



COLLEGE FOOTBALL OFFICIATING, LLC

2016 CFO POSTSEASON RULES QUIZ 1--SOLUTIONS

For each of the following select the correct answer. There is only ONE correct choice for each question. For any fouls that are not offset, assume that the penalty is accepted unless it is declined by rule.

1. Fourth and 10 at the A-12. Late in the fourth quarter Team A's punt is blocked and does not cross the neutral zone. A22 recovers at the A-10 and completes a forward pass to eligible A88 who is tackled at the B-40. When the ball is dead the game clock reads 0:06.
- The ball is dead when A22 recovers it.
 - First and 10 for Team A at the B-40; clock starts on the snap.**
 - First and 10 for Team A at the B-40; clock starts on the Referee's signal.
 - Illegal touching by A22.

REFERENCES: 6-3-1, 3-3-2-d, AR 3-3-2-VI

COMMENTS: If a scrimmage kick does not cross the neutral zone either team may advance the ball. The game clock is stopped at the end of the down and is started on the snap because of the kick.

2. After the ball is dead, A55 blocks B33 at the waist, knocking him to the ground. As B33 hits the ground his helmet comes off. A55 is charged with a dead-ball foul.
- B33 is not required to leave the game because of the foul by A55.
 - B33 must leave the game and remain out for the next down.**
 - B33 is not required to leave the game because his helmet came off after the ball was dead.
 - B33 is charged with a foul because his helmet came off.

REFERENCES: 9-1-7-a, 3-3-9-a, AR 3-3-9-I

COMMENTS: Although a foul is committed against the player whose helmet comes off, he must leave the game because the foul was not directly to the helmet. The helmet

coming off is a secondary not a direct result of the foul. Team B may leave the player in the game by being granted a team timeout.

3. Second and 10 at the B-20. Team A trails late in the fourth quarter. The game clock is running. Tackle B77 is in the neutral zone at the snap (no contact). A12 takes the snap, rolls out to his right, and runs to the B-17 where he throws a forward pass which falls incomplete. When the ball is dead the game clock reads 0:15.

- a. **Offsetting fouls; by rule there is no 10-second runoff of the game clock.**
- b. Offsetting fouls and there is a 10-second runoff—no option.
- c. Team B may decline offsetting fouls and choose the 10-second runoff after completion of the penalty for B77 being offside.

REFERENCES: 7-1-5-b, 7-3-2-a, 3-4-4-e, AR 3-4-4-IV

COMMENTS: When there are offsetting fouls there is no option for a 10-second runoff.

4. First and 10 at the B-40. Team A runs a no-huddle offense and their players move to their various positions. After the ball has been made ready for play substitute A22 runs from his team area on to the field of play. He pauses at the top of the numbers and then realizes that he is the 12th man, so he turns and hustles back to his team area. The ball has not been snapped.

- a. No foul.
- b. This would be a substitution foul only if A22 had remained on the field for more than three seconds.
- c. **Foul for illegal substitution. After the penalty Team A will have first and 15.**
- d. Foul for illegal substitution. After the penalty Team A will have first and 10.

REFERENCES: 3-5-2-d, 5-2-7, AR 3-5-2-VII

COMMENTS: A22 has become a player in the sense of Rule 3-5-2. The foul takes place between series and the penalty is enforced after the line to gain has been established since the ball had already been made ready for play.

5. As his team's punt is rolling along the ground, A44 legally blocks B33 into the ball. After contact with B33, the bouncing ball then strikes B68 in the leg. A66 recovers while grounded at the B-30.

- a. **First and 10 for Team A at the B-30. Clock starts on the snap.**
- b. B68's contact with the ball is forced touching.
- c. Illegal touching by A66.
- d. First and 10 for Team A at the B-30. Clock starts on the Referee's signal.

REFERENCES: 6-3-3, 6-3-4, AR 6-3-4-V

COMMENTS: This is not forced touching, because none of the conditions of Rule 6-3-4 are in play.

6. Punt receiver B22 is in position to catch a punt at the B-30. He does not make a fair catch signal. A88, down field to cover the punt, is within a yard of B22 and off to his side when B22 catches the ball, and there is no contact. The presence of A88 does not cause B22 to making any adjustment of his position or change the manner of catching the ball.

a. **Legal play.**

b. Foul for kick-catch interference because A88 has violated the new one-yard rule.

REFERENCES: 6-4-1, AR 6-4-1-XII

COMMENTS: A88's action does not have any of the elements of Rule 6-4-1. In particular, while A88 is within one yard of B22, he is off to the side and not directly in front as required by rule.

7. Third and 5 at the A-40. Quarterback A12 drops back to pass and, under a heavy rush, throws a backward pass to back A22 who carries the ball outside the tackle box. About to be tackled at the A-35, A22 throws a forward pass that crosses the neutral zone lands in an area 20 yards from the nearest Team A eligible receiver.

a. Legal play, under the exception to Rule 7-3-2-h.

b. Intentional grounding. Fourth and 15 at the A-30.

c. **Intentional grounding. Fourth and 10 at the A-35.**

REFERENCES: 7-3-2-h-Exc. and Penalty, AR 7-3-2-IX

COMMENTS: Because A22 did not control the snap or resulting backward pass, he is not protected by the intentional-grounding exception. The penalty is loss of down at the spot but includes no yardage.

8. Ball carrier A33 breaks away and is racing toward the Team B goal line. He drops the ball just inside the one-yard line and, thinking he has scored a touchdown, circles through the end zone and runs to his team area. No official signals a touchdown nor blows a whistle. The ball rolls into the end zone where it then comes to rest and is declared dead with no player making an attempt to recover it.

a. Touchback. Team B's ball at the B-25.

b. **Touchdown for Team A.**

c. Touchback. Team B's ball at the B-20.

d. Team A's ball at the spot of the fumble.

REFERENCES: 7-2-5, 8-2-1-c, AR 8-2-1-X

COMMENTS: Because the fumble comes to rest it belongs to the fumbling team at that spot. This satisfies one definition of a touchdown—an awarded fumble. It is important to note that no official makes any signal to kill the ball, until it clearly rolls dead in the end zone.

9. First and 10 at the A-40. A12 takes the snap and starts on a sweep to his right with guard A66 pulling to lead the play. Linebacker B55 blocks A66 from the side at the thigh at the A-44. A12 is driven out of bounds at the A-48.

- a. First and 10 at the B-37.
- b. First and 10 at the B-41.
- c. **Second and two at the A-48.**

REFERENCES: 9-1-6-b-1, AR 9-1-6-IX

COMMENTS: B55's block occurs within the five-yard band of territory beyond the neutral zone, and is hence legal.

10. Second and five at the A-45. Ball carrier A3 breaks into the clear and races toward the goal line far ahead of his pursuers. At the B-2 he suddenly makes a sharp left turn and trots along the B-2 as the Team B players begin to close in on him. He then carries the ball into the end zone for a touchdown.

- a. Legal play. Touchdown is scored and the next down will be the try.
- b. **Foul for unsportsmanlike conduct. There is no touchdown and the 15-yard penalty is enforced from the B-2.**
- c. Foul for unsportsmanlike conduct. The touchdown counts and the penalty is enforced either on the try or the kickoff, at the option of Team B.

REFERENCES: 9-2-1-a, AR 9-2-1-IX

COMMENTS: This taunting foul is unsportsmanlike conduct and is a live-ball foul. In this case the penalty is enforced at the spot of the foul.

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