

## Team Volunteer Linesperson for Under 9 and Under 10 MAYSA Leagues

Effective Spring 2017

US Soccer requires that Offside (Law XI) is called and enforced at 10 and Under and 9 and Under age group matches. Due to an insufficient number of licensed referees MAYSA is allowing each team the opportunity to assistance to the center official as a linesperson. This is not a requirement; simply an opportunity to improve the game for all. The volunteer linesperson may assist the center referee in a manner similar to assistant referees but with relatively easy and limited responsibilities – notably, just signaling when the ball is out of play and for any offside infraction from the build-out-line towards the goal line. He or she should not signal for fouls or other infractions. A uniform is not required.

Note: Whenever there is availability for licensed referees to perform the role(s) of Assistant Referee(s), that is preferred and they will be compensated accordingly.

The volunteer linespersons' roles will be as follows:

- 1) Introduce yourself the center official 5-10 minutes prior to each match and acquire a flag from him or her.
- 2) Review and be familiar with when the ball is out-of-bounds, Offside rule and field markings.
  - a. **Out of bounds** -- The ball is also out of bounds if it completely crosses the touch line (often called the side line) or end line.
  - b. **Offside** – a player is in an offside position if in the opposing teams half of the field AND beyond the build out line AND he or she is nearer to the opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second to last opponent/defender when the ball is played.

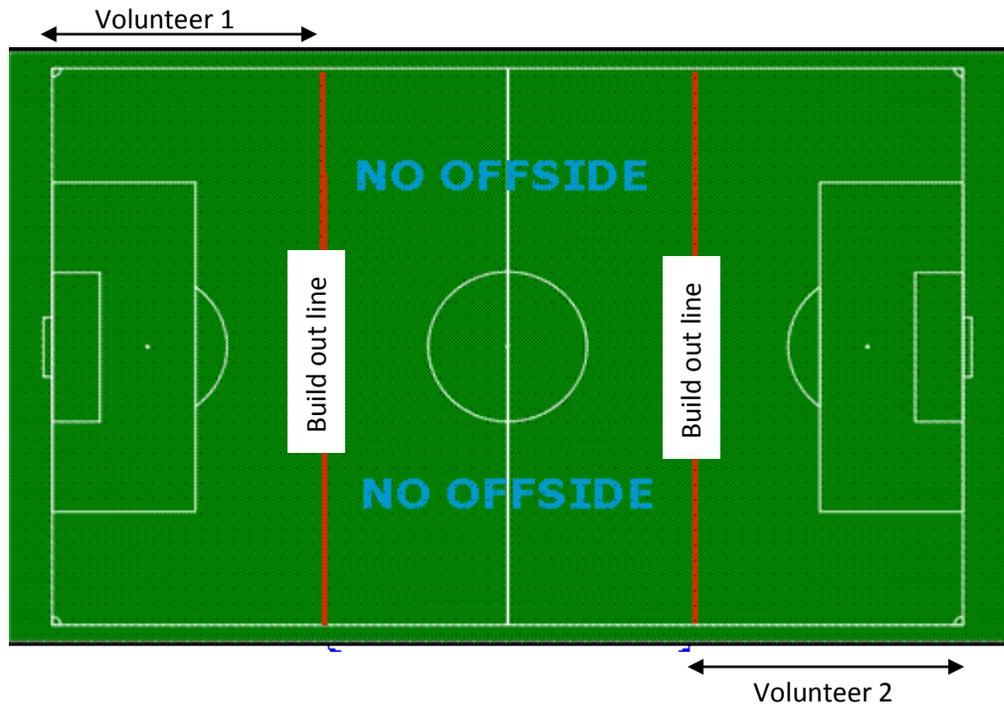
Out-of-bounds



Offside



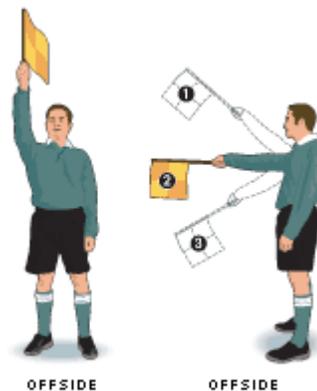
- 3) Cover the length of the sideline from the end line to the build out line per the below diagram. The linesperson should work to stay in line with the second to last defender in order to best view a possible Offside. The appropriate positioning is facing the field of play at all times.



- a. **Signals** – Provided below are the two types of signals you will utilize. Note that when signaling an Offside, stop in line with the infraction, raise the flag straight up immediately and after play is stopped by the center referee lower it to 45 degrees.



Throw in



MAYSA's expectation is that you will assist in recognizing and signaling for the most obvious Offside infractions. Do your best.

Please remember that many of the referees you are assisting are young and new to the work. An encouraging, positive word prior to the match, at halftime or post game will go a long way.

Thank you very much for your help, time and cooperation!