

Club-nominated Assistant Referee (AR)

The duties of a club-nominated AR:

Why are you there?

- to signal ball-out-of-play over your touchline
- to signal ball-out-of-play over your goal-line
- to signal direction for a throw-in if it's clear to you
- to signal GK or CK if it's clear to you
- to signal when a player is offside (note – not to signal when a player is only in an offside position).

How can you help?

- take the line the referee assigns you to
- always have the flag on view to the referee
- hold the flag by the handle only – let it run free
- stay in line with the second-last defender.

Managing Offside

What is the difference between a player being “offside” and being in “an offside position”?

- a player in an offside position is not always offside
- it is not an offence to be in an offside position
- you do not flag a player in an offside position – you only flag a player who is offside.

Offside position

- the player is in the opponent's half, and
- the player is forward of the ball, and
- the player has fewer than two defenders who are nearer the goal-line.

Offside position becomes offside only when

- the player is in an offside position, and
- the player's team-mate plays or touches the ball, and
- the player touches or plays the ball, or prevents an opponent from doing so, or gains advantage by being in that position.

What happens if a referee does not see my offside signal? Hold your signal until

- the referee sees it and stops play, or
- the referee sees it and waves you down, or
- the ball has been cleared and is well upfield.