






**THE 2006 NATIONAL FEDERATION
OFFICIALS' SIGNALS AND RESPECTIVE RULES**
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New or modified rules are indicated by shading.


	<p>1. Ball ready for play. (2-33; 3-4-2; 3-6-1; 6-1-3; 7-1-3,-5,-6; 7-2-1)</p>
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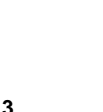
	<p>1a. Extend the period for an untimed down. (3-3-3) if during the last timed down of the period: (1) A penalty is accepted for foul by either team (except for unsportsmanlike or non-player fouls or fouls that specify loss of down), (2) A double foul occurred, (3) A down is to be replayed because of inadvertent whistle, (4) The Try after a touchdown is attempted -- unless the TD is scored during the last down of the 4th period and the point(s) would not affect the outcome of the game or playoff qualifying. (3-3-3)</p> <p>NOTE: See 3-3-4 for situations when the period is not extended.</p>
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	<p>2. Start the clock. (3-4-1, -2, -3)</p>
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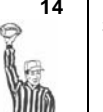
	<p>2:3 Progress was stopped inbounds and a first down has been attained. (3-5-7-b)</p> <p>NOTE 1: The game clock will run, after being stopped, momentarily, to declare a first down and move the line-to-gain equipment. NOTE 2: Signals are given this way: Wind-the-clock twice; then stop the clock. (Officials' Manual, page 24)</p>
	


