U10 Build-Out Line

Adopted August 2026

1. Applicability

This policy applies to all Under-10 (U10) competition sanctioned by PA West Soccer. Build-out lines are required at all U10 games per the PA West Youth Division Rules, Article 2, Game Dimensions.

2. Field Marking

A build-out line shall be drawn on the field parallel to the goal line, approximately midway between the top of the penalty area and the midfield line, on each half of the field.

3. Goal Kicks

3.1 All opposing players must withdraw beyond the build-out line before the ball is put into play from a goal kick.

3.2 The goalkeeper may put the ball into play before all opposing players have retreated, but does so accepting the field position of those opponents.

3.3 The ball need not cross the build-out line to be in play; it is in play once kicked and moved.

3.4 Opposing players must remain beyond the build-out line until any one of the following conditions is met: (a) a second player on the kicking team touches the ball; (b) the ball exits the penalty area; or (c) the ball comes to a complete stop after being played by the kicking team.

3.5 The sanction for a violation of this section is retaking of the goal kick.

3.6 The build-out line applies only to goal kicks. For all other restarts, including free kicks and throw-ins, standard Laws of the Game distances apply.

4. Goalkeeper Possession

4.1 Whenever the goalkeeper controls the ball with the hands (including bouncing or tossing), all opposing players must withdraw beyond the build-out line.

4.2 The eight-second goalkeeper possession rule shall not begin until all opposing players have withdrawn beyond the build-out line.

4.3 The goalkeeper may distribute the ball by dribbling, rolling, throwing, or kicking at any time.

4.4 Opposing players must remain beyond the build-out line until any one of the following conditions is met: (a) the goalkeeper releases the ball from the hands and a teammate of the goalkeeper touches the ball; (b) the ball exits the penalty area; (c) the ball comes to a complete stop after being played out by the goalkeeper; or (d) the goalkeeper chooses to play the ball with their feet, including by passing or dribbling.

4.5 The sanction for encroachment in violation of this section is an indirect free kick awarded to the goalkeeper’s team at the point of infringement.

5. Punting Prohibited

The goalkeeper is not permitted to punt the ball. Punting includes dropkicking, bouncing the ball off the ground and kicking it, and tossing the ball into the air to kick it. The sanction is an indirect free kick awarded to the opposing team at the location of the punt, subject to the special circumstances for free kicks within the goal area.

6. Offside

Offside shall not be called between the midfield line and the build-out line.

7. Enforcement and Conduct

7.1 Coaches are responsible for addressing players who are slow to withdraw behind the build-out line.

7.2 The referee may delay play to allow opponents to properly withdraw. If encroachment is persistent, the referee may sanction the offending player for misconduct (failure to respect the required distance).