

**ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS**  
**MSHSL QUIZ (SEP. 30, 2024)**

**CLIP 1: FOUL DECISION AND DROP ZONES**

*We review an attacker vs. goalkeeper challenge and referee positioning.*



**VIDEO LINK:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whjx5zbul1k>

**Q1-A: What is the correct restart for this clip?**



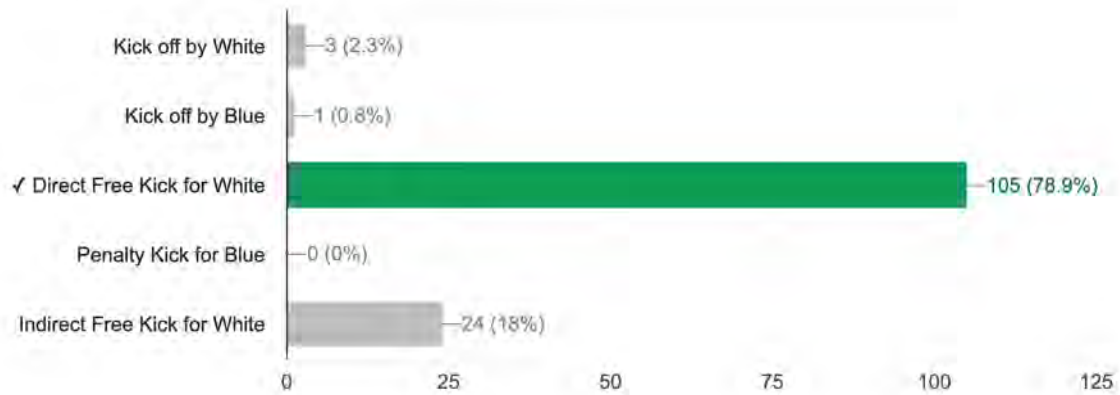
**ANSWER:** Direct Free Kick for White

**EXPLANATION:** In this clip, the attacker, Blue, carelessly collides with the White goalkeeper and has charged the goalkeeper. Additionally, Blue likely handles the ball. Therefore, this is a direct free kick for charging.

Even if this were not a charging foul, the attacker either handled the ball or the ball touched his hand which directly led to a goal.