	<p>3.a Stop the clock. (3-4-4; 6-1-5; 6-5-2; 7-1-7)</p>
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	<p>3.b. Time out charged to a team. (3-5-1, -2, -3)</p> <p>NOTE 1: A player or the head coach can request a time out. (3-5-2-a) NOTE 2: After giving signal #3 toward press box, Referee turns, faces the team, and points with both hands toward that team. NOTE 3: Successive time outs by the same team, or by one team followed by the other team, are permissible. (PR3.5.4) NOTE 4: The captains and coach should be notified when a team's permissible charged time outs for the half have been used. (3-5-4)</p>
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	<p>Time out charged to officials ---</p> <p>3.c --- For first down measurement. (3-5-7-a) 3.d --- When a first down is declared. (3-5-7-b) 3.e --- Following change of team possession. (3-5-7-c) 3.f --- To notify teams of time remaining. (3-5-7-d; 3-3-1) 3.g --- For injured players. (3-5-5-a; 3-5-7-e) (PR 3.5.10B) 3.h --- For player in need of equipment repair. (3-5-5-b; 3-5-7-f) 3.i --- To dry or change the game ball. (3-5-7-g) 3.j --- For unusual heat or humidity which may create a health risk to players. (3-5-7-h) 3.k --- For altered ruling after Coach/Referee conference. (3-5-5-c; 3-5-7-l; 3-5-11) (See #21(7).e) 3.l --- After a foul, to administer the penalty. (3-5-7-j; 4-2-1) 3.m --- For other game administration purposes. (3-5-7-k) 3.n --- For the one-minute intermission following a Try, successful field goal, or safety. (3-5-7-m)</p> <p>NOTE 1: For items 3.c to 3.n the Referee taps his chest after giving signal #3. NOTE 2: There is a difference from NFL signal mechanics.</p>
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		<p>3:4. Television/Radio time out. (3-5-7-l)</p>
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		<p>3:14 Time out charged to officials for the one-minute intermission between 1st & 2nd and 3rd & 4th periods. (3-5-7-m)</p>
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	<p>5.a Touchdown (8-2) 5.b Successful try for point(s) after touchdown. (8-3-2-c) 5.c Successful field goal attempt. (8-4-1)</p>
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	<p>6. Safety. (8-5-2; 5-3-4; 2-13)</p>
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	<p>7. Dead Ball Foul. (2-16-2-a; 2-1-1; 4-2-1; 5-2-3; 6-1-3; 7-1; 10-1-2; 10-2-4) NOTE: See infractions under signals #18, #19, #21, #22, #27, and #29 for applications of the dead ball foul signal.</p>
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	<p>M7. Touchback. (8-5-3; 5-3-4; 2-13) NOTE: This is Modified Signal #7.</p>
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	<p>8. First down. (1-1-2; 2-7-1; 5-1-1, -2; 5-2-5; 10-1-7)</p>
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	<p>9. Loss of down. (2-7-2; 10-1-6) NOTE 1: "Loss of down" is the loss of the right to repeat a down. (2-7-2) NOTE 2: The loss of down aspect of a penalty does not apply following a change of team possession or if the line-to-gain has been reached after enforcement. (5-2-2)</p>
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	<p>10.a Incomplete forward pass. (7-5-5; Table 7-5-4; 2-30-4; 3-4-4-f) 10.b Penalty declined. (5-2-1; 10-1-1) 10.c Double fouls (Offsetting penalties). (10-2-1, -2; 2-16-2-b) 10.d No play. (4-1-6) 10.e No score. (8-4-1; 8-3-2-a, -b, -d; 8-3-4) 10.f Coin toss choice deferred to second half. (3-2-3)</p>
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	<p>10. Legal touching of forward pass or kick. (2-44)</p>
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	<p>12. Inadvertent whistle. (4-2-3; 3-3-3-c) NOTE: Referee gives this signal while facing the press box.</p>
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13 	13. Disregard flag. (1-1-6, -7; 2-16-1) NOTE: Referee gives this signal while facing the press box.
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14 	14. End of period. (3-3-5) NOTE 1: The game is officially over when the Referee holds the ball overhead. (PR 3.3.5A) NOTE 2: Give signal #14 after Signal #3. (3) See #3:14.
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15 	15. Sideline warning: Non-players outside team box but not on the field. (9-8-1-k; 9-8-3) NOTE 1: Maximum of 3 coaches may be in the coaches' area. NOTE 2: See #29(7) and #29(7):27 for subsequent infractions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Offense – No Penalty. ("Warning.") [S15] • Second Offense – 5 Yards [S7 & S29] • Third Offense – 15 Yards [S7 & S29 & S27] NOTE 3:: The "warning" and 5-yard penalty for sideline interference do not count as fouls leading to ejection. (PR 9.8.1F)
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16 	16.a "First Touching" of kickoff or other free kick. (6-1-6; 2-12-1) 16.b "First Touching" of scrimmage kick. (6-2-5; 2-12-2) NOTE 1: "First touching" is not a foul. However, its consequences are similar to those of a penalty (2-16-6). NOTE 2: "First touching" of a kick is always ignored if the penalty is accepted for a foul during the down. (Fundamental IV-7.)
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16  9 	16:9 Ineligible Team A player illegally touches (bats, muffs, catches) a forward pass while he behind, in or beyond the neutral zone, unless the pass was touched by Team B. (7-5-13) PENALTY: 5 Yards plus Loss of Down. Penalize from spot of illegal touching, not from spot of pass. NOTE: For a 4th down illegal touching of an incomplete pass in A's end zone, B gets the ball at the previous spot if it declines the penalty. Otherwise it is a safety. (PR 8.5.2D)
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17 	17. Uncatchable forward pass. NOTE 1: This signal is not used by the National Federation. NOTE 2: This is an NCAA "When in Question" rule (2-19-4). NOTE 3: "Catchable" is not a defined term. NOTE 4: There is no pass interference when contact by B is away from the direction of the pass (7-5-11-c).
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7  18 	18(7).a Free kick encroachment by K. (6-1-3; 2-14-3-b) NOTE 1: After the ball is "ready" and until it is kicked, only the kicker and holder may be beyond K's free kick line. (6-1-3; 2-14-3-b) 18(7) b. Free kick encroachment by R. (6-1-3; 2-14-3-a) NOTE 2: Receiving team players may not be beyond R's free kick line until the ball is kicked. (6-1-3; 2-14-3-a) Encroachment by the Snapper – 18(7).c -- Snapper must have his feet behind the neutral zone. (7-1-1) 18(7).d -- No part of Snapper's person (except hands on the ball) may be beyond foremost point of the ball. (7-1-1) Encroachment of Neutral zone by Defensive or Offensive Players – 18(7).e -- Defensive players may not give signals while standing in neutral zone after ball is "ready." (7-1-5) 18(7).f -- No players (other than the Snapper) may touch the ball or an opponent after the ball is "ready." (7-1-5) 18(7).g -- Following the "ready" and after the Snapper has placed his hands on the ball, no player can break the plane of the neutral zone. (7-1-6) PENALTIES: 5 Yards.
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7  19 	Free Kick Infractions by Kicking Team --- 19(7).a -- Ball must be kicked from between the inbounds lines. (6-1-2) 19(7).b -- Place-kick kick-off must be from ON K's free kick line. (6-1-2) 19(7).c -- Ball must be kicked from spot designated by the Kicker. (6-1-2) 19(7).d -- When a punt is used following a safety, the ball must be kicked within one step behind K's free kick line.. (6-1-2) NOTE 1: A punt may not be used for a free kick other than after a safety. (2-23-8; 6-1-2)) Snap Infractions by Snapper After Touching the Ball – 19(7).e -- Snapper may not rotate the ball end-for-end. (7-1-2) NOTE 2: Snapper may lift the ball for lateral rotation. (7-1-2) 19(7).f -- Snapper may not change location of the ball. (7-1-2) 19(7).g -- Snapper must keep long axis of the ball in direction of the field. (7-1-2) NOTE 3: An illegal snap or other snap infraction causes the ball to remain dead. (7-1-4) Following the "Ready" and After Touching the Ball the Snapper May Not --- 19(7).h -- Remove both hands from the ball. (7-1-3-a) 19(7).i -- Make any movement that simulates a snap. (7-1-3-b) 19(7).j -- Fail to clearly pause before the snap. (7-1-3-c) 19(7).k -- Lift or move the ball other than in a legal snap. (7-1-3-d) NOTE 4: The ball remains dead for these last 4 infractions. (7-1-4) False Start by Team A Player --- 19(7).l -- Shift that simulates action at the snap. (7-1-7-a) 19(7).m -- Feigned charge that simulates action at the snap. (7-1-7-a) 19(7).n -- Any act clearly intended to cause Team B to encroach. (7-1-7-b) 19(7).o -- Any Team A player on his line between the snapper and he player on the end of his line, after placing hand(s) on or near the ground, may not move his hand(s) or make any quick movement (7-1-7-c) NOTE 5: If the false start causes Team B to encroach then only the false start is penalized. (7-1-8) Illegal Snap --- 19(7).p -- Ball must immediately leave hand(s) of Snapper. (7-2-4) 19(7).q -- Ball must touch backfield player or the ground before it touches a Team A lineman. (7-2-4) NOTE 6: An illegal snap causes the ball to remain dead. NOTE 7: A scrimmage down must start with a legal snap. (7-2-4) 19(7).r. – Up to 3 attendants (non-coaches) may enter the field to attend to their teams during time outs or between periods. (9-8-2, -3) (See #27(7).l for repeated infractions.) PENALTIES: 5 yards.
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19 	19.a Free Kick Kicked Out of Bounds Between the Goal Lines — Untouched inbounds by R. (6-1-8) NOTE 1: If a free kick goes out of bounds between the goal lines and was touched by R, then the ball is put in play by R at the inbounds spot.. (6-1-9) PENALTY CHOICES: (1) 5 Yards from Previous Spot and re-Kick, OR (2) Put Ball in Play 25 Yards from Kickoff Spot at Inbounds Spot, OR (3) Decline Penalty and Put Ball in Play at Inbounds Spot. NOTE 2: A free kick is repeated only if (a) there is a double foul, or (b) a foul occurs prior to a change of possession and the penalty acceptance requires replay, or (c) there is an inadvertent whistle during the kick. (6-1-7) NOTE 3: Prior to the re-kick signal #19 is given by the field official with the kicker. NOTE 4: When a free kick down is replayed, the clock will start when the ball is touched legally – the same as it does on the original free kick.(PR 3.4.2B) NOTE 5: If Team R touches the kicked ball and then the ball goes out-of-bounds, then Team R puts the ball in play at the inbounds spot. (6-1-9) (PR 6.1.8E) 19.b After the ball is ready for play, each play to Team A who participated in the previous down and each substitute for Team A must have been, momentarily, between the 9-yard marks, before the snap. (7-2-1) PENALTY: 5 yards.
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page 3

