



HANDBALL

THE HANDBALL – LAW 12



... 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).

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So the emphasis is on the word

DELIBERATELY.

Thus, if a player's hand or arm comes into contact with the ball and it is NOT deliberate then you should PLAY ON.

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The interpretation of handball in some situations becomes more difficult, for example:

- ▶ Trying to block throw-ins, crosses and shots on goal
- ▶ Defensive walls
- ▶ Controlling the ball with the chest
- ▶ Goalkeepers near the edge of the penalty area

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In these situations, the referee must consider the player's motivations to determine if it is deliberate handball.



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Three Crucial Questions:

- ▶ Did the player have time to react and move the arm away from the path of the ball?
- ▶ Was the player's arm in an unnatural position?
- ▶ Did the player use his arm to increase the size of the defensive barrier?

If the answer to any of the above is YES then award a free kick for handball.

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Question and Answer Sessions

