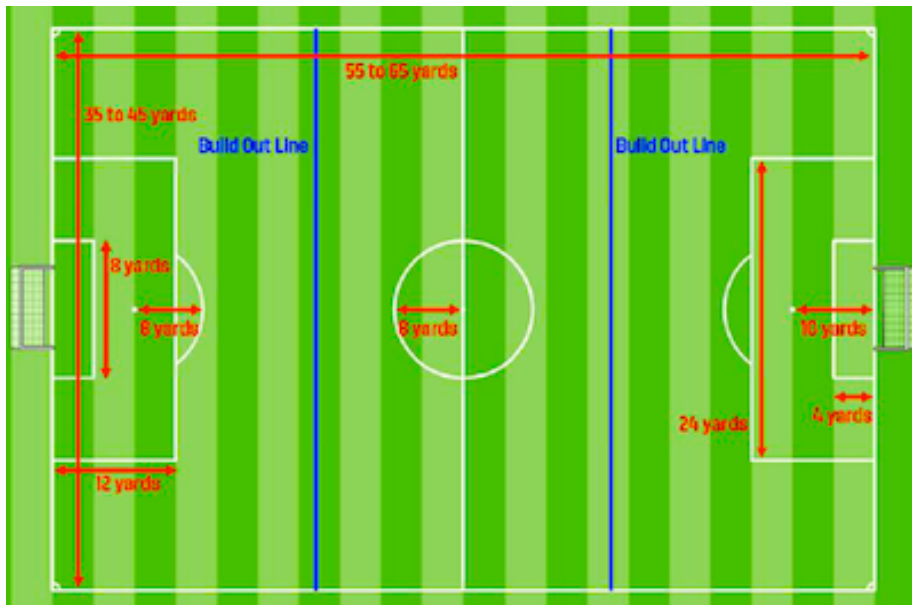


# WESTPORT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

## USSF BUILD OUT LINE

### What is it?



It is a blue line that is found on both halves of the U9/U10 (7v7) field that is placed equidistant from the goal line and the halfway line. This line is also used in 3/4<sup>th</sup> grade Rec games.

### Why is it there?

- When the goalkeeper has the ball and needs to release it from their hands, the opponents must cross the BUILD OUT LINE so that they are between that line and the HALFWAY LINE until the goalkeeper releases the ball from their possession.
- When a goal kick is to be taken, the opponents must cross the BUILD OUT LINE so that they are between that line and the HALFWAY LINE until the ball is kicked outside of the penalty area into the field.
- Most importantly, a player will not be deemed in an offside position until they cross the BUILD OUT LINE to place themselves between that line and the goal line. In other words, the offside rules move from the HALFWAY LINE to the BUILD OUT LINE. ARs and linespeople will no longer need to run to the HALFWAY LINE. They will be able to stop at the BUILD OUT LINE.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The goal keepers can no longer punt or drop kick the ball. They need to pass, roll or throw the ball. If they punt or drop kick the ball, the opposing team is given an Indirect Free Kick at the place of the infraction.

### What are the benefits?

1. Players will have more touches on the ball.
2. Players will learn the objectives and the principles of play for each third of the field.
3. Passing is promoted more.
4. Playing the ball out of the back is done in a less pressured way.
5. Young players will be able to see visually where their position is on the field.
6. Players will play more as a team than as individuals.