19



19.c -- Linemen may not lock legs (except with the Snapper) prior to the snap. (7-2-2)

NOTE 1; This is **not** "interlocked blocking" of Rules 2-3-10 and 9-2-1-b.
NOTE 2: Team A players may stand, crouch, or kneel. (7-2-2)

19.d -- Only the "QB" may penetrate the vertical plane of the nearest lineman, (7-2-3; 2-30-3)

NOTE 3: The player under the Snapper is a "back." (2-31-3)

Player Numbering Requirements At the Snap Include

19.e. Team must have (at least) 7 players on the line of scrimmage. (7-2-5-a; 2-14-1)

19.f -- At least 5 Team A players positioned on the line must be numbered 50 to 79. Team B players may be anywhere on or behind the line. (7-2-5-b)

EXCEPTION: When Team A sets or shifts into "scrimmage kick formation" then Team A players with numbers 1-49 and 80-99 may replace those Team A linemen with numbers 50-79, but they remain ineligible forward pass receivers unless a Team B touches a legal forward pass.(7-2-5-b)


19.g -- Players of the same team shall not participate while wearing identical numbers. (7-2-5-c)

19.h Any Team A player on his line of scrimmage may not advance a planned loose ball in the vicinity of the snapper. (7-2-8)

19.i Attendant illegally on field. (9-8-2)

PENALTIES: 5 yards.

20




20. Illegal shift by Team A. (7-2-6)

NOTE 1: All eleven Team A players must come to an absolute stop and remain stationary simultaneously for at least one second after a huddle or shift and before the snap. (7-2-6) **NOTE 2:** A shift is movement by one or more players. (2-38) **NOTE 3:** This infraction occurs at the snap. (7-2)

PENALTY: 5 yards.

M20



Illegal Motion by Team A At the Snap ---

M20.a -- Only one Team A player may in motion at the snap. (7-2-7)


M20.b -- Player in motion cannot be moving toward his opponent's goal line. (7-2-7)

M20.c -- Team A lineman can be in motion legally only if he is at least 5 yards behind the line at the snap OR if he established himself as a "back" by stopping for 1-full second in the backfield. (7-2-7)

NOTE 1: Motion infractions occur at the snap. (7-2)
NOTE 2: The QB (under snapper) can be in motion any distance behind the line. (7-2-7)

PENALTIES: 5 yards.

7



Delay of Game --- (Action or Inaction Which Prevents Promptness in Putting the Ball in Play)

21(7).a -- Failure to free kick within 25-seconds after the ball is "ready." (3-6-1; 3-6-2-a)

21(7).b -- Failure to snap within 25-seconds after the ball is "ready." (3-6-1; 3-6-2-a)

21(7).c -- Unnecessarily carrying the ball after it is dead. (3-6-2-b)

21(7).d -- Consuming time in failing to unpile at the end of a down. (3-6-2-b)

21(7).e -- Coach/Referee conference after all Team time outs have been used and no change in ruling occurs. (3-6-2-c)

21(7).f -- Snapping or free kicking the ball **before** it is marked "ready for play." (3-6-2-e)


21(7).g -- Any other conduct which unduly prolongs the game. (3-6-2-f)

21(7).h -- Game management is responsible for clearing the field-of-play and the end zones at the beginning of each half so that play may begin at the scheduled time. (3-6-4)


21(7).i -- No receiver may advance the ball after a valid or invalid fair catch signal has been given by any member of the Receiving Team. (6-5-5)

PENALTIES: 5 yards.

21



7 21 23



Delay of Game ---


21(7):23 -- Player failing to wear legal or required equipment when ball is about to become alive. (3-6-2-d; 1-5-1, -6)

NOTE 1: See #23(27) for live ball foul for failing to wear required equipment.

PENALTY: 5 yards.

NOTE 2: Clock starts at snap if a delay penalty is enforced. (3-4-3-I)

7



Illegal Dead Ball Substitutions ---

22(7).a -- Replaced players must leave the field immediately. (3-7-1)

22(7).b -- Players, replaced players and substitutes must leave on their sides of the field. (3-7-2)

22(7).c -- Players, replaced players and substitutes must go directly to their team boxes. (3-7-2)


22(7).d -- During the same dead ball interval no substitute shall become a player and then withdraw unless a penalty is accepted, a dead ball foul occurs, there is a charged time out, or a period ends. (3-7-3)

22(7).e -- During the same dead ball interval no player shall withdraw then reenter unless a penalty is accepted, a dead ball foul occurs, there is a charged time out, or a period ends. (3-7-3)


PENALTIES: 5 yards.

