



AFL London Goal Umpire Manual 2022

Equipment Required

1. Score Cards – Supplied by AFL London – clubs received at Pre-Season Cup
2. Pencils/Pens/Erasers etc
3. Sunglasses are not mandatory, but strongly recommended

Primary Expectations of Goal Umpires

1. Goal umpires are to keep track of all scores at both ends of the field in each quarter.
2. At the end of each quarter walk briskly to the centre, compare scores and wave off the scoreboard if scores agree. If the scoreboard is incorrect, make every effort to have it amended prior to the start of the next quarter and before you leave the ground at half and full time. The person who faces the scoreboard should wave off correct scores.
3. **Retain your scorecard** after the field umpires have completed sending in the details.

Recording the Score

The Scorecard is set up with the **HOME TEAM** Section (Team A) on the left of the card and the **AWAY TEAM** Section (Team B) on the right side of the card. Record the Home and Away Team's names in the appropriate boxes on the score card.

In the First Quarter Box, record the scores of **BOTH SIDES** by recording the number of goals and behinds scored by each team. The card has sections to record goals and behinds for each quarter.

The example below is how we maintain a PROGRESSIVE score; It shows how the score should be shown striking out the previous number as the new score is recorded. Scoring is continuous until the end of the game.

Scores should be recorded in **NUMBER FORM** ie **1 2 3 4 5** etc. For example if Team A score 3 goals 2 behinds to Team B 1 goal six behinds in the first Quarter and then 4 goals 4 behinds to 3 goals 1 behind in the second quarter, your scorecard should read:

| | Home Team | | | Away | | |
|-------|------------------|--------------------|-------|------------------|------------------------|-------|
| QTR | Goals | Behinds | Total | Goals | Behinds | Total |
| 1 | 1 2 3 | 1 2 | 20 | 1 | 1 2 3 4 5 6 | 12 |
| 2 | 4 5 6 7 | 3 4 5 6 | 48 | 2 3 4 | 7 | 31 |
| 3 | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | |
| FINAL | | | | | | |

Positioning

In order to correctly determine the score a goal umpire must endeavour to be in the correct position on every occasion.

- (a) **Under The Flight:** A ball well above touching and contesting height which will travel through the goal scoring area requires the goal umpire to be positioned directly under the flight of the ball. This will give the goal umpire the best opportunity to determine the correct score and also see if the ball grazes the post. A ball which will travel over the behind line requires the goal umpire to run across to a position under the flight of the ball rather than adjudicating from the goal area.
- (b) **Astride the Scoring Line:** Goal umpires should be positioned astride the scoring line on the following occasions: a ball which is kicked at goal which drops on or near the scoring line; a player is running into goal and will kick from very close range; the ball is being contested on or near the scoring line. Umpires should endeavour, when taking up a position on the scoring line, to be on the “fat-side” of play (out of the way of any potential contest on the line). If taking up a position on the behind line, a goal umpire must be on the goal post side of the contest.
- (c) **Behind the Line of the Ball:** If a ball is kicked and will not be contested on the line and will pass over the scoring line under contest height, a goal umpire should position themselves directly in line with the ball behind the scoring line.
- (d) **Indication of a Score:** When a goal is scored, the goal umpire will move briskly to the goal line, as near to the point of the ball crossing the line as possible, receive the “all clear”, come to attention and signal a goal. When a behind is scored, the umpire will (i) tap their chest (except for a ball which is touched over the goal line) and (ii) signal the behind, after the “all clear”, as near to the point of the ball crossing the line as possible.

Communication

Umpires are considered the “third team” in any match. Therefore, communication with the other officiating umpires is vital.

- (a) **Receiving the “All Clear”:** On all occasions when a goal umpire wishes to signal a score, they must look to the field umpire for an “all clear” indication prior to the signalling of a score. The “all clear” is verbal and accompanied by an obvious hand indication. The goal umpire should make eye contact with the field umpire. In this way, they will see the hand indication, even if they do not hear the verbal indication. If an “all clear” is not received and it is obvious that no other action is being taken by the field umpire, the goal umpire must run to the field umpire and receive the “all clear” before signalling a score.
- (b) **Consultation:** If a goal umpire is in doubt about a particular score, they may consult with their umpiring team mates who may assist in adjudicating a score. This includes the controlling field umpire and boundary umpires (if the game has) who are positioned on the point posts. However, it must be remembered that the goal umpire is the sole judge of a score and has the final say as to what the scoring outcome is.

Goal Threshold



Signals

To Field Umpires



• Goal untouched



• Behind: untouched



• Ball is touched before crossing goal line or the ball has come off the leg above the knee. Tap hand above the head 3 times then signal behind



• Ball touched goal post. Tap chest 3 times, signal behind, then tap post 3 times

To Other Goal Umpire and Spectators



- Goal: From starting position, flags will cross once, back once then down to sides. Umpires wave simultaneously at each end.