### Q1-A: What is the correct restart for this clip?

105 / 133 correct responses

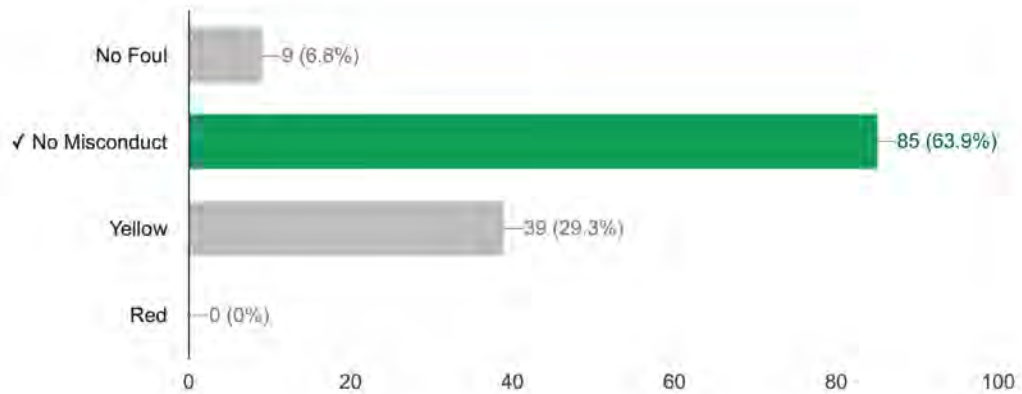


### Q1-B: Was there any misconduct?

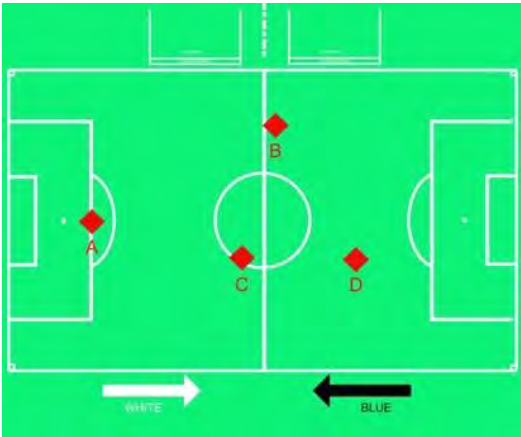
**ANSWER:** No misconduct

### Q1-B: Was there any misconduct?

85 / 133 correct responses



**Q1-C: In the context of this game and this clip and the drop zone, which of the following positions is the best position for the referee when the Blue goalkeeper takes the goal kick?**



**ANSWER: C**

**EXPLANATION:** First, referee positioning on drop zones needs to be where the referee can look into the play and see what the players challenging for the ball are doing. Second, in most goal kicks (and punts), the referee is going to need to be at least up by the midfield line. Third, this clip has critical context clues. When Blue's goalkeeper takes the goal kick: (1) only 1:06 remains in the game; (2) Blue is down 2-1; (3) Blue will be on the attack toward White's goal; and (4) most of the players are in White's half. Blue will need to move quickly so a long ball is likely. From Position C the referee can see the drop zone, get straight to the drop zone if necessary, and be ready for a fast attack by Blue or a (likely) slower counterattack by White.

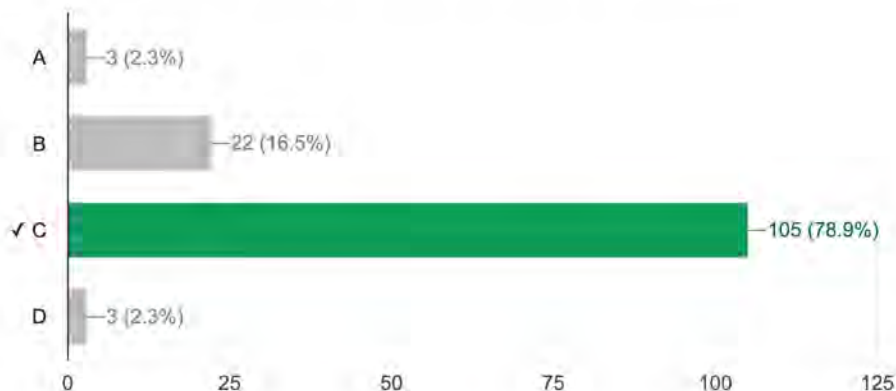
Position A is obviously impractical and it gives no view of the first drop zone in this play.

Position B is almost in the drop zone and not helpful. Additionally, as shown in this clip, it would force the referee to sprint for the next drop zone.

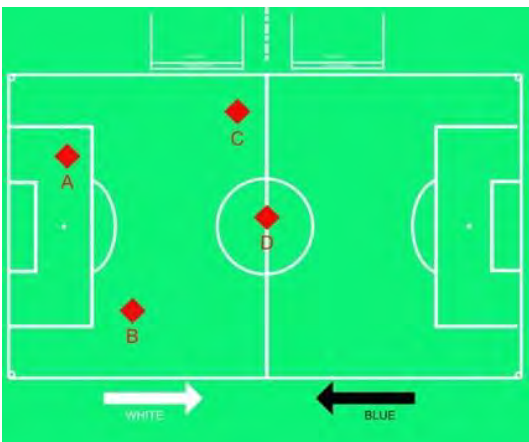
Position D is simply too far away from where the drop zone is going to be based on where the players are lining up and, like position B, it is going to force the referee to sprint to get into the next phase of play.

Q1-C: In the context of this game and this clip and the drop zone, which of the following positions is the best position for the referee when the Blue goalkeeper takes the goal kick?

105 / 133 correct responses



Q1-D: In the context of this game and this clip and the drop zone, which of the following positions is the best position for the referee to reach when the Blue attacker passes the ball into the White Penalty Area?

