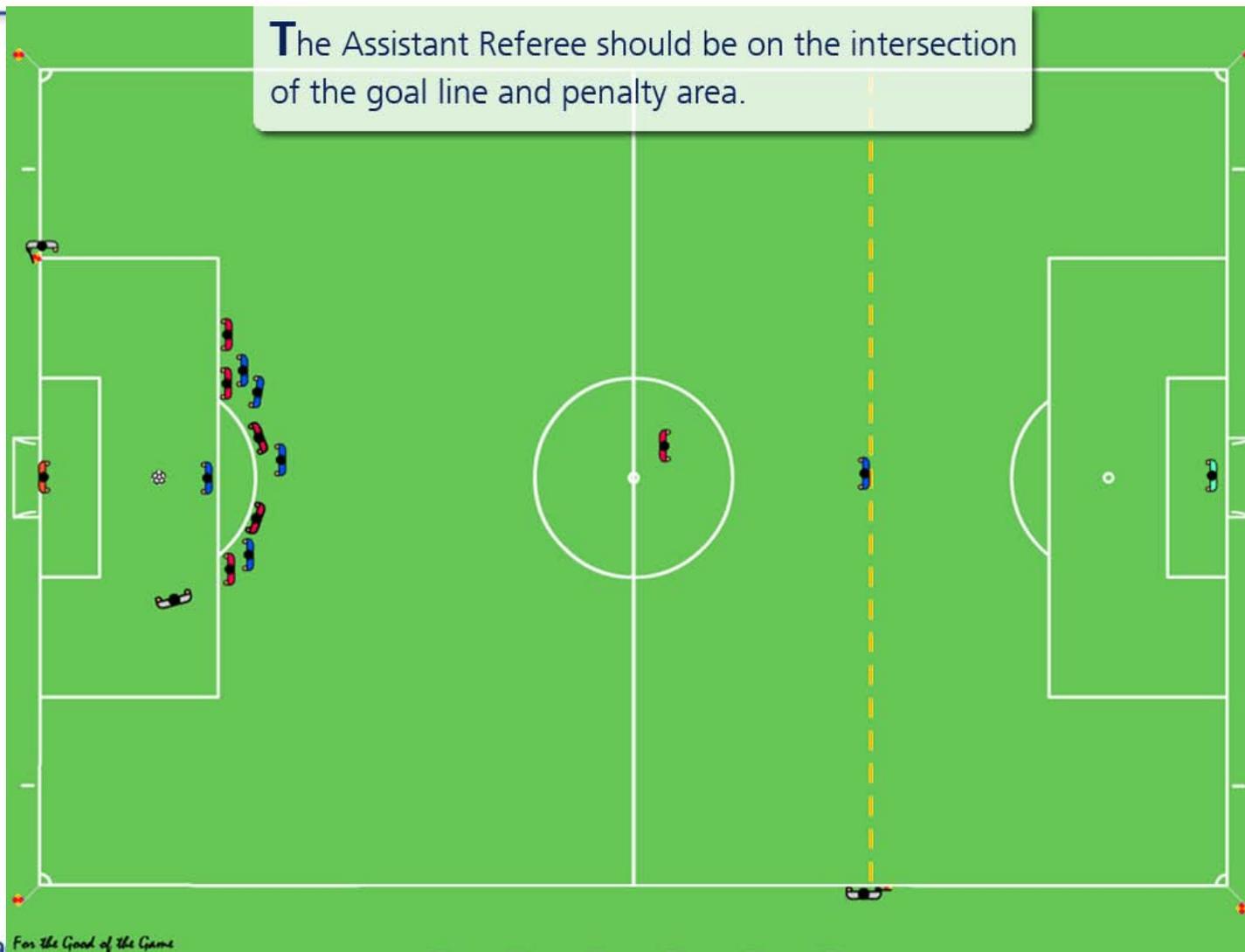


Positioning

5. Penalty kick

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The Assistant Referee should be on the intersection of the goal line and penalty area.