- Behind: From starting position, flag brought across, back and down. Umpires wave their flags simultaneously at each end.



- Score has been annulled

Please note: All flag waving, both for a goal or a behind should be done in unison. All flag waving must be done between the goal posts; in the middle for a goal and within 2 meters of the goal post for a behind.

Blue Mooners

1. Juggled Ball

Where the ball is still moving in a player's hands or arms as he crosses the goal or behind lines, this shall be deemed as "touched". This is regardless of the fact that the ball is still in contact with hands or arms, as it is deemed not to be controlled until the ball becomes still.

2. Defender crossing the wrong scoring line

If a defender is taking a "set kick" from behind the scoring line, they must bring the ball back into play over the line they originally crossed (i.e. if they go back over the goal line, they must bring the ball back in over the goal line). If they don't the score is a behind. In this situation the goal umpire should tap his or her chest and wait for the "play on" call and "all clear" from the field umpire.

Exception: If a defender backs over the boundary line near the scoring area, and brings the ball back into play through the scoring area, the ball will be deemed to be out of bounds.

3. Kick from behind the scoring line (defender)

If a defender disposes of the ball from behind the scoring line, it must cross the same line as per the previous example. If the ball hits any of the posts in this situation, the kick must be reset and no score shall be awarded. If the ball does not strike any post but does not come back into play, a behind shall be awarded.

4. Kick after the siren

When a ball is in transit or there is a set kick after the siren has sounded the score will count unless the following applies:

- (i) A player of the attacking team "assists" the ball over the line
- (ii) The ball hits any player below the knee before crossing the line
- (iii) A second act of play in any scenario is deemed as no score

Laws Related to Scoring

16.1 GOALS AND BEHINDS

16.1.1 Scoring a Goal

Subject to Law 16.2, a Goal is scored when the football is kicked completely over the goal line by a player of the attacking team without being touched by any other player, even if the football first touches the ground.

16.1.2 Scoring a Behind

Subject to Law 16.2, a Behind is scored when any of the following occurs:

- (a) the football passes completely over the behind line;
- (b) the football touches or passes over the goal post or touches the padding or any other attachment to the goal post;
- (c) a player of the attacking team kicks the football over the goal line but before completely passing over the goal line, the football is touched by another player;
- (d) a player from the attacking team handballs, knocks or otherwise takes the football over the goal line, other than kicking the ball described in clause 16.1.1;
- (e) a player from the defending team kicks, handballs, knocks or otherwise takes the football over the goal line or behind line; or
- (f) if a defending player plays on from behind the goal line or behind line and subsequently changes direction before entering the playing surface.

16.1.3 Clarification and Examples

For the avoidance of doubt:

- (a) if the football touches an umpire or any official, and in the opinion of the field umpire it has affected a score, play will be stopped and the umpires will determine if the score should be recorded;
- (b) if the football touches an umpire or any official, and in the opinion of the field umpire it has not affected a score, the field umpire shall call 'play on' and the football shall remain in play; and
- (c) if the football is kicked by a player on the attacking team at the time when another player is touching the football, the football shall be deemed to have been touched by that player.

16.1.4 Football Touching or Passing Over the Behind Post

Where a football touches or passes over a behind post, the football shall be out of bounds or out of bounds on the full.

16.2 'ALL CLEAR' AND 'TOUCHED ALL CLEAR'

16.2.1 Signal by Field Umpire

A goal or a behind shall only be signalled by a goal umpire and recorded as a goal or behind when:

- (a) subject to Law 16.2.1(b), the field umpire signals 'all clear'; or
- (b) in the case of the football being touched by another player and then passing over the goal line, the field umpire signals 'touched all clear'.

16.2.2 Goal Umpire to Notify Field Umpire

(a) Where the goal umpire is of the opinion that a goal or behind has been scored and the field umpire has allowed play to continue, the goal Umpire shall immediately notify the field umpire.

(b) Upon being notified by the goal umpire, the field umpire shall stop play and signal 'all clear' or 'touched all clear', as the case may be, and the goal or behind shall be signalled by the goal umpire and recorded as a score. Play shall then recommence in accordance with these laws.

(c) Unless Law 16.4.1 applies, any free kick awarded to a player before the field umpire signals 'all clear' or 'touched all clear' under Law 16.2.2(b) shall be cancelled.

16.3 SIGNALLING A GOAL OR BEHIND

16.3.1 Goal

The goal umpire shall signal that a goal has been scored by raising both index fingers and then waving two flags.

16.3.2 Behind

The goal umpire shall signal that a behind has been scored by raising one index finger and then waving one flag.

16.3.3 Changing a Decision

(a) The goal Umpire may change their decision about the scoring of a goal or a behind if the goal umpire notifies the field umpire before the football is brought back into play.

