


West Umpires

2019 Rules Briefing.


2019 Rule Changes.

- No PWGKP
- Loose Equipment in Circle
- PCs at End of Quarter/Half
- PCs - Breaking Early
- Facemasks
- Implications on PC Support Positions
- Attacking Free Hits within 5m of circle
- Free Hits Inside the Circle



Player with Goalkeeping Privileges.

- No Longer exists.
- **Thoughts:**
- When a goalkeeper is substituted, make sure they take all their equipment with them, prevents anyone being tempted to put them on!



Loose Equipment in the Circle.

- If the ball hits any equipment lying in the circle that stops a probable goal, then a penalty stroke may be awarded.
- The rules do not stipulate that it has to be a piece of defender's equipment but common sense should prevail.

PCs at the End of a Quarter/Half.

- The PC now does not end if the ball leaves the circle for a second time.
- If play is stopped for an injury or for any other reason during a PC at the end of a quarter/half and a bully would otherwise be awarded, the PC must be taken again.
- The other reasons for ending a PC are unchanged.

PCs – Breaking Early.

- If an attacker breaks into the circle early at a PC, the injector goes to the halfway line.
- Anyone can take the place of the injector.
- As with defenders that break the line early, that injector must stay on the half-way line for any retaken PC.

Facemasks.

- A field player defending a penalty stroke can only wear a face mask, not a goalkeeping helmet. (Obviously they can only use their stick to save the ball).
- For PCs, a defender is allowed to wear their face mask for the duration of that penalty corner "including the immediate taking of a free hit awarded after a penalty corner when passing the ball to another player".
- Note that the player cannot self-pass with a face mask.

Facemasks.

- **Thoughts:**
- Note that this covers free hits (i.e. after an offence) and not defensive hits (16s) when the ball goes out of play.
- If there is an offence by the attacking team AND the ball goes out of play, **blow for the offence**. This gives the defenders the option to take a free hit quickly, still with a facemask on.
- If a player does self-pass with a facemask on, it is not a serious offence and the free hit should be re-taken, not reversed.



Attacking Free Hits within 5m of the Circle.

- By default, everyone now needs to be 5m even if they are inside the circle.
- If the free hit is taken immediately (so that there is no chance for players to get 5m) players should not be punished unless they interfere with play.
- i.e. the rules are now more consistent with what happens elsewhere on the pitch.



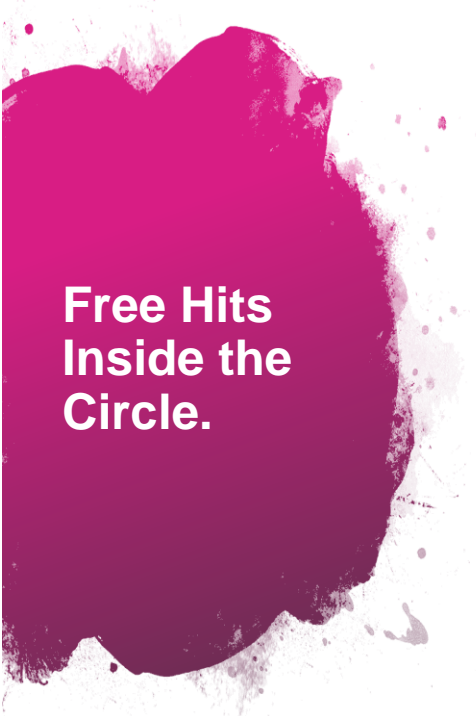
Attacking Free Hits within 5m of the Circle.

- However, if the free hit is taken immediately (so that there is no chance for players to get 5m) defending players inside the circle can shadow the player taking a self-pass around the inside - exactly as previously.



Attacking Free Hits within 5m of the Circle.

- **Thoughts:**
- Use your voice!!
- Encourage everyone to be 5m in exactly the same way that you would everywhere else. Do not over-manage or get into strange positions.
- Immediately means immediately - if the team has to retrieve the ball, it is not immediate.



Free Hits Inside the Circle.

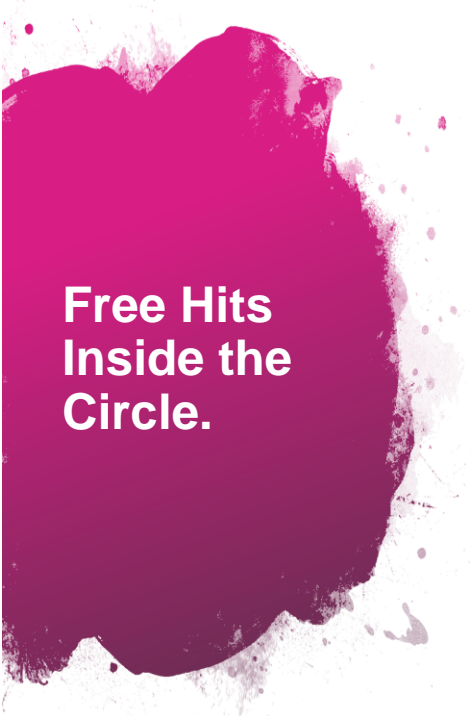
- A free hit awarded to the defence inside the circle can be taken anywhere up to 15m in line with where the offence occurred (as now).
- Additionally, it can also be taken anywhere inside the circle.

Free Hits Inside the Circle.

- **Thoughts:**
- If there is an offence by the attacking team in the circle AND the ball goes out of play, **blow for the offence**. This gives the defenders the option to take a free hit quickly from anywhere in the circle.
- Do not allow defenders to fake and then move the ball to a different position. Reset and let the team start again.

Free Hits Inside the Circle.

- **Thoughts:**
- There are now options to take free hits more quickly than before (anywhere in circle and with facemask).
- Watch for immediate breakdowns of play by attackers moving the ball or getting in the way to prevent the quick restart from where the ball ends up.
- Particularly for a free hit after a PC, where the team with the free hit has a 6 players to 4 or 6 to 3 advantage on the half-way line.



Free Hits Inside the Circle.

- **Thoughts:**
- Players that do deliberately delay a restart should expect a personal penalty.
- For once, watch the ball. Typically umpires have been used to scanning the area where the restart was due to be taken from. Now the area where the restart is due to be taken from is wherever the ball is.



2019 Rule Changes.

- Remember the other rules !
- Rule changes to add to the flow of matches.
- The changes mainly make umpiring simpler with fewer exceptions and special cases to think about.
- Enjoy the Season.