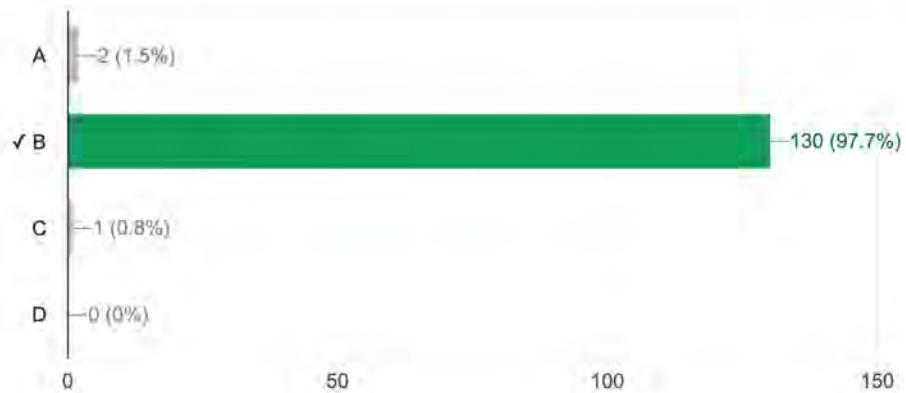


ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION: This clip is an example of why position matters. The referee starts in White's half and will have to catch up to see Drop Zone 1 and race even harder to get to position for Drop Zone 2. It is hard to call a foul you can't see. Position B would be an ideal position to see the foul here.

Q1-D: In the context of this game and this clip and the drop zone, which of the following positions is the best position for the referee to reach when the ...tacker passes the ball into the White Penalty Area?

130 / 133 correct responses



## **CLIP 2: SLIDE TACKLE**

*We review a mid-field slide tackle.*



**VIDEO LINK:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svSUKFCB9do>

**Q2-A: Is there a foul?**

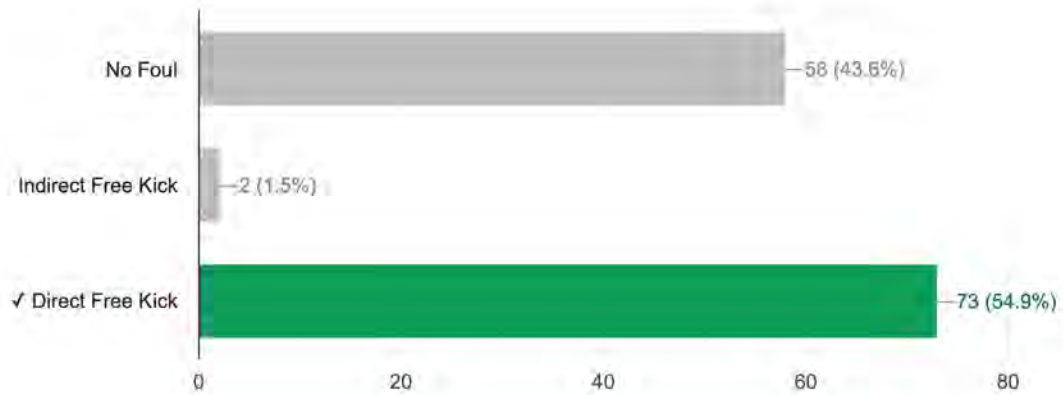
**ANSWER:** Direct Free Kick

**EXPLANATION:** In the video, the commentator says, the commentator says, “Great tackle there, and they’re gonna whistle him. Wow. That was all ball. The cleanest slide tackle you’re ever gonna get. And he get’s whistled for it. What a shame.” No, it wasn’t. This is a reminder that (1) things look different from the stands and (2) “getting the ball” is not a justification for a bad challenge—and Black doesn’t actually “get the ball.”

