



LONG ISLAND JUNIOR SOCCER LEAGUE

U-9/U-10 BUILD-OUT LINE for 2026-27

In accordance with the US Soccer Player Development Initiatives (PDI's, initiated in 2016), LIJSL Competitions will follow the 7v7 (U9/U10) rules regarding the (withdrawal) Build-Out Line.

The philosophy behind having the Build-Out line is to help promote the development of young players and give them time and space to play out from their defensive third as opposed to kicking the ball as far away from their goal as they can. Giving them that little bit of extra time and space gives them the opportunity to at least play out of situations which provides learning moments for the players, whether they are successful or not, and coaching moments for the coaches.

The **Build-Out line is to be placed halfway between the top of the penalty area and the midfield line**

1. **The line also is used for the offside line.** Players cannot be penalized for an offside offense between the halfway line and the build out line
2. The **opposing team must move behind the build out line** in the following situations
 - a. **On a Goal Kick**
 - b. **When the goalkeeper has possession of the ball** (with their hands)
3. The goalkeeper may release the ball into play prior to the opposing team reaching the build out line (quick restart). The opposing team may challenge for the ball once the ball has either
 - a. Been touched by a teammate of the goalkeeper
 - b. Goalkeeper has dropped the ball and touched it with their feet
4. Once the opposing team is behind the build out line, the goalkeeper can pass, throw, or roll the ball into play (**punting, including drop kicking, is not permitted for U10 and younger matches**) *
5. The opposing team may cross the build out line when:
 - a. The goalkeeper passes, throws, or rolls the ball with their hands to a teammate who **then** touches the ball (First Touch is Free) **Behind the Build-Out Line#**
 - b. On a Goal Kick when the ball has been kicked and moved and touched by a teammate **Behind the Build-Out Line#**
 - c. The Goalkeeper in possession of the ball with their hands drops the ball to the ground then touches it with their feet
 - i. An indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team if:
 - a. The GK drops the ball to the ground and does not touch it with their feet within 6 seconds
 - b. The GK releases the ball with their hands and the receiving player chooses not to touch the ball within 6 seconds.
6. If the opposing team crosses the build out line before the above (Point #5, a, b, c) the referee will:
 - a. From Goal Kick – Retake the Goal Kick
 - b. From the Goalkeepers possession – An Indirect Free Kick is awarded to the goalkeepers' team
7. *If the goalkeeper punts the ball, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense:
 - a. EXCEPTION; If the offense (punt) occurs within the goal area, the kick is taken at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred on the goal area line (top of the box) that is parallel to the goal line.

#LIJSL Competitions MAY differ from others regarding Build-Out Line, 2019 revision to Law 13