

ADKSC “Slide Tackling” Rule Clarification

July 22, 2015

The following is a clarification of the slide tackling rule, and what is and what is not considered a slide tackle. As you probably already know, slide tackling is and always has been a foul.

Slide tackling performed by a field player, or by a goalie outside their own penalty area, leaving his feet and sliding along the ground with one leg extended, with the intent to remove, dispossess or gain possession of the ball is not allowed and is a potentially card-able offense.

For clarification, it is a foul to slide tackle, or attempt to slide tackle, a player with the ball, which means even if a player tries and misses, he or she may still be penalized.

Penalties:

Slide tackling **without** excessive force, or the intent to injure that does not put other players’ safety at risk, may result in a **YELLOW CARD**.

Slide tackling by any player **with** excessive force, or the apparent intent to injure, or with apparent disregard for other players’ safety, will result in a **RED CARD**.

Here are some examples of what IS allowed:

- a player sliding to save a ball from going out of bounds or into the goal (assuming opposing players are not near the ball),
- a goalie sliding to make a save,
- Sliding to clear a ball with no contact made to any other player, with the sliding player showing no obvious intention to “slide-tackle” another player,
- Sliding in an attempt to block a shot or pass, providing an opponent is not in the immediate vicinity,
- In an offensive position, sliding to move the ball, including shooting on net,
- Lunging forward to block and/or obstruct the movement of the ball, (*this means a planted foot*)

Remember, Sliding in and of itself is not a foul. It is only a foul if, in the opinion of the referee, the intent was to take the ball from another player, or to make contact with another player.

At the end of the day, the decision that an action is deemed to be a “slide tackle” is solely the responsibility and discretion of the referee. They will judge the plausibility of an action being a slide tackle and the severity of the action.

Why have we clarified this? Over the years slide tackling has continued to be one of the hottest topics during the playing seasons. We are providing this clarification with the intent of providing a better understanding of the Slide Tackling Rule, and to provide a continued focus on player safety, and to continue to promote more competitive play and to help players and referees in regards to the interpretation of the slide tackling in respect to the ADKSC Soccer Leagues.