White is on the quick counterattack when Black slides—with both feet—into White. White actually has the last play on the ball and plays it into Black’s foot. Black’s foot also catches White’s foot and trips White. This is not a case of Black “getting the ball” and even if it were, we do not want to see challenges like this in our games.

### Q2-A: Is there a foul?

73 / 133 correct responses



### Q2-B: Is there misconduct?

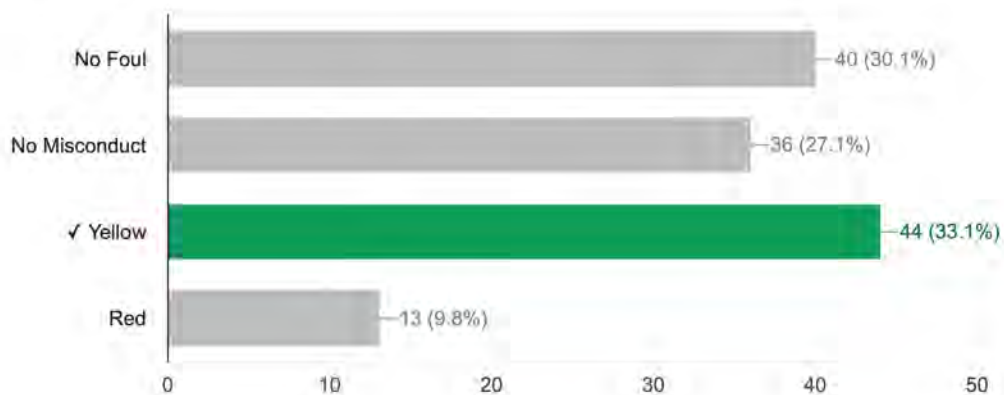
**ANSWER:** Yellow

**EXPLANATION:** Black slid in with BOTH LEGS EXTENDED (fortunately not locked). The toe of Black's right cleats catch low on White's boot. Black came in with speed and from distance. Black acted with disregard for the consequences to white. These are all considerations for a reckless tackle. Any more contact would quickly turn this challenge into serious foul play and a red card.

A red card may be warranted on this challenge. Again, both legs are extended, he comes in with speed and he lunges. He certainly is not thinking about his opponent's safety here.

### Q2-B: Is there misconduct?

44 / 133 correct responses



## **CLIP 3: CORNER KICK AND TRANSITION POSITIONING**

We review corner kick positioning and referee movement and positioning for a counterattack.



**VIDEO LINK:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fYEtwjftDNo>

### **Q3-A: Quiz Clip 3: Corner Kick Position**

(Mislabeled. There is not a Q3-A.)

**Q3-B: Based on this clip, which of these would be the best position for a referee for this corner kick?**



**ANSWER:** C

**EXPLANATION:** On all corner kicks, our typical position would start near the referee's (left) side of the penalty arc and the 18-yard line with the referee on his/her toes and facing the goal line. This allows for lateral movement and easy visibility from the kicker to the other side of the penalty area. In this clip, the referee can deviate and adjust to where the mass of the players are (again facing the goal line). The referee can see what the players are doing, talk to the players, and intervene before the kick to calm things down (if necessary). C also allows the referee to move laterally to the drop zone—where the ball will drop and where