NOTE: These fouls occur during a dead ball.

22



22



Live Ball Illegal Substitutions ---

22.a -- Illegal substitution occurs during a down when a replaced player or substitute attempts unsuccessfully to leave the field and does not participate in or affect the play. (3-7-4)

22.b -- Entering substitutes shall be on their teams' sides of the neutral zone when the ball is snapped or free-kicked. (3-7-5)

PENALTIES: 5 yards.



NOTE 1: These fouls occur at the snap. (3-7-4; -5)
NOTE 2: **During a down, a replaced player or substitute who enters the field, but does not participate, constitutes "illegal substitution." (3-7-6)**


The following fouls occur during a dead ball :



- Free kick encroachment by the kickers. (6-1-3; 2-14-3-b) [S7 & S18]
- Free kick encroachment by the receivers. (6-1-3; 2-14-3-a) [S7 & S18]
- Free kick infraction by the kicking team. (6-1-3) [S7 & S19]
- Encroachment of the neutral zone by the snapper. (7-1-1) [S7 & S18]
- Encroachment of the neutral zone by defensive players. (7-1-5, -6) [S7, S18]
- Encroachment of the neutral zone by offensive players. (7-1-5, -6) [S7, S18]
- Snap infraction by snapper after touching the ball. (7-1-2; 7-1-3) [S7 & S19]
- Illegal snap. (7-2-4) [S7 & S19]
- False start by a Team A player. (7-1-7-a, -b, -c) [S7 & S19]
- Delay of game. (3-6-2-a; 1-5-Penalty) [S7 & S21]
- Illegal dead ball substitutions. (3-7-1, -2, -3) [S7 & S22]
- Sideline interference. (9-8-1-k; 9-8-3) [S7 & S15 / S7 & S29 / S7 & S29 & S27]
- Non-contact unsportsmanlike conduct by players. (1-6-1, -2; 9-5-1, -2; 9-8-1,-2, -3) [S7 & S27]


The snap or free kick should not be allowed when those infractions occur.


When a team attempts to conserve or consume time illegally, the Referee shall order the clock started or stopped. (3-6-3)


<p>23</p> 	<p>23(27)a. Failure of a player to properly wear mandatory equipment while the ball is alive. (1-5-6; 3-6-2-d)</p> <p>23(27)b. When any required player equipment is missing or when illegal equipment is found, then correction must be made before a player can participate (1-5-5).</p> <p>NOTE 1: An "official's time out" is declared to permit prompt repair of equipment which becomes illegal or defective through use. (1-5-5).</p> <p>NOTE 2: A charged team time out is declared if the repair requires the assistance of an attendant or which delays the "ready for play" for more than 25-seconds. (3-5-2-b)</p> <p>NOTE 3: See #21(7).23 for dead ball fouls for failing to wear legal or required equipment when the ball is about to become alive. (3-6-2-f)</p> <p>PENALTY: 5 yards.</p>
<p>27</p> 	


<p>24</p> 	<p>Illegal Helmet Contact A Player Shall Not ---</p> <p>24.a -- Butt block, 24.b -- Face tackle, 24.c -- Spear. (9-4-2-i)</p> <p>24.d Players shall not intentionally use their helmets to butt or ram opponents. (9-4-2-j)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards</p>
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<p>7</p> 	<p>Dead Ball Non-Contact Unsportsmanlike Conduct Such As ---</p> <p>27(7).a -- Electronic communication equipment (except audio recorders) including computer, film, TV and videotape or any type of still or moving pictures used for coaching purposes during the game or between periods. (1-6-1)</p> <p>27(7).b -- Phones and headsets may be used by coaches ,other non-players and players, but only during authorized sideline conferences. (1-6-2)</p> <p>27(7).c -- Any delayed, excessive, or prolonged act to focus attention on himself. (9-5-1-c)</p> <p>27(7).d -- Defense uses disconcerting acts or words prior to the snap in an attempt to interfere with Team A's signals or movements. (9-5-1-d)</p> <p>27(7).e -- Leaving the field between downs to gain an advantage unless replaced or with permission of the Referee. (9-5-1-f)</p> <p>27(7).f -- Refusing to comply with an official's request. (9-5-1-g)</p> <p>27(7).g -- Hiding the ball under a jersey. (9-5-1-i)</p> <p>27(7). h -- Intentionally kicking the ball after it becomes dead in the player's possession. (9-5-2-a)</p> <p>27(7).i -- Spiking the ball into the ground when it becomes dead in the player's possession. (9-5-2-b)</p> <p>27(7).j -- Throwing the ball high into the air when it becomes dead in the player's possession. (9-5-2-c)</p> <p>27(7).k -- Throwing the ball from the end zone when it becomes dead in the player's possession. (9-5-2-c)</p> <p>27(7).l -- Throwing the ball from the field of play when it becomes dead in the player's possession. (9-5-2-c)</p> <p>27(7).m -- Intentionally failing to place the ball on the ground or immediately return it to an official when it becomes dead in a player's possession. (9-5-2-d)</p> <p>27(7).n Up to 3 attendants (non-coaches) may enter the field to attend to their teams during time outs, Radio/TV time outs, or between periods. (9-8-2)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards. The second unsportsmanlike foul results in disqualification with a 15-yard penalty. (9-8-PEN)</p>
<p>27</p> 	

