



COLLEGE FOOTBALL OFFICIATING, LLC

Line to Gain

The next offseason video is now available on the CFO website. This video covers line to gain plays. The process to follow for these types of plays includes:

- Establish the down. 3rd and 4th down are significant.
- Establish the yard line and whether it is a big line, on a line, or between lines.
- Establish the first body part that puts the runner down or out of bounds.
- Establish where the ball is in when the first body part is down.
- Angles are critical and without a shot down the line it will be difficult to be exact with the spot.

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

Several clarifications based on questions that have come up recently:

Momentum/Safety/Touchback

If the ruling on the field is momentum and the ball is placed in the field of play, then we can review whether it should have been a touchback and vice versa. See A.R. 182 in the Replay Case Book. Possession in relation to the goal line is reviewable.

We cannot review whether the player took the ball into his own end zone for a safety or where the ball was possessed in relation to the 5-yard line.

Play situations:

B40 intercepts A's pass at the B-1 and his momentum takes him into the end zone where he is downed. The officials rule touchback.

Ruling: Reviewable. B 1-10 on B1.

B40 intercepts A's pass at the B-3 and his momentum takes him into the end zone where he is downed. The officials rule B40 took the ball into his own end zone for a safety.

Ruling: Not reviewable. Safety.

B40 intercepts the ball at the B-5 ½ and takes the ball into his own end zone where he is downed. The officials rule momentum and spot the ball just inside the 5-yard line.

Ruling: Not reviewable.

Forward Progress

If the on-field officials do not rule forward progress, then we cannot create it in replay. When progress is ruled on the field, we can review the position of the ball in relation to the line to gain or goal line at the time of the ruling.

If the ruling on the field is a fumble, we cannot rule progress in replay even if the line to gain is involved. One exception would be at the opponent's goal line as once the runner breaks the plane of the goal line with possession the ball is dead by rule.

Play situations:

A 3-10 on A-30. A2 runs to the A-40 where his progress is stopped, and he is driven backward. The ball comes loose and is recovered by B50 who returns it across A's goal line. The on-field officials rule TD.

Ruling: Not reviewable. TD B.

A 3-Goal on B-10. A2 runs to the goal line where his progress is stopped, and he is driven backward. The ball comes loose and is recovered by B50 who returns it to the B-20 where he is tackled. The on-field officials rule fumble and award B possession. The ball broke the plane of the goal line before it came loose.

Ruling: Reviewable. TD A.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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June 28th, 2019