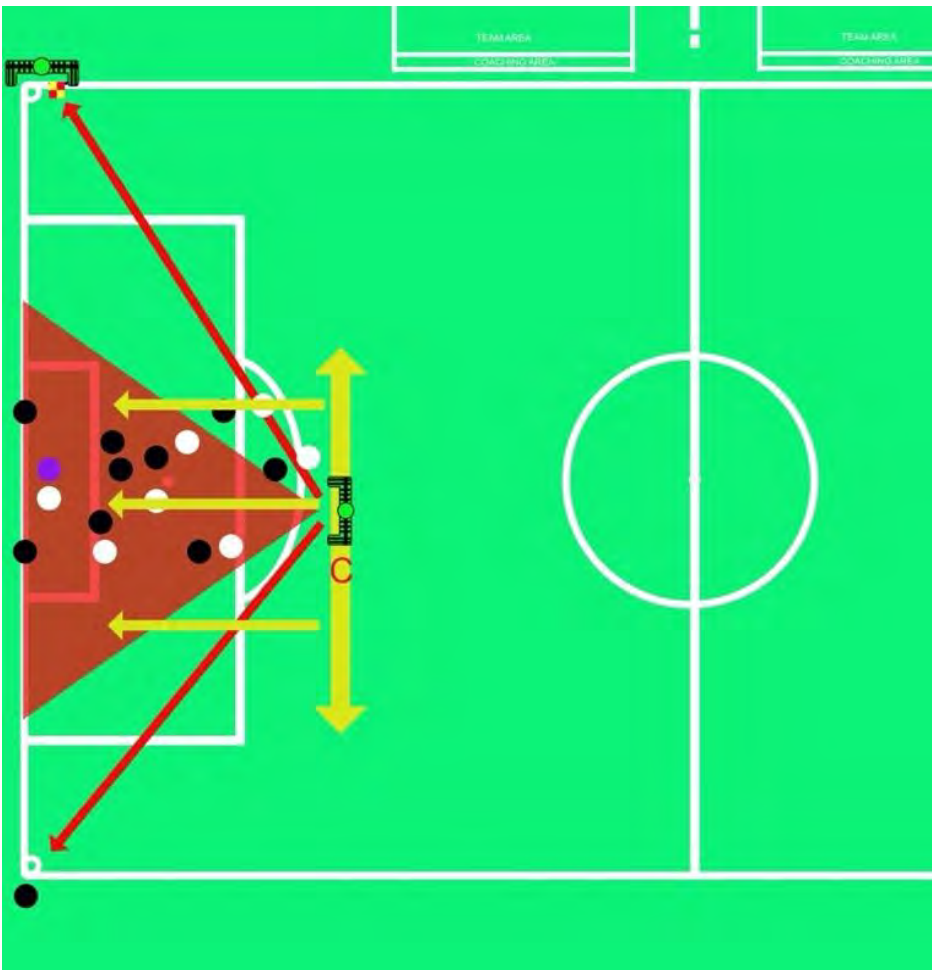
the important action will be. Position C also allows the referee to transition readily if there is a counterattack or if the ball goes toward the far touchline.

Remember: once you have found a good starting position, you have to move once the ball is kicked to see the important stuff!

Position A is NOT a good position. The referee will have his/her back to kicker and will be looking through the scrum as play develops. If the ball drops on the AR's side of the penalty area, the referee will not be able to see anything and will have to sprint around play (basically to Position C) and toward far touchline. Position A may also put the referee in the drop zone and scrambling to get out of the way.

Position B similarly is not a good position because the referee's back is to his/her AR and the referee is looking through player's and not into play.

Position D is bad for what should be obvious reasons. It is simply way too far from play and the referee cannot see or communicate.

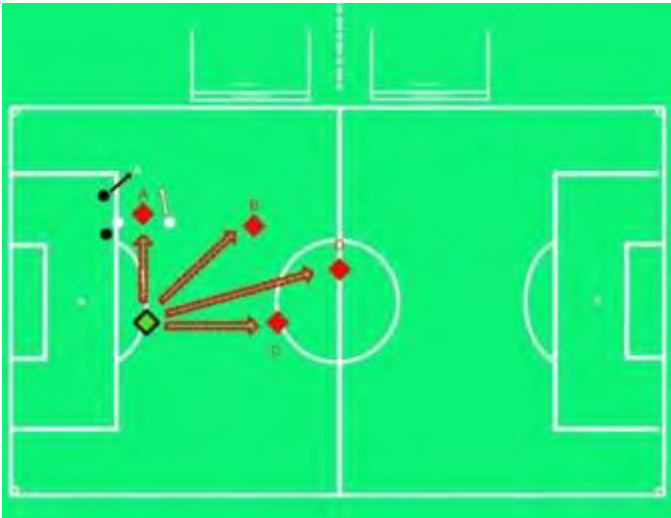


Q3-B: Based on this clip, which of these would be the best position for a referee for this corner kick?