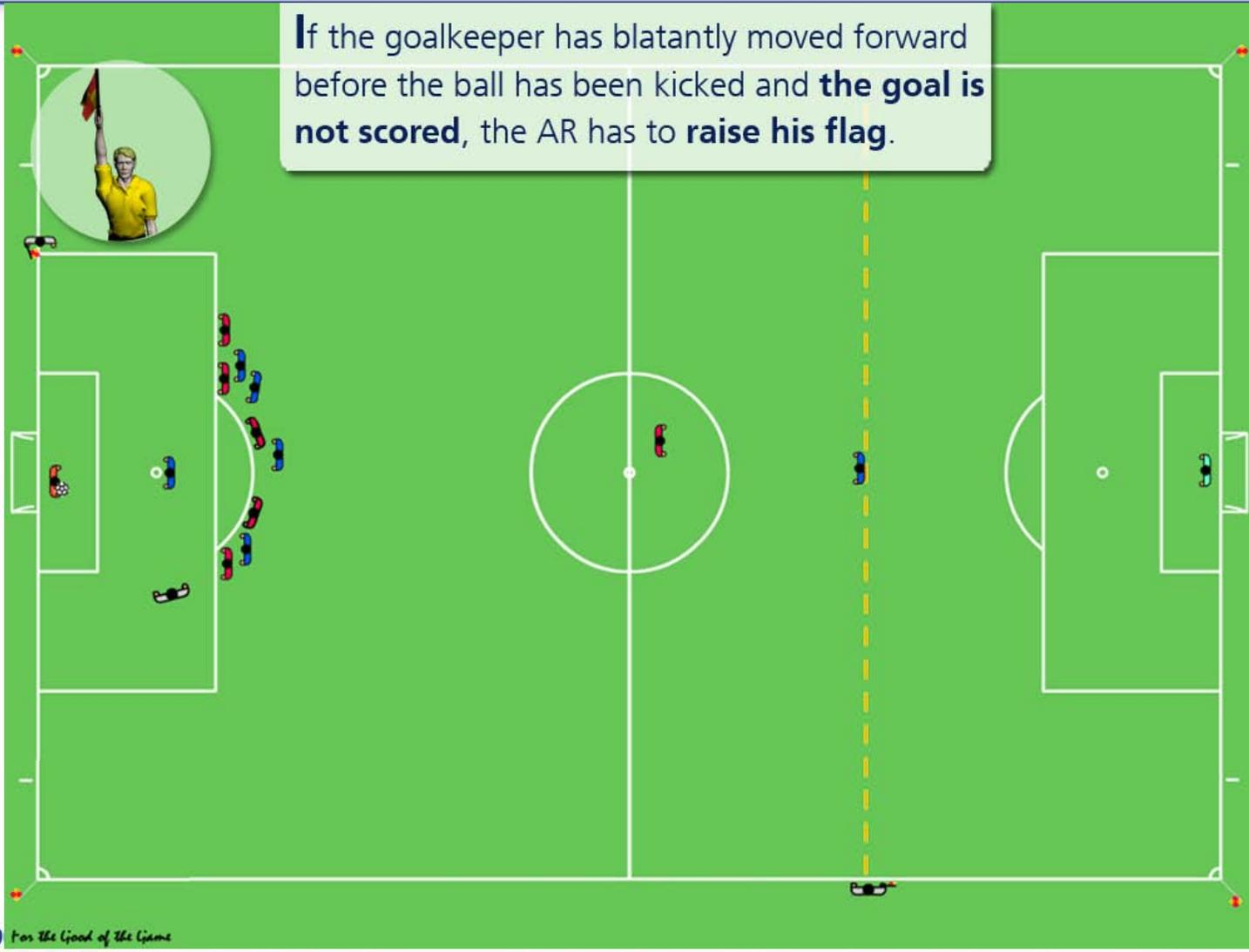




Positioning

5. Penalty kick

If the goalkeeper has blatantly moved forward before the ball has been kicked and **the goal is not scored**, the AR has to **raise his flag**.





Positioning

6. Kicks from the penalty mark

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One A.R. should be on intersection of goal line and goal area. His duty: Check if the ball has crossed the line.
Other A.R. on centre circle with the rest of players.