<p>27</p> 	<p>27.a Player wearing auxiliary equipment not approved by Umpire as being soft, nonabrasive, nonhardening material. (Pads, gloves, tape, bandages, wraps, artificial limbs.) (1-5-2 -a through -E; 1-7)</p> <p>27.b No player shall be permitted to play while wearing illegal equipment (1-5-3 a-through-n; 1-7)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards.</p>
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<p>27</p> 	<p>Non-Contact Unsportsmanlike Conduct by Players --Such As, But Not Limited To --</p> <p>27.c -- Using baiting or taunting acts or words which engender ill will. (9-5-1-a)</p> <p>27.d -- Wearing insignia that engender ill will. (9-5-1-a)</p> <p>27.e -- Using profanity. (9-5-1-b)</p> <p>27.f -- Using language or gestures that are insulting or vulgar. (9-5-1-b)</p> <p>NOTE 1: The player must remove the offending item before he is allowed to participate. (9-5-PENALTY)</p> <p>27.g -- Intentionally kicking at the ball other than during a legal kick. (9-5-1-e)</p> <p>NOTE 2: See #31.b for actually kicking the ball.</p> <p>27.h -- Using tobacco or smokeless tobacco. (9-5-1-h)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards</p> <p>NOTE 3: Also disqualification if the foul is flagrant: Signal #47. (9-5-Penalty)</p>
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<p>27</p> 	<p>Non-Contact Unsportsmanlike Conduct by Nonplayers (Coaches, Substitutes, Team Attendants, etc) Such As But Not Limited To ---</p> <p>27.l --Using profanity, insulting language, vulgar language, vulgar gestures. (9-8-1-a)</p> <p>27.j -- Attempting to influence decisions made by officials. (9-8-1-b)</p> <p>27.k -- Disrespectfully addressing officials. (9-8-1-c)</p> <p>27.l -- Indicating objections to officials' decisions. (9-8-1-d)</p> <p>27.m -- Using any illegal communications equipment. (9-8-1-e; 1-5-3-b; 1-6)</p> <p>27.n -- Electronic communication equipment (except audio recorders) including computer, film, TV and videotape or any type of still or moving pictures used for coaching purposes during the game or between periods. (1-6-1)</p> <p>NOTE 1: See #27(7).b for phones and headsets.</p> <p>27.o -- Holding unauthorized conferences. (9-8-1-f)</p> <p>NOTE 2: Between downs communications among players and coaches near sidelines are not "unauthorized conferences" and such conferences are not to be penalized. (9-8-1-f NOTE)</p> <p>27.p -- Not ready to start either half. (9-8-1-g)</p> <p>27.q -- Players, after Coaches' verification, not wearing legal or mandatory equipment. (9-8-1-h; 1-5-1, -5, -6)</p> <p>27.r -- Being on the field except as a substitute or as a replace player. (9-8-1-l; See 3-7-6; 9-6-4)</p> <p>27.s -- Using tobacco or smokeless tobacco. (9-8-1-j)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards</p> <p>NOTE 3: A disqualified member of the coaching staff is ejected from the stadium area and is prohibited from any further contact (direct or indirect) with the team during the remainder of the game. (9-8-1-PENALTY)</p>
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<p>27</p> 	<p>Unfair Acts.</p> <p>27.t -- Players, nonplayers, or persons not subject to the rules, shall not hinder play by obviously unfair acts which have no specific rule coverage. (9-9-1)</p> <p>27.u -- Teams shall not repeatedly commit fouls which halve the distance to the goal line. [For repeated fouls the game may be forfeited.] (9-9-2)</p> <p>27.v -- Teams shall not commit acts which, in the opinion of the Referee, tend to make a travesty of the game. (9-9-3)</p> <p>PENALTY FOR UNFAIR ACTS: The Referee enforces any penalty he considers equitable including the award of a score. (9-9-PENALTY)</p> <p>27.w Failure of a team to play within 2-minutes after being ordered to do so by the Referee. (3-6-3)</p> <p>PENALTY: Forfeiture</p>
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THE 2006 NATIONAL FEDERATION
OFFICIALS' SIGNALS AND RESPECTIVE RULES


page 5




<p>27</p> 	<p>27:47.a A substitute who leaves the team box and enters the playing area during a fight. (9-8-1-f)</p> <p>27:47.b A second unsportsmanlike foul by a player or nonplayer. (9-5-penalty; 9-8-Penalty)</p>
<p>47</p> 	<p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards and Disqualification of the Player or Non-Player.</p> <p>NOTE: A disqualified member of the coaching staff shall be ejected from the stadium area and be prohibited from any further contact, direct or indirect, with his team during the remainder of the game. (9-8 Penalty)</p>


<p>28</p> 	<p>Illegal Participation ---</p> <p>28.a -- Player of Team A or Team K goes out of bounds during a down prior to change of team possession and returns OR when there is no change of possession AND he then returns to the field. (9-6-1)</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Being blocked out of bounds, but the player must return at the first opportunity. (9-6-1)</p> <p>28.b -- Any player intentionally goes out of bounds during a down and then returns. (9-6-2)</p> <p>NOTE 1: Participation is any act or action by a player or non-player that has an influence on play. (2-29)</p> <p>NOTE 2: This "illegal participation" infraction does not apply to Team B or to Team R or if A or K remain out of bounds.</p> <p>NOTE 3: Spot of foul is where A or K returns inbounds. (PR 9.6-Comment)</p> <p>28.c -- Replaced player or substitute hinders an opponent, touches the ball, influences the play, or otherwise participates. (9-6-3)</p> <p>28.d -- Any player, replaced player or substitute enters and participates during a down. (9-6-4-a)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards from the Basic Spot (Live Ball Fouls)</p> <p>Illegal Participation ---</p> <p>28.e. Injured player not replaced for one down (unless half time or overtime intermission occurs). (9-6-4-b)</p> <p>28.f -- Twelve or more players participating at the snap or free kick. (9-6-4-c)</p> <p>28.g -- Player, replaced player or substitute deceives opponents at or immediately before the snap or free kick. (9-6-4-d)</p> <p>28.h -- Player lying on the ground to deceive opponents at or immediately before the snap or free kick. (9-6-4-e)</p> <p>28.i -- Disqualified player re-enters the game. (9-6-4-f)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards from the Previous Spot (Live Ball Fouls)</p>
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<p>7</p> 	<p>29</p> 
<p>29(7) Sideline Interference --- --- Second offense for non-player illegally outside his team box. (9-8-1-k and Penalty; 9-8-3 and Penalty) First offense was a "warning." [See #15 and #29(7):27]</p> <p>PENALTY: 5 Yards.</p>	

