Scoring Plays

The next offseason video is now available on the CFO website. This video covers scoring plays. In replay there are special rules that only pertain to the goal line. We can always review the status of the ball in relation to the goal line going in either direction. The process to follow for these types of plays includes:

- Establish possession of the ball breaking the plane of the goal line.
- Establish the first body part that puts the runner down or out of bounds, or when progress is stopped.
- Establish where the ball is when the first body part is down or out of bounds, or when progress is stopped.
- Analyze angles and begin with goal line shot if available.

In addition, we have posted a 10-question quiz scoring plays and the answers to the line to gain quiz.

Two clarifications we want to address:

Fumble in A’s End Zone

When the ruling on the field is a dead ball (incomplete pass/runner down), but the correct ruling should be a live ball (fumble/backward pass), and Team A is responsible for putting the ball in its end zone with no clear recovery by either team, we will award a safety to Team B. The theory is that we know it can only be one of two things – a TD or safety for B – so we will go with the lesser of the two.

This only applies to this specific situation when there is no evidence of who recovered the ball or it clearly going out of bounds.
Play situation:

QBA1 is hit and loses the ball at the A-3. The ball goes into A’s end zone and ends up in a pile of players from both teams. The Referee rules incomplete pass. Replays show the ball came loose before A1’s hand came forward, but there is no evidence of a clear recovery by either team.

**Ruling:** Reviewable. Safety for Team B, safety kick A-20.

10-Second Runoff

One clarification regarding a 10-second runoff created in replay. The runoff applies when the ruling on the field stopped the clock, the correct ruling would not have stopped the clock, and the play should have ended with less than one-minute remaining in the half. If anything else happens during the down that would cause the clock to stop such as a foul, then there is no runoff.

Play situation:

A 3-10 on B-40. With 0:50 remaining in the 2nd quarter, receiver A80 catches a pass and is hit at the B-32 where he loses the ball and B25 recovers on the ground there. The officials rule fumble and award Team B possession. Replays show A80’s left knee down before he lost possession of the ball. There is a flag on the play for holding by A78.

**Ruling:** Reviewable. A 4-2 on B-32, no runoff, and Team B has option to enforce penalty.

---

**Dean Blandino**  
**CFO National Director of Instant Replay**

July 12th, 2019