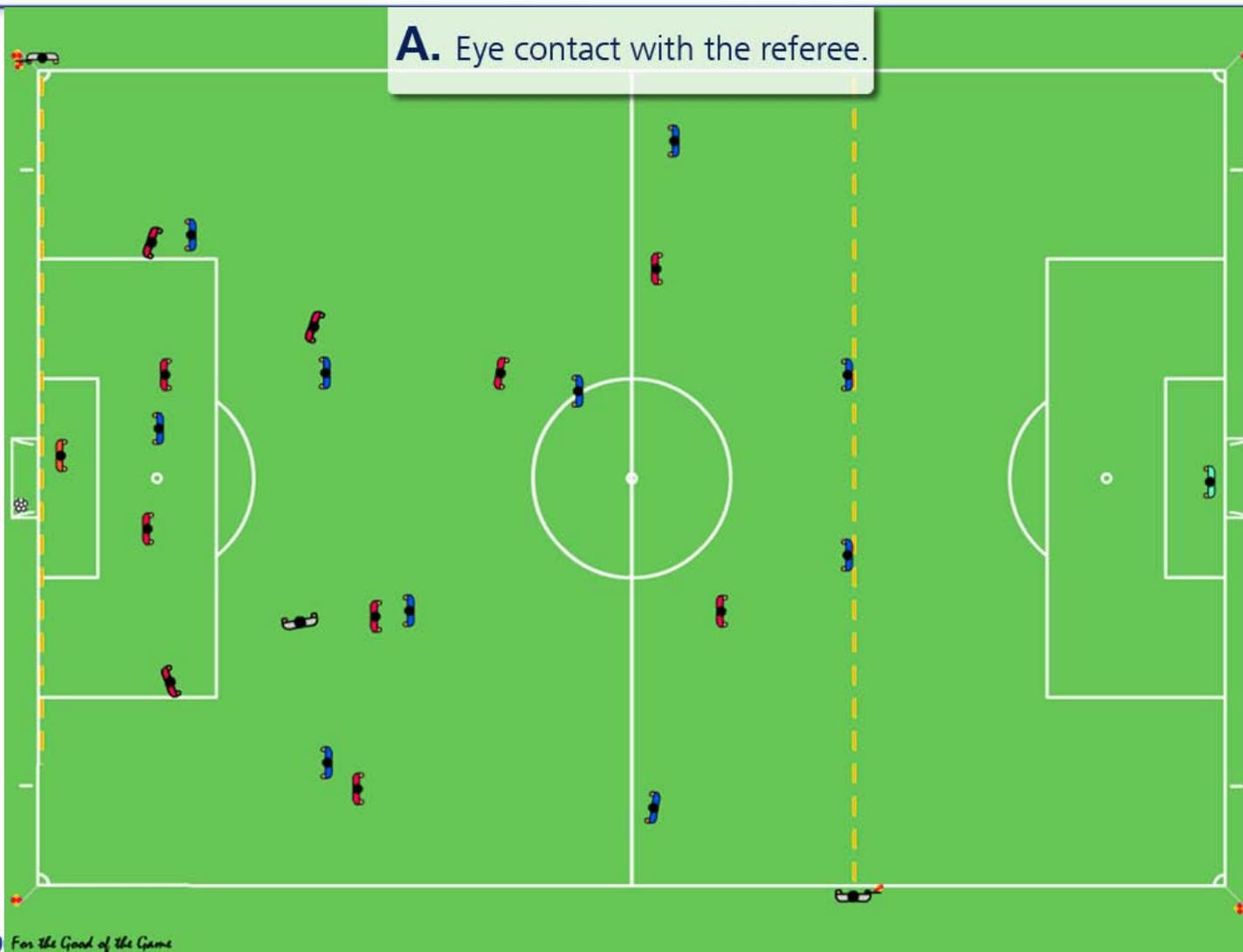


Positioning

7. Goal scored (*normal situations*)

16

A. Eye contact with the referee.

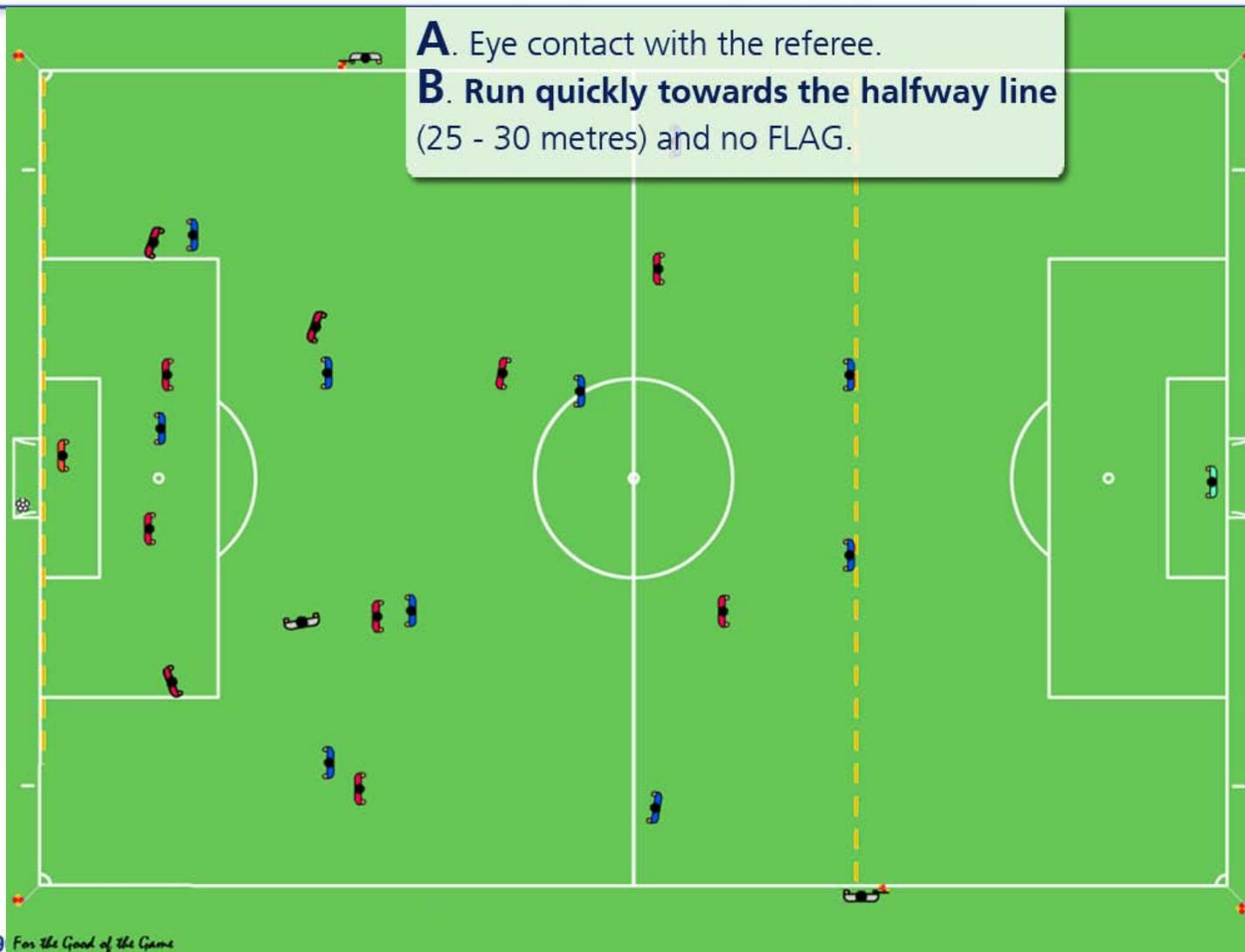




Positioning

7. Goal scored (*normal situations*)

17