<p>7</p> 	<p>29</p> 	<p>27</p> 
<p>29(7):27 Sideline Interference --- --- Third or more offense for non-player illegally outside his team box. (9-8-1-k; 9-8-3 and Penalty)</p> <p>PENALTY: 15 Yards</p>		


<p>30</p> 	<p>(Show Open Hand – 5-Fingers)</p> <p>38.a Running into the kicker of a scrimmage kick. (9-4-5 and PENALTY)</p> <p>38.b Running into the holder of a scrimmage kick. (9-4-5 and PENALTY)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 5 Yards from the Previous Spot.</p>
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<p>38</p> 	<p>30</p> 	<p>8</p> 
<p>38:30:8.a Roughing the kicker of a scrimmage kick. (9-4-5) (see 9-4-5 "Exceptions" and 10-1-7-a)</p> <p>38:30:8.b Roughing place kick holder of a scrimmage kick. (9-4-5) (see 9-4-5 "Exceptions" and 10-1-7-a)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards from the Previous Spot and First Down for K.</p>		

<p>31</p> 	<p>31.a Team A player punts, drop kicks, or place kicks from beyond the neutral zone. (6-2-1; 2-23-9)</p> <p>31.b Player intentionally kicks the ball other than as a legal free kick or legal scrimmage kick. (9-7-1; 2-23-9)</p> <p>31.c Illegally batting a loose ball. (9-7-2) <i>Players may legally bat ONLY ---</i> --- Passes in flight. --- Fumbles in flight. --- Low scrimmage kicks in flight when player is in or behind the expanded neutral zone. --- Grounded scrimmage kicks beyond neutral zone when batted by Team K player toward his own goal line. --- Scrimmage kick in flight beyond neutral zone if no R player is in position to catch the ball. (9-7-2)</p> <p>31.d Backward pass in flight may not be batted forward by the passing team. (9-7-3)</p> <p>31.e Ball in player possession may not be batted forward by a player of the team in possession. (9-7-4)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards</p>
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<p>32</p> 	<p>32.a Invalid fair catch signal by the Receiver. (6-5-7; 2-9-4)</p> <p>NOTE 1: An invalid fair catch signal is any signal by a receiver before the kick is caught or recovered that does not meet the requirements of a valid signal or after the kick has touched a receiver or after the kick has touched the ground. (2-9-4)</p> <p>NOTE 2: Ball becomes dead. (3-4-4-h)</p> <p>NOTE 3: If accepted, penalize this foul from the previous spot. (10-4-2-b)</p> <p>32.b Illegal fair catch signal by the Runner. (6-5-8; 2-9-5)</p> <p>NOTE 4: An illegal fair catch signal is any signal by a runner after the kick has been caught or after the kick has been recovered. (2-9-5) NOTE 2: Ball stays live. (3-4-4-a)</p> <p>NOTE 5: If accepted, penalize this foul from the spot of the foul, which is the spot of the signal. (10-4-4; PR 6.5.8A)</p> <p>NOTE 6: Example: R1 signals after R2 catches the ball. No foul.</p> <p>PENALTIES: 5 Yards</p> <p>NOTE: The mnemonic is: Invalid = when and how; Illegal = when and where.</p>
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33



33.a Kick Catching Interference by Team K on Free Kicks occurs (6-5-6; 9-3-1-a)
33.b Kick Catching Interference by Team K on Scrimmage Kicks (6-5-6; 9-3-1-a)

NOTE 1: While any free kick is in flight in or beyond the neutral zone to the receiver's goal line or any scrimmage kick is in flight beyond the neutral zone to the receiver's goal line, Team K shall not:


(a) Touch the ball or R, unless blocked into the ball or R, or to ward off a blocker, or
 (b) Obstruct R's path to the ball. (6-5-6)

EXCEPTION 1: K may catch, touch, muff, or bat a scrimmage kick in flight beyond the neutral zone if no player of Team R is in position to catch the ball. (6-5-6 Exception) **EXCEPTION 2:** If K is blocked into the ball or blocked into R there is no foul. (6-5-6)

PENALTY CHOICES: Either ---
 --- 15 Yards from Previous Spot and Replay the Down,
 --- OR
 --- Accept an Awarded Fair Catch at Spot of Foul With No 15-Yard Mark-Off

NOTE 2: Choosing an awarded fair catch is "acceptance of a penalty" for purposes of extending a period (Signal "1a") even though there is no distance walk off. That is, the offended team cannot accept an awarded fair catch AND switch goals. (3-3-3-a; PR 3.3.3H) (2) See #14.
NOTE 3: Team R may make a fair catch of a free kick in or beyond the neutral zone to R's goal line. (6-5-2) Team R may **not** fair catch a scrimmage kick in or behind the neutral zone and, as a result, a Team R player may be contacted legally in or behind the neutral zone. (PR 6.5.2 B)

