

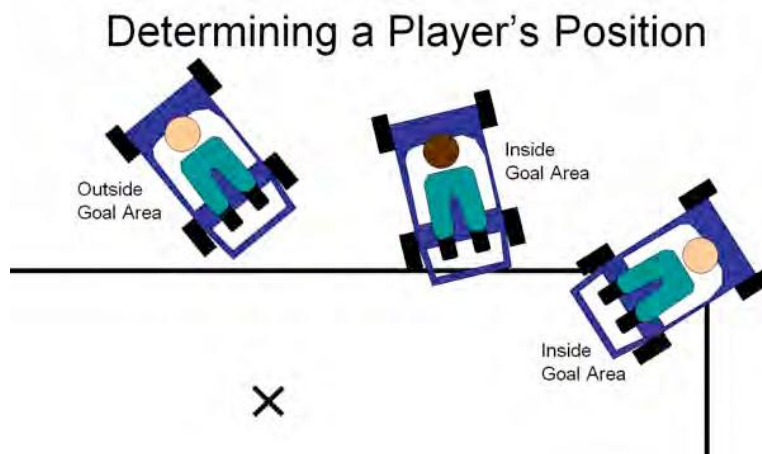


To: President, USPSA
From: Chris Mulholland, USPSA National Supervisor of Officials
Date: 20 January 2012
Subject: **APPLICATION OF LAW 11 – “3 IN THE AREA”**
Ref: (a) 2011 FIPFA World Cup

During the recent FIPFA World Cup in Paris, France, the referees were instructed on how Law 11, specifically the section regarding “3 or more teammates” within their own goal area. Accordingly, I recommend that USPSA referees begin enforcing this law in the following manner:

1. **General:** Law 11 of USPSA’s 2011 Laws of the Game currently states that, “There are two possible offenses based on relative positioning of players and the ball during play [and] several criteria must be met before the positioning becomes an offense.” The second of the two offenses applies to the goal area, specifically:

- 3 or more teammates are “actively” involved within their own goal area at one time while the ball is in play
- Players are considered in the goal area if any part of the “whole of the powerchair” crosses the goal area line.
- The “whole of the powerchair” is defined as:
 - Includes the entire powerchair, including the footguard or rearguard or any of the wheels of the chair.



2. **Application:**

- a. The law is applied only when the ball is in that half of the field.
 - i. If the ball is in the opposite half of the field, any number of defenders (1, 2, 3, or 4) may be in their own goal area.

- ii. Once the ball touches or crosses the halfway line and there are 3 or 4 defenders in their own goal area (or any portion of their chair), the referee will stop the match and award an indirect free kick to the attacking team (“from a point along the goal area line parallel to the goal line, at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred”.)
 - b. If 3 teammates are in their own goal area when the ball is in their half of the field but the attacking team has a goal scoring opportunity, the referee may apply the advantage rule. An example would be during the taking of a corner kick when a portion of a third defender’s chair is inside the goal area, the referee would allow the kick to proceed.
 - i. If the opportunity fails to be realized, the referee will stop the match and award an indirect free kick (in accordance with the description above.)
- 3. **Road Ahead:** If you agree with this application, recommend that this memorandum be:
 - a. Posted on the USPSA website
 - b. Forwarded to all active USPSA referees and team coaches, and
 - c. That the concepts be incorporated into all extant publications related to power soccer laws, rules, and interpretations.

Happy whistling,



Chris Mulholland
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Copies to:
Don Faria, Chairman, Rules Committee
Mark Jones, Deputy Vice President