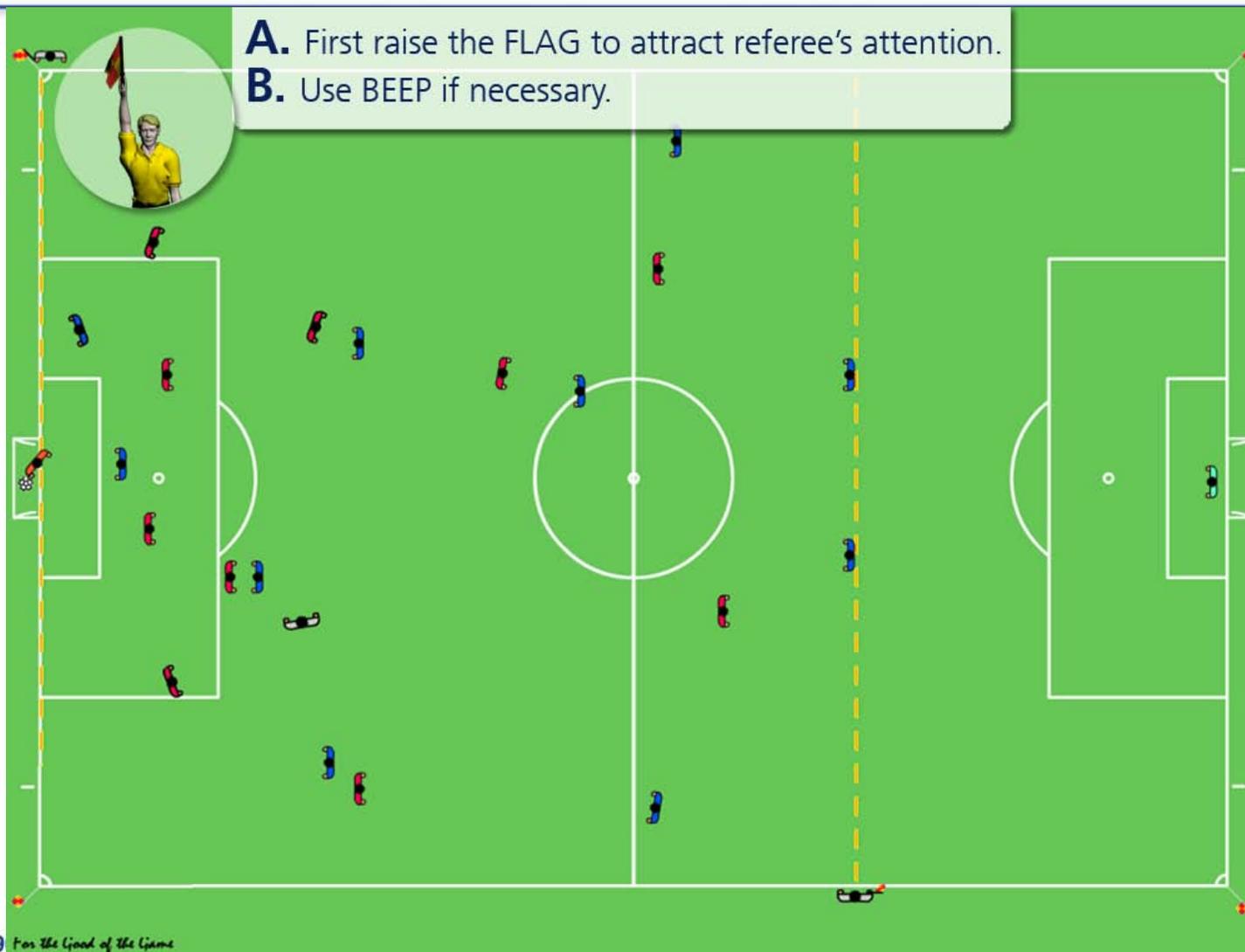




Positioning

7. Goal scored (*ball appears to be still in play*)

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- A.** First raise the FLAG to attract referee's attention.
- B.** Use BEEP if necessary.

