



# SOUTHERN NEVADA SOCCER ASSOCIATION

## 2021-2022 RULES UPDATE HIGHLIGHTS

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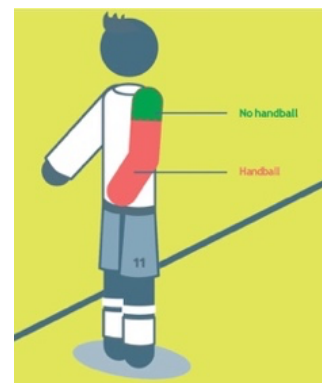
FIFA has implemented some changes to the Laws of the Game for 2021-2022; We have updated our SNSA rule books to reflect these changes. We encourage our coaches to visit the “Rules & Policies” page on the SNSA website to access your complete 2021-2022 rule book for a more comprehensive explanation of these rule changes. The following is a summary of the notable rule changes:

### LAW 11 – OFFSIDE

The hands and arms of all players, including the goalkeepers, are not considered. For the purposes of determining offside, the upper boundary of the arm is in line with the bottom of the armpit.

#### Explanation:

The shoulder is not part of the arm for handball. It is therefore a part of the body with which a goal can be legitimately scored and so must be considered when judging offside.



### LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

Not every touch of a player’s hand/arm with the ball is an offence.

It is an offence if a player:

- deliberately touches the ball with their hand/arm, for example moving the hand/arm towards the ball
- touches the ball with their hand/arm when it has made their body unnaturally bigger. A player is considered to have made their body unnaturally bigger when the position of their hand/arm is not a consequence of, or justifiable by, the player’s body movement for that specific situation. By having their hand/arm in such a position, the player takes a risk of their hand/arm being hit by the ball and being penalised
- scores in the opponents’ goal:
  - directly from their hand/arm, even if accidental, including by the goalkeeper
  - immediately after the ball has touched their hand/arm, even if accidental

#### Explanation:

- Not every contact between the hand/arm and the ball is a handball offence.
- Referees must judge the ‘validity’ of the hand/arm’s position in relation to what the player is doing in that particular situation.
- Accidental handball by a team-mate before a goal is scored and accidental handball creating a goal-scoring opportunity have been removed as offences.