131 / 133 correct responses



Q3-C: Based on this clip, after the corner kick is taken and in the screen shot above, what is the best path to position for the referee?



**ANSWER:** B or D

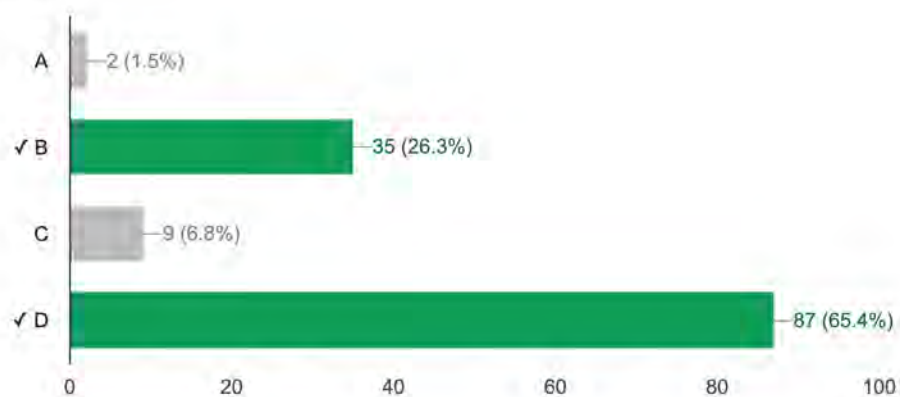
**EXPLANATION:** As described in the prior question, the referee from Position C can transition easily to adjust to the next phase of play. In this case, a route to Position B or Position D will afford the referee the ability to address any mischief that might arise as Black begins their counterattack (one White player is already on the way). Also, if Black is successful, the referee will already be well up the field (not catching up from far behind).

Position A is not ideal because Black is clearly heading up field and if Black beats the intervening White defender, the referee will be forced to make a sharp sprint. Additionally, if White regains possession, the referee is likely going to be in the way when White attacks the goal.

Position C is taking the referee away from play rather than to a position where the referee can be present. The referee would be across the field in Position C.

Q3-C: Based on this clip, after the corner kick is taken and in the screen shot above, what is the best path to position for the referee?

122 / 133 correct responses



## **CLIP 4: STOPPING A PROMISING ATTACK**

We review a midfield tripping offense and evaluate it for stopping a promising attack.