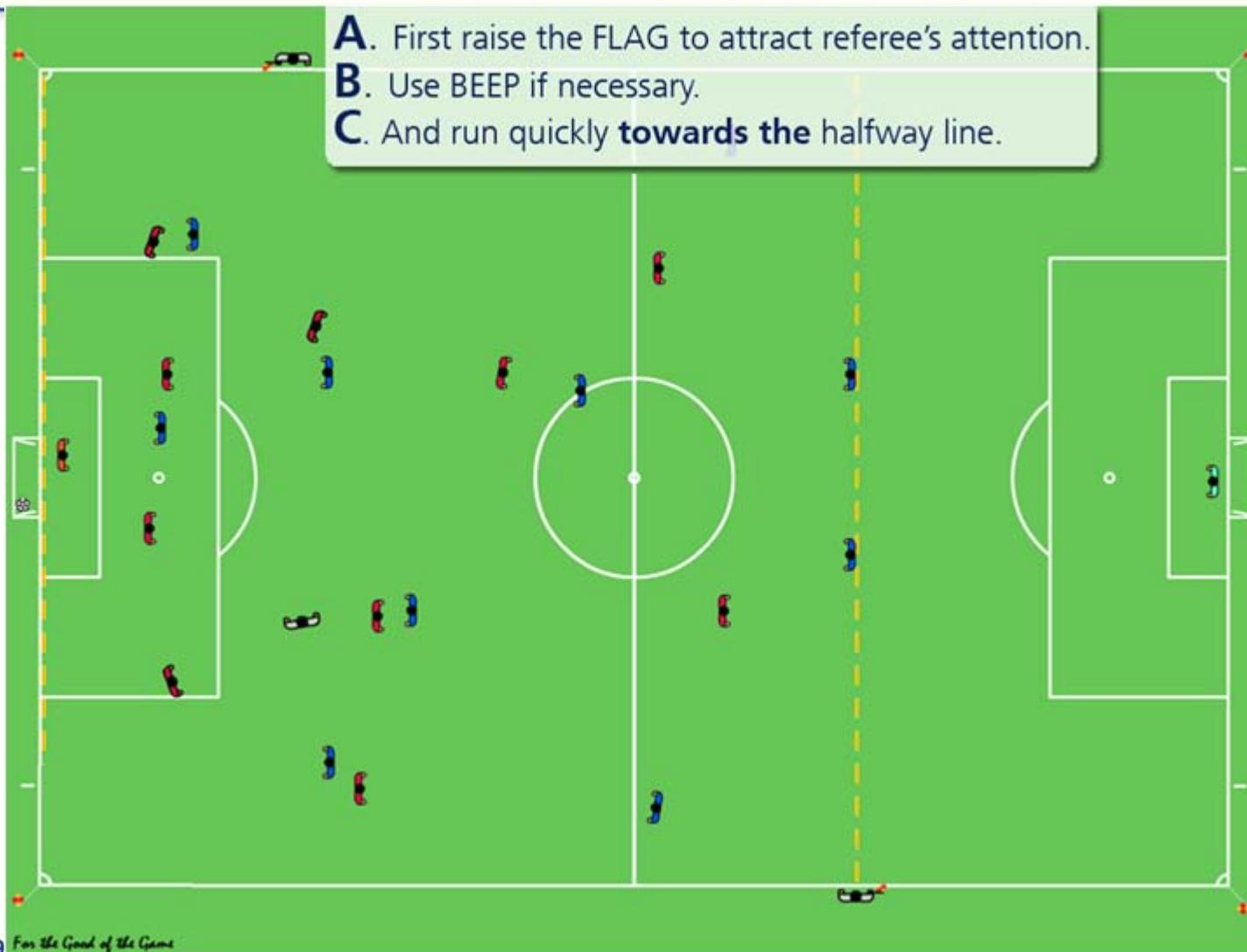


Positioning

7. Goal scored (*ball appears to be still in play*)

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- A. First raise the FLAG to attract referee's attention.
- B. Use BEEP if necessary.
- C. And run quickly **towards the halfway line**.



