

Corner Kick

Why work on corner kick?

Although it may only happen 10 times in a game, it is one of the easiest ways to score or get scored on.

What is a corner kick?

A corner kick is awarded when the entire ball passes over the end line last touch by a defender.

Where does the ball get restarted from on a corner kick?

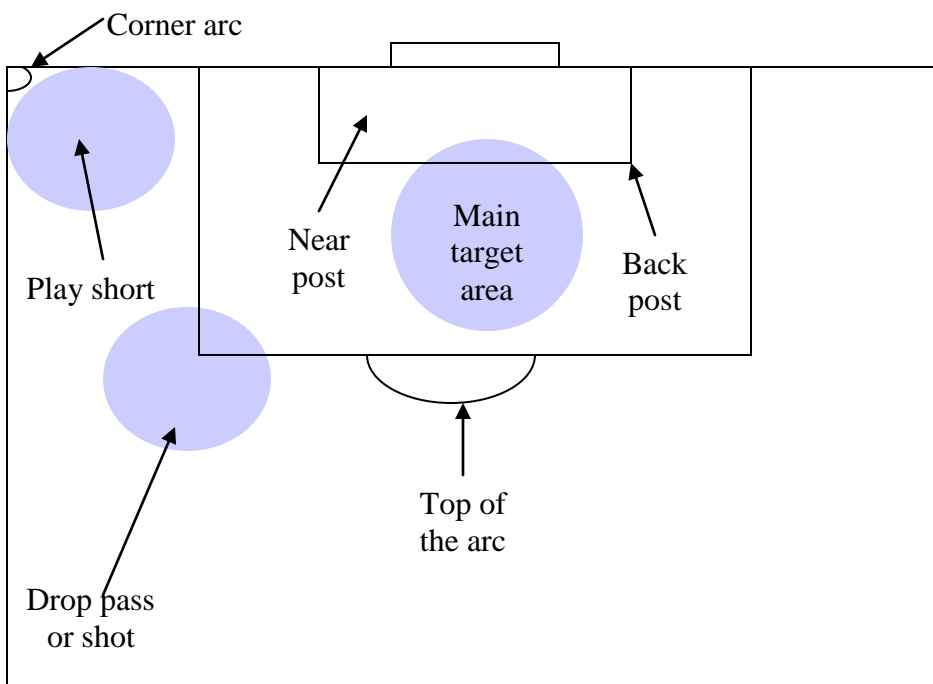
The ball must be on or inside the corner arc on the side that it went out on and stationary.

What are some special rules for a corner kick?

1. You can score a goal directly from a corner (but not a goal against your own team).
2. You can not be offside if you receive the ball directly from a corner.
3. You can not take out or move the corner flag to take the kick.
4. Opponents must remain 8-10 yard away (depends on age division) from the corner kick. Teammates can stand right next to the kicker for a short corner.
5. The kicker may not touch the ball again until it has touched another player. If he/she does, the other team is awarded an indirect free kick (rule in KASL depends on age).
6. If the ball hooks out the end line and then back in, it is a goal kick (the ball left the field of play).
7. If the ball hooks out the touchline and then back in, it is a throw-in (the ball left the field of play).

What are some key terms and positions for a corner kick (all depend on age division)?

1. Kicker - The player taking the kick.
2. Near post - The goal post closest to the kicker.
3. Far post - The goal post farthest from the kicker.
4. Top of the arc - Where you want an attacker to wait for any rebound or bad corner.
5. Mark up - Wanting you defenders to make sure no attackers are free and open for the kick.
6. Short or assist - Wanting a teammate to go to the corner for a sort quick pass if open.
7. Drop - Wanting the kicker to look towards his defender for a pass instead of a kick.
8. Crash - Wanting your attackers to charge the goal after the kick or a shot.
9. Step in front - Attackers trying to get in front of the defenders so they can win the ball.



Defending a corner

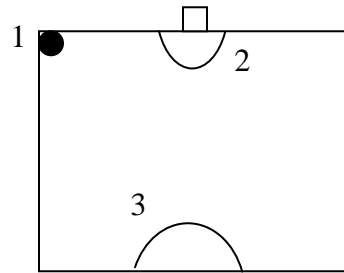
To defend, most coaches line up the players by the goal on the kickers side; this generally happens in the U8 and below. A great way to teach is to tell them to mark up. Although you will give up more goals; in the long run, you are preparing them for when they get older (your team will then be ahead of the curve). First mark players, then mark the near post and finally mark the back post. This depends on the age division and the number of players.

Because there are some many plays, tactics and positions you can do (most depend on your players and your imagination), I'm only going to give you the standard ways.

Simple corner kick for U4 through U6:

With only having 3 players here is the best way.

1. Kicker, taking the kick.
2. Your attacker on the back post; right outside the arc.
3. Your defender acting as a supporter and shooter. Notice he is on the side of the kicker and in the attacking half so he can receive a pass for a shot or go short for a pass from the corner.

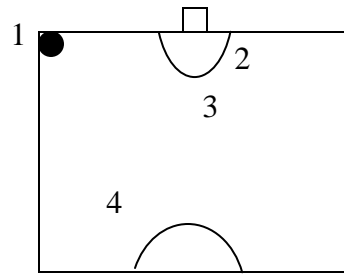


If the defense is marking both players always kick it towards the goal

Simple corner kick for U7 and U8:

With only having 4 players here is the best way.

1. Kicker, taking the kick.
2. Your attacker on the back post; right outside the arc.
3. Your attacker just on top of the arc.
4. Your defender acting as a supporter and shooter. Notice he is on the side of the kicker and in the attacking half so he can receive a pass for a shot or go short for a pass from the corner.



If the defense is marking all players always kick it towards the goal

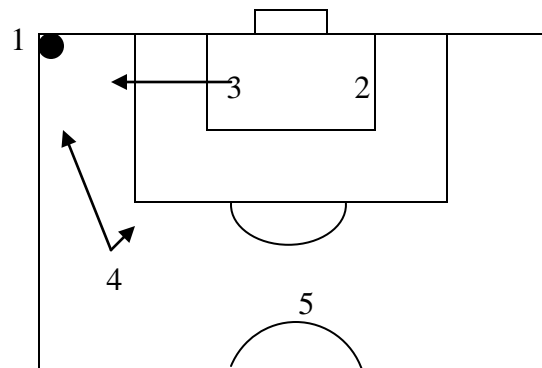
Why is there no player on the near post in U8 and below?

Because the players are new to the game; in which, most do not have great foot skill yet to trap the ball, gain control, turn around and shoot.

Simple corner kick for U9 and U10:

With only having 5 field players here is the best way.

1. Kicker, taking the kick.
2. Your attacker on the back post.
3. Your attacker on the near post. He/she may also run short for a pass
4. Your defender acting as a supporter and shooter. Notice he is on the side of the kicker and in the attacking half so he can receive a pass for a shot or go short for a pass from the corner.
5. Your other defender on top of the center arc to either receive a rebound, a cleared ball by the defense or to cover your side from a breakout by the defending team.



Advanced corner kick for U9 and U10:

Have your kicker raise his/her hand. The rest of your players are in the penalty arc but one who is acting as your defender. Once the kicker lowers his/her hand, the players in the arc run to their places as he ball is being played. Used when you have a special play or when you are trying to get the defense to miss marking a player. The truth is 95% of the time, they are still going to the same spots as talked about above.