(b) A goal umpire shall signal that the scoring of a goal or behind has been changed by:

(i) immediately standing on the centre of the goal line and holding both flags above their head in a crossed position; and

(ii) then signalling the new score or advising the boundary umpire to signal out of bounds or out of bounds on the full, as the case may be.

16.4 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FREE KICKS AND 'ALL CLEAR'

16.4.1 Free Kick Awarded Before 'All Clear'

Where a free kick is awarded to a player immediately after the football passes the goal or behind line but before the field umpire signals 'all clear' or 'touched all clear', the following shall apply:

(a) where the player is from the attacking team, the field umpire shall signal 'all clear' or 'touched all clear', after which the goal umpire shall signal and record the score. The free kick shall then be taken where the infringement occurred, or the position at which the football is brought back into play, whichever is the greater penalty against the defending team; or

(b) where the player is from the defending team, the field umpire shall not signal 'all clear' or 'touched all clear' and a free kick shall be awarded.

16.4.2 'All Clear' Given But Play Has Not Recommended

(a) Where a free kick is awarded to a player during the period when the field umpire has signalled 'all clear' for a goal to be recorded and the football is bounced in the centre circle, the free kick shall be taken where the infringement occurred, or at the centre circle, whichever is the greater penalty against the offending team.

(b) Where a free kick is awarded to a player after the field umpire has signalled 'all clear' or 'touched all clear' for a behind to be recorded but before the football has been brought back into play:

(i) in the case of a free kick being awarded to the attacking team, it shall be taken from the centre of the kick-off line, or where the infringement occurred, whichever is the greater penalty against the defending team; or

(ii) in the case of a free kick being awarded to the defending team, it shall be taken where the infringement occurred, or the field umpire shall award a fifty metre penalty from the mark defined in Law 17.1(d), whichever is the greater penalty against the attacking team.

16.5 SCORING A GOAL OR BEHIND AFTER PLAY HAS ENDED

16.5.1 Goal or Behind Recorded in Certain Circumstances

Even though play has been brought to an end under Law 10.5, a goal or behind shall be recorded for a team if:

(a) the goal or behind is scored by a player from a free kick or mark which was awarded to the player before play came to an end;

(b) the goal or behind was scored by a player who disposed of the football before play came to an end; or

(c) the goal or behind is scored by a player who was awarded a free kick under Law 16.6.

16.5.2 Football Touched in Transit

A Behind shall still be recorded under Law 16.5.1 if the football is touched in transit by another player, provided the field umpire is satisfied that the scoring of the behind was not assisted by a player from the same team.

16.5.3 Field Umpire Sole Judge

A field umpire or an emergency umpire (if applicable) shall be the sole judge in deciding whether a free kick or mark should be awarded or whether the football was disposed of by a player before play came to an end.

16.6 FREE KICK AFTER PLAY HAS ENDED

16.6.1 Before Kick or in the Act of Kicking

After a field umpire has signalled that play has come to an end, any field umpire may award a free kick to any player when a player is preparing to kick or in the act of kicking for goal. In such cases, the following shall apply:

(a) if the player awarded the free kick is playing for the attacking team, the free kick shall be awarded to the player where the infringement occurred, or the player shall be awarded a fifty metre penalty, whichever is the greater penalty against the defending team; or

(b) if the player awarded the free kick is playing for the defending team, the player shall be awarded the free kick where the infringement occurred or where the football is at the time of the infringement, whichever is the greater penalty against the attacking team.

16.6.2 After the Kick

After a field umpire has signalled that play has come to an end, any field umpire may award a free kick to any player after a player has kicked for goal but before the field umpire has signalled 'all clear' or 'touched all clear'. In such cases, the following shall apply:



- (a) if the player awarded the free kick is playing for the attacking team and a goal is kicked, the field umpire shall signal 'all clear' and a goal shall be recorded;
- (b) if the player awarded the free kick is playing for the attacking team and a goal is not scored:
 - (i) if the free kick occurs within the playing surface then that player will take the free kick where the free kick was awarded or at the location of the kick for goal, whichever is the greater penalty against the defending team;
 - (ii) if the free kick occurs outside the playing surface then that player will take the free kick at the closest point to the goal line, behind line or boundary line where the infringement occurred or at the location of the kick for goal, whichever is the greater penalty against the defending team; or
 - (iii) where a behind is scored, that player may elect to have the behind recorded; or
- (c) if the player awarded the free kick is playing for the defending team, the player shall be awarded the free kick where the infringement occurred. For the avoidance of doubt, any goal or behind shall not be recorded.

16.7 RECORDING SCORES

A Controlling Body (AFL LONDON ONLY, not clubs) may appoint a person or persons to record the scores of a match independently from the goal umpires and timekeepers. Where the goal umpires cannot agree on the final score of a match, the Controlling Body may take into account the scores recorded by the timekeepers and person(s) so appointed to determine the result of a match.