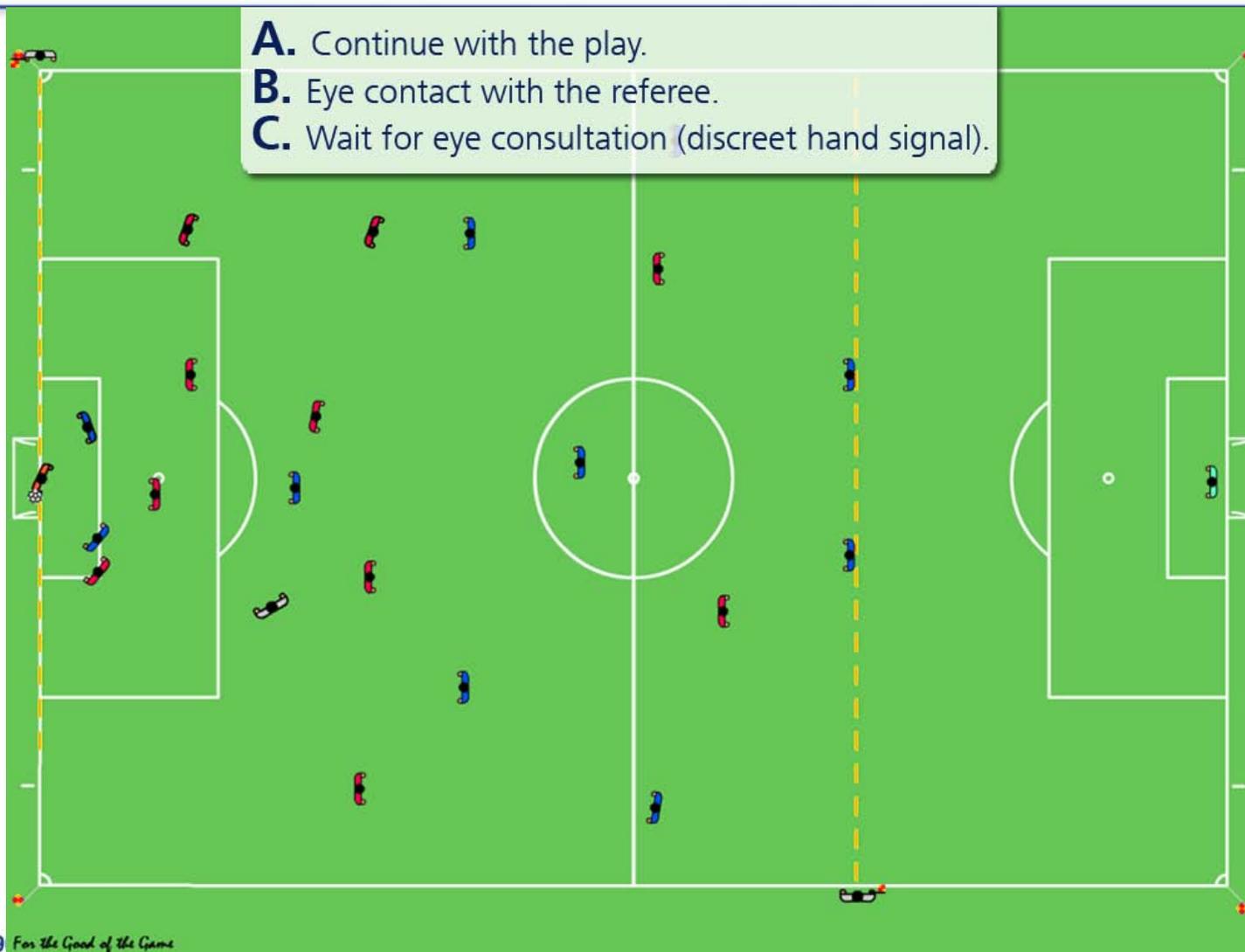


Positioning

7. No Goal situations (*ball not in net*)

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- A. Continue with the play.
- B. Eye contact with the referee.
- C. Wait for eye consultation (discreet hand signal).

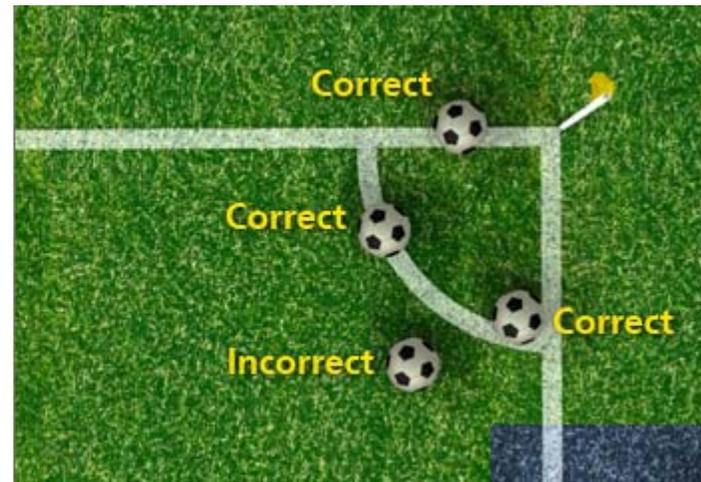


Positioning 8. Corner kick

AR's position should be behind the corner flag in line with the goal line.