33



33:8 Forward Pass Interference By Team B on a legal forward pass. (7-5-10-a; 10-1-7-d; 9-3-1-b)


NOTE 1: It is forward pass interference if:
 (a) Any player of A or B who is beyond the neutral zone interferes with an eligible opponent's opportunity to move toward, catch or bat the forward pass. (7-5-10-a)
 (b) Any player hinders an opponent's vision without making an attempt to catch, intercept or bat the ball even though no contact is made. (7-5-10-b)

NOTE 2: It is not forward pass interference if:
 (a) Unavoidable contact occurs;
 (b) Contact by A is immediately made on a Team B lineman and the contact does not continue beyond the expanded neutral zone.
 (c) Contact by B is obviously away from the direction of the pass. (7-5-11-c)

NOTE 3: Restrictions for Team B begin when the ball leaves the passer's hand. (7-5-8-b) **NOTE 4:** Pass interference cannot occur behind the neutral zone; however, "defensive holding" could occur there. (7-5-7)
NOTE 5: Forward pass interference can occur only if the legal forward pass, untouched by Team B in or behind the neutral zone, crosses the neutral zone. (7-5-7)

PENALTY: 15 Yards plus First Down for Team A.

33





33:9. Forward Pass Interference by Team A on a legal forward pass. (7-5-10; 10-1-6-c; 9-3-1-b)

NOTE 1: Restrictions for Team A begin at the time of the snap. (7-5-8-a)
NOTE 2: Forward pass interference can occur only if the legal forward pass, untouched by Team B in or behind the neutral zone, crosses the neutral zone. (7-5-7) (3) See #16:9.


PENALTIES: 15 Yards plus Loss of Down for Team A.

33 **27**

33:27 Intentional or Unsportsmanlike pass interference by offense or defense. (7-5-PENALTY)
PENALTY: An Additional 15-Yards

34




Roughing the Passer of a Forward Pass ---
34:8.a -- Who has (clearly) thrown the ball from in or behind the neutral zone. (9-4-4; 10-1-7-b)
34:8.b -- Who is standing still or fading back after throwing the ball. (9-4-4; 10-1-7-b)

NOTE: A "passer" is a player who throws a forward pass. He continues to be a passer until the pass ends or until he moves to participate in the play. (2-31-11)

PENALTY: Either ...
 ... 15 Yards and First Down for Team A from End of the Last Run When Last Run Ends Beyond Neutral Zone and There Has Been No Change of Team Possession, ...OR
 ...15 Yards and First Down for Team A from Previous Spot.

35





Illegally Handing the Ball forward to a Teammate --
35.a -- During a free kick down. (7-3-2; 2-19-2)
35.b -- After a change of team possession during a scrimmage down. (7-3-3)
NOTE: Any player may hand the ball backward at any time. (7-3-1)

Illegal Forward Pass ---
35.c -- A pass by Team A or Team B after team possession has changed during the down. (7-5-2-a)

PENALTIES: 5 yards. (No loss of down for these particular infractions.)

35 **9**



Team A Player May Not Hand the Ball Forward During a Scrimmage Down --
35:9.a -- Both players are **beyond** the neutral zone. (7-3-2; 10-1-6-a)
35:9.b -- To the Snapper. (7-3-2-b; 10-1-6-a; 2-19-2)
35:9.c -- To the player adjacent to the Snapper. (7-3-2-b; 10-1-6-a)
35:9.d -- To a lineman who did not turn and face his own goal line and receive the handed ball at least one (1) yard behind the line. (7-3-2-a)

NOTE 1: Any player may hand the ball backward at any time. (7-3-1; 2-19-3)
NOTE 2: The ball may be handed forward when both players are in or behind the neutral zone, only. (7-3-2) **NOTE 3:** An "end" may legally receive a forward-handed ball if he was not the Snapper nor adjacent to the Snapper. (7-3-2)
NOTE 4: A "back" may receive a forward-handed ball without restrictions in or behind the neutral zone. (7-3-2)

PENALTY: 5 Yards and Loss of Down for Team A from Spot of Forward Handing.

NOTE 5: The loss of down aspect of the penalty does not apply when there has been a change of team possession. (7-3-Penalty)

35 **9**



Illegal Forward Pass by Team A ---
35:9.e -- A pass by Team A from beyond the neutral zone. (7-5-2-b; 10-1-6-b)


PENALTY: 5 Yards and Loss of Down for Team A from Spot of Pass


NOTE: If the penalty for an illegal forward pass is accepted, measurement is from the spot of such forward pass. If the offended team declines the distance penalty, it has the choice of having the down counted at the spot of the illegal incomplete forward pass or (if the illegal forward pass is caught or intercepted) of having the ball put in play as determined by the action which followed the catch. (7-5-3)



THE 2006 NATIONAL FEDERATION
OFFICIALS' SIGNALS AND RESPECTIVE RULES



page 7


<p>36</p> 	<p>9</p> 
<p>Illegal Forward Pass by Team A –</p> <p>36:9.a -- A pass intentionally thrown into an area not occupied by an eligible offensive receiver. (7-5-2-c; 10-1-6-b)</p> <p>36:9.b -- A pass by Team A intentionally thrown incomplete to save loss of yardage. (7-5-2-d; 10-1-6-b)</p> <p>36:9.c -- A pass by Team A intentionally thrown incomplete to conserve time. (7-5-2-d; 10-1-6-b)</p> <p>36:9.d -- A second or subsequent forward pass thrown during a down. (7-5-2-e)</p> <p>EXCEPTION: It is legal to conserve time by intentionally throwing the ball forward to the ground immediately after receiving a direct hand-to-hand snap. (7-5-2-d-Exception; 10-1-6-b)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 5 Yards and Loss of Down for Team A.</p>	


