



**NCAA Soccer Rules Questions and Interpretations  
2022 Season, Volume 1  
Rich Grady, Secretary-Rules Editor**

This update includes issues addressed up to August 8, 2022.

1. **Offside Interpretation.** The NCAA will be consistent with the most recent interpretations (July 27, 2022) from the International Football Association Board (IFAB) with respect to the definition of the ball being deliberately played by an opponent negating a potential offside. The difference between deliberate play and deflection is clarified as follows:

A deliberate play is when a player has control of the ball with the possibility of passing the ball to a teammate, gaining possession of the ball, or clearing the ball. If the pass, attempt to gain possession, or clearance by the player in control of the ball is inaccurate or unsuccessful, this does not negate the fact that the player deliberately played the ball. Indicators that a player was in control of the ball and thus deliberately played it include: the ball travelled from distance and the player had a clear view of it; the ball was not moving quickly; the direction of the ball was not unexpected; the player had time to coordinate their body movement; a ball on the ground is easier to play than one in the air.

Video clips illustrating the new guidance can be found [here](#).

2. **Points of Emphasis.** Please click [here](#) to view the NCAA Soccer Points of Emphasis for the 2022 season.