Do not interfere with the players.

Check if the ball is properly placed.



As a general rule, the assistant referee should give no obvious hand signals.

However, in some instances a discreet hand signal may give valuable support to the referee.

- **the hand signal should have a clear meaning**
- **the meaning should have been discussed and agreed upon in the pre-game discussion**



As a general rule the assistant referee should face the pitch whilst running.

Side-to-side movement should be used for short distances, this is especially important when judging offside and gives the assistant referee a better line of vision.



Running forwards should be used for sprinting.

Be in a “ready position” before sprinting.



Referees are reminded that the signal beep system is an additional signal to be used only when necessary as an additional means of gaining the attention of the referee.

Situations:

- **offside**
- **fouls (outside the view of the referee)**
- **throw-in, corner kick or goal kick (tight decisions)**
- **goal situations (tight decisions)**
- **attract referee's attention**



The assistant referee's flag should always be visible to the referee, unfurled and still whilst running.

When making a signal, the assistant referee shall:

- **stop running**
- **face the field**
- **make eye contact with the referee and**
- **raise the flag with deliberate (not hasty or exaggerated) motions**



The flag should be like an extension of the arm when signalling.



The assistant referees shall raise the flag using the hand that will also be used for the next signal in a sequence.

- **if circumstances change and the other hand must be used for the next signal, the assistant referee should move his flag to the opposite hand below the waist**



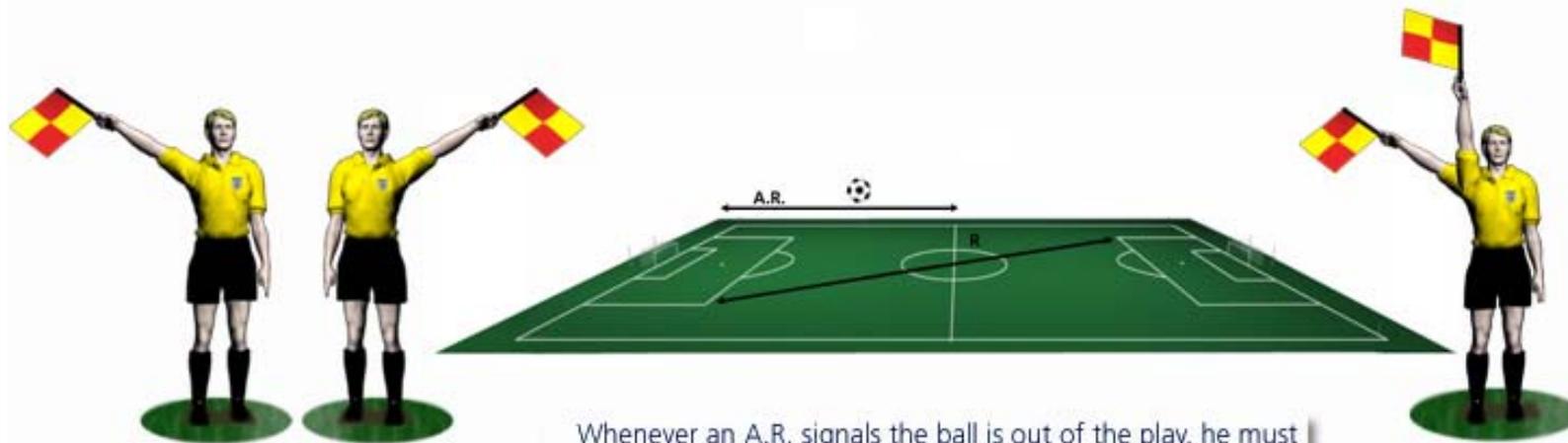
Near A.R. position.

– Clear situations:

- directly show direction
- **priority for A.R.**

– If any doubt:

- raise the flag
- make eye contact
- follow referee's signal



Whenever an A.R. signals the ball is out of the play, he must retain the signal until acknowledged by the referee

