

LAW 18 - MARK

DEFINITION

To make a mark, a player must be on or behind that player's 22-metre line. A player with one foot on the 22-metre line or behind it is considered to be 'in the 22'. The player must make a clean catch direct from an opponent's kick and at the same time shout "Mark!". A mark cannot be made from a kick-off.

A kick is awarded for a mark. The place for the kick is the place of the mark.

A player may make a mark even though the ball touched a goal post or crossbar before being caught.

A player from the defending team may make a mark in in-goal.



18.1 AFTER A MARK

The referee immediately blows the whistle and awards a kick to the player who made the mark.

18.2 KICK AWARDED

The kick is awarded at the place of the mark.

18.3 KICK - WHERE

The kick is taken at or behind the mark on a line through the mark.

18.4 WHO KICKS

The kick is taken by the player who made the mark. If that player cannot take the kick within one minute, a scrum is formed at the place of the mark with the ball thrown in by the player's team. If the mark is in the in-goal, the scrum is 5 metres from the goal-line, on a line through the mark.

18.5 HOW THE KICK IS TAKEN

The provisions of Law 21 - Free Kicks - apply to a kick awarded after a mark.

18.6 SCRUM ALTERNATIVE

- (a) The team of the player who made the mark may choose to take a scrum.
- (b) **Where is the scrum.** If the mark is in the field of play, the scrum is at the place of the mark, but at least 5 metres from the touch-line. If the mark is in-goal, the scrum is 5 metres from the goal-line on a line through the mark, and at least 5 metres from the touch-line.
- (c) **Who throws in.** The team of the player who made the mark throws the ball in.

18.7 PENALTY KICK AWARDED

- (a) An opponent, whether on-side or off-side, must not charge a player who has made a mark after the referee has blown the whistle.
Penalty: Penalty Kick

- (b) **Where the penalty kick is taken.** If the infringing player is on-side, the penalty kick is taken at the place of the infringement. If the infringing player is off-side, the penalty kick is taken at the place of the off-side line (Law 11 Off-side and On-side in General Play.)
- (c) **The penalty kick.** Any player from the non-offending team may take the penalty kick.