**VIDEO LINK:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2DqtuDz5VEg>

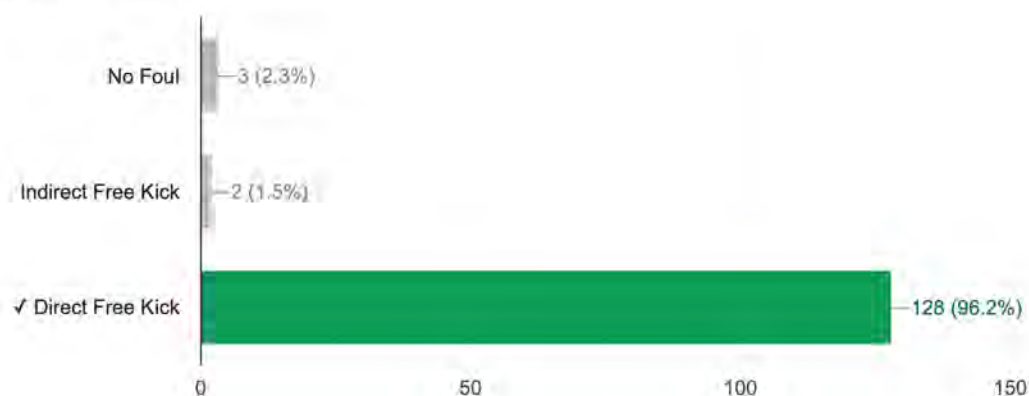
**Q4-A: Is there a Foul?**

**ANSWER:** Direct Free Kick

**EXPLANATION:** White defender trips Black attacker

#### Q4-A: Is there a Foul?

128 / 133 correct responses



#### Q4-B: Is there misconduct?

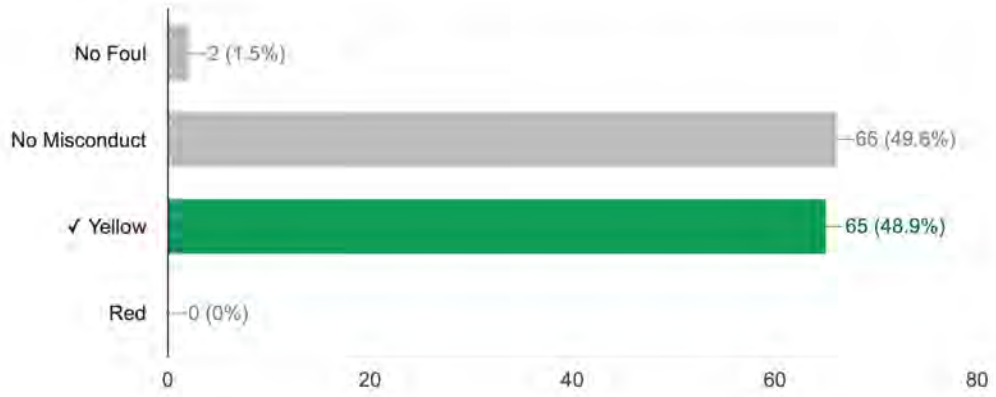
**ANSWER:** Yellow

**EXPLANATION:** This is an example of stopping a promising attack (SPA). As its name implies, the foul breaks up (stops) a “promising attack.” NFHS Rule 12-7 enumerates considerations for SPA, but a more succinct statement is from PRO: does the attacker have SPEED, SPACE, and OPTIONS (including the attacker him/herself)?

In this clip, there is a quick turnover (which should alert us to a potential for SPA) and Black is suddenly on the attack. If the Black attacker were not fouled by White (1) he has pace as he is moving (and White is getting back to defend); (2) he has lots of green space to this left and space in front of him; and (3) he has options including himself) to cut left and he has two teammates as options to his right to keep a fast attack on with the White defenders on their heels. After calling this foul, the referee should book the offending White defender.

### Q4-B: Is there misconduct?

65 / 133 correct responses



## **CLIP 5: NOT STOPPING A PROMISING ATTACK**

We review a tripping offense outside the penalty area and evaluate it for stopping a promising attack.



**VIDEO LINK:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZILoNYizss>

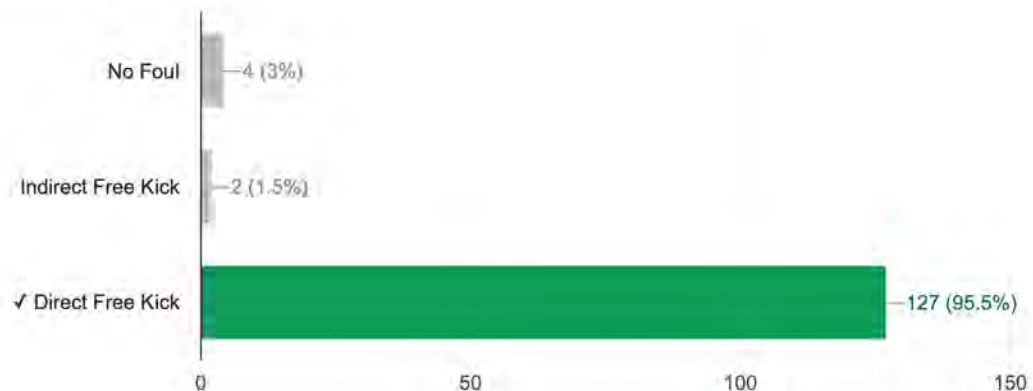
**Q5-A: Is there a foul?**

**ANSWER:** Direct Free Kick

**EXPLANATION:** This is a tripping offense. Blue 30 has the last touch on the ball and White 5 sticks her foot in and catches Blue 30's foot thereby tripping her

Q5-A: Is there a foul?