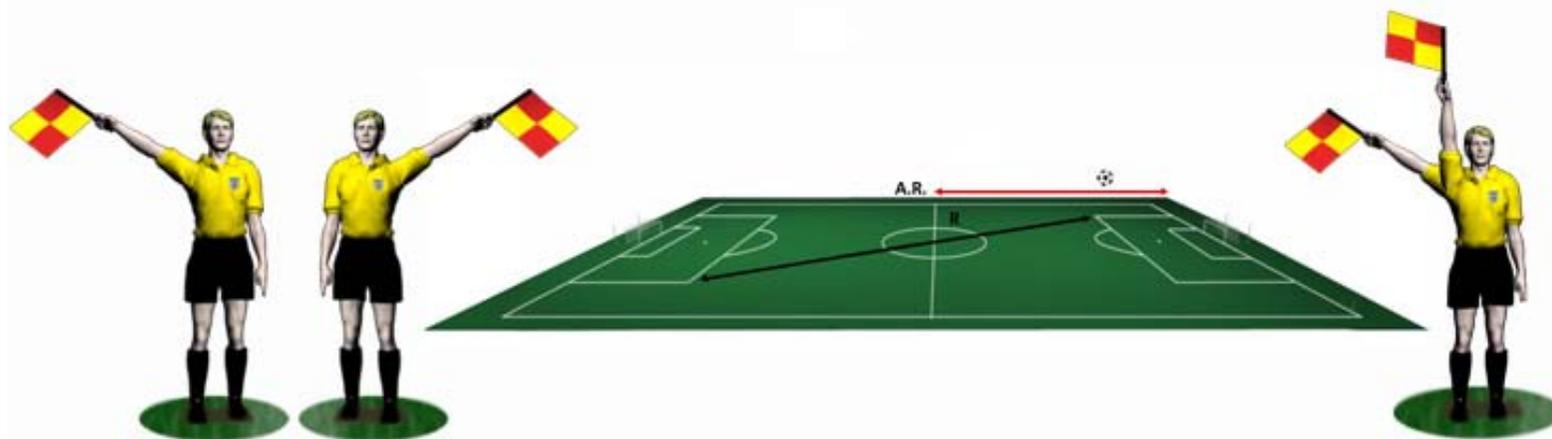
Far from A.R. position.

– **Very clear situations:**

- A.R. can directly show direction along the touch line

– **Other situations:**

- **priority for referee**
- raise the flag
- make eye contact
- A.R. just follows referee's signal



Raise the flag with the right hand for goal kick (better line of vision)

For tight decisions when the ball is out of play, **raise the flag first.**



Near A. R. position.

- clear situations:
 - show goal kick or corner kick directly
 - **priority for A.R**
- if any doubt:
 - raise the flag (if necessary)
 - make eye contact
 - follow referee's signal



Far A. R. position.

- far situations:
 - make eye contact
 - **priority for referee**
 - just follow referee's signal



The first action the assistant referee makes after an offside decision is to raise his flag. He then uses his flag to indicate the area of the pitch in which the offence occurred.

The flag shall be raised using the right hand, giving the assistant a better line of vision.



If an assistant referee is not totally sure about an offside offence, the flag should not be raised.

If the flag is not immediately seen by the referee, the assistant referee shall keep signalling until it has been acknowledged or the ball is clearly in control of the defending team.



When dealing with substitutions, the assistant referee shall first be informed by the 4th official.

The assistant referee shall then signal to the referee at the next stoppage in the match.

The assistant referee does not need to move to the halfway line as the 4th official carries out the substitution procedure.

- **if there is no 4th official, the assistant referee shall assist with substitution procedures. In this case, the referee shall wait until the assistant referee is back in position before restarting play**





Flag Technique – Fouls

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The assistant referee should raise his flag when a foul or misconduct is committed in his immediate vicinity or out of the referee's vision.

In all other situations, he should wait and offer his opinion if it is required. If this is the case, the assistant referee shall report what he has seen and heard and which players are involved to the referee.

Before signalling for an offence, the assistant referee shall determine that:

- the offence occurred closer to the assistant referee than to the referee (this applies, in certain circumstances, to offences committed in the penalty area)
- the offence was out of the view of the referee or the referee's view was obstructed
- the offence was not doubtful or trifling
- the referee would not have applied advantage if he had seen the offence



When a foul or misconduct is committed, the assistant referee shall:

- raise his flag with the same hand that will also be used for the remainder of the signal, this gives the referee a clear indication as to who was fouled
- make eye contact with the referee
- give his flag a slight wave back and forth (avoiding any excessive or aggressive movement)
- use the electronic BEEP signal, if necessary
- move his flag to the opposite hand below the waist if the other hand must be used for the next signal
- take up the correct position for the restart



The assistant referee shall raise his flag with the same hand that will also be used for the remainder of the signal, this gives the referee a clear indication as to who was fouled.



Foul committed by the defending team

Foul committed by the attacking team

The assistant referee should use the “wait and see technique” in order to allow play to continue and not raise his flag when the team against which an offence has been committed will benefit from the advantage.

In this case, it is very important for the assistant referee to make eye contact with the referee.





Whenever the assistant referee signals for a foul or misconduct, he shall continue to signal until the referee acknowledges it or the ball is clearly in control of the opposing team.

Whenever the assistant referee signals for violent conduct and the signal is not seen immediately:

- **if play has been stopped for the disciplinary action, the restart must be in accordance with the laws (free kick; penalty kick, etc.)**
- **if play has already restarted, the referee may still take disciplinary action but not penalise the offence with a free kick or penalty kick**