127 / 133 correct responses



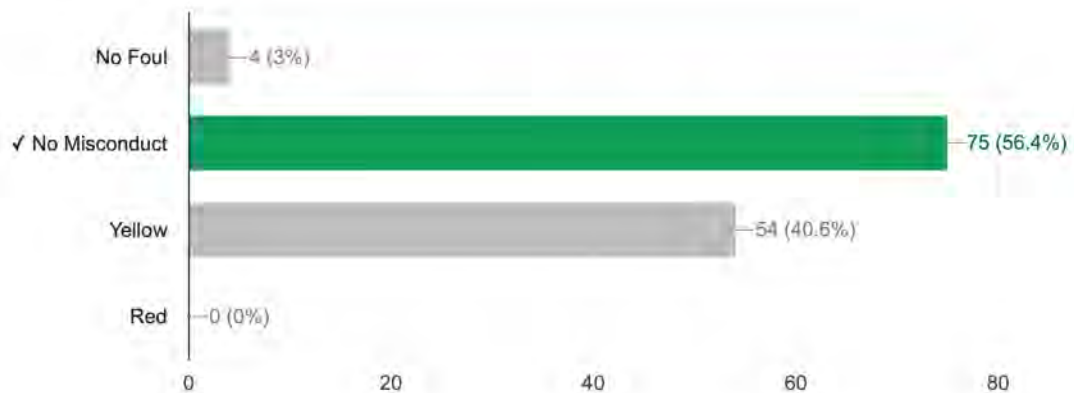
### Q5-B: Is there misconduct?

ANSWER: No Misconduct

EXPLANATION: This is a careless trip (i.e. not reckless). Blue 30 is has gotten the ball, but she is moving toward the corner, there are several defenders there, and she does not have any good options for this attack at the time of the trip. As such, she does not have speed, space, and options so the trip did not stop a promising attack.

#### Q5-B: Is there misconduct?

75 / 133 correct responses



## **QUESTION 6: PRIMARY CONSIDERATION FOR SPA**

*We review the considerations for, and how to evaluate, stopping a promising attack.*

### **Q6: What are the primary considerations for Stopping a Promising Attack?**

ANSWER: Speed, Space, and Options

EXPLANATION: The new NFHS Rule 12-7 lists criteria for evaluating whether a foul stopped a promising attack. SPA is ultimately evaluated the same in NFHS, NCAA, and IFAB. The Professional Referee Organization (PRO) has set out three simple criteria:

SPEED – The player(s) is (are) moving forward with pace in their attack.

SPACE: There should be green space in front of the player with the ball to dribble, pass or shoot and/or green space in front of other attackers who could receive the ball.

OPTIONS: Either the player with the ball has options to take on a defender or has other teammates to which he could pass the ball.

These considerations relate to a promising attack which has a possibility of becoming a goal-scoring opportunity, and not simply every forward movement.

SPA fouls are often “tactical” in nature and come about during quick turnovers and counter attacks.

The PRO description can be found here: <https://proreferees.com/2021/07/16/pro-insight-stopping-a-promising-attack-spa/>

For reference, NFHS added Stopping Promising Attack as its own section Rule 12-7. Rule 12-7-2 sets out the considerations “including but not limited to:”

- a. distance between the offense and the goal;
- b. general direction of the play
- c. likelihood of keeping or gaining control of the ball;
- d. location and number of defenders;
- e. attacking team is moving forward with pace (speed);
- f. open space in front of the player with the ball or the presence of other attackers who could receive the ball;
- g. player has the option to take on defender or pass to teammate;
- h. the attacker has assistance from teammates.



### Q6: What are the primary considerations for Stopping a Promising Attack?

47 / 133 correct responses