<p>37</p> 	<p>37. Ineligible Team A player illegally downfield before the pass is in flight on legal forward pass that crosses the neutral zone. (7-5-12)</p> <p>NOTE 1: If a Team B player touches the pass in or behind the neutral zone the penalty restriction is terminated. (7-5-12)</p> <p>NOTE 2: The penalty does not include loss-of-down. (7-5-PENALTY)</p> <p>NOTE 3: An ineligible (Team A player) is not illegally downfield if, at the snap, he immediately contacts a Team B lineman and the contact does not continue beyond he expanded neutral zone. (7-5-12)</p> <p>PENALTY: 5 Yards.</p>
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<p>38</p> 	<p>Illegal Personal Contact by a Player or Non-Player---</p> <p>38.a -- Swinging foot, shin, or knee into opponent. (9-4-3-a)</p> <p>38.b -- Extending the knee to meet the blocker. (9-4-3-a)</p> <p>38.c -- Charging into or throwing opponent to the ground after he is obviously out of the play. (9-4-3-b)</p> <p>38.d -- Charging into or throwing opponent to the ground after the ball is clearly dead either in-bounds or out-of-bounds. (9-4-3-b)</p> <p>38.e -- Piling on any player who is lying on the ground. (9-4-3-c)</p> <p>38.f -- Hurdling an opponent. (9-4-3-d; 2-21)</p> <p>38.g -- Positioning himself on shoulders or body of a teammate or an opponent to gain an advantage. (9-4-3-e)</p> <p>38.h -- Throwing a helmet to trip an opponent. (9-4-3-f)</p> <p>38.i -- Making any contact with an opponent which is deemed unnecessary and which incites roughness. (9-4-3-g)</p> <p>38.j -- Defensive player slapping blocker's head with hand(s) (9-4-7)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards.</p>
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<p>38</p> 	<p>8</p> 
<p>38(8) Roughing the Snapper in scrimmage kick formation. (9-4-6; 10-1-7-c)</p> <p>NOTE: There is no requirement that the ball be kicked or that a deep back receive the snap. (PR9.4.6A)</p> <p>PENALTY: 15 Yards from the Previous Spot and First Down for Team A. Disqualification if flagrant.</p>	

<p>38</p> 	<p>47</p> 
<p>38:47.a No player or nonplayer shall fight. (9-4-1)</p> <p>38:47.b No player shall strike an opponent with the fist, locked hands, forearm, or elbow, nor kick nor knee him. (9-4-3-k)</p> <p>38:47.c No player or nonplayer shall intentionally contact an official. (9-4-2)</p> <p>NOTE: If a coach is the offender then see Rule 9-8 for ejection procedure.</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards and Disqualification.</p>	

<p>39</p> 	<p>39. A Player shall not clip an opponent who is not a Runner. (9-3-5; 2-5-1)</p> <p>EXCEPTION 1: Clipping is permitted in the free-blocking zone (a) by offensive linemen who are on the line of scrimmage and in the zone at the snap and (b) against defensive players who are on the line of scrimmage and in the zone at the snap and (c) the contact is in the free-blocking zone. (2-17-3)</p> <p>EXCEPTION 2: Any player may use hands and arms to contact an opponent above the waist in warding off a blocker OR when attempting to reach a runner OR when attempting to catch or recover a loose ball which he may legally touch or possess. (9-3-5-b)</p> <p>EXCEPTION 3: The Runner, or player pretending to be a Runner, may be clipped or blocked-in-the-back during tackling. (9-3-5-c)</p> <p>NOTE 1: Clipping is a block against an opponent when the initial contact is from behind, at or below the waist and not against a player who is a runner or pretending to be a runner. (2-5-1)</p> <p>NOTE 2: See #43 for "Block-in-the-Back" (10-yard penalty).</p> <p>PENALTY: 15 Yards.</p>
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<p>40</p> 	<p>40.a Receiver-of-any-kick blocks opponent after giving valid or invalid fair catch signal. (6-5-1; 9-3-3)</p> <p>40.b Illegally blocking opponents below the waist. (9-3-2)</p> <p>EXCEPTION 1: Tackling the Runner or player pretending to be a Runner.</p> <p>EXCEPTION 2: Blocking below the waist is permitted in the free blocking zone when all players involved in the blocking are on the line of scrimmage and in the zone at the snap and the contact is in the free blocking zone. (9-3-2-a, -b; 2-17-2; 2-3-7)</p> <p>Kicker and Place-Kick Holder of Free Kick May Not Be Blocked Before --</p> <p>40.c -- The kicker or holder has advanced 5-yards beyond his free kick line. (9-3-4-a) OR</p> <p>40.d -- The kicked ball has touched the ground or any other player. (9-3-4-b)</p> <p>PENALTIES: 15 Yards.</p>
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<p>41</p> 	<p>41. Chop block. (9-3-6)</p> <p>A chop block is a delayed block at the knees or below against an opponent who is in contact with a teammate or the blocker in the free blocking zone. (2-3-9)</p> <p>PENALTY: 15 Yards.</p> <p>NOTE: See charts, page 65, Rules Book.</p>
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42



Offensive Players (Except the Runner) May Not ---

- 42.a -- Use blocking techniques that are not permissible by rule. (9-2-1-a; 2-3-2, -3)
 - 42.b. -- Grasp of encircle any teammate to form **interlocked blocking**. (9-2-1-b)
 - 42.c -- Restrain opponents by using hands arms, or legs to hook, clamp, lock, grasp, encircle, or hold. (9-2-1-c)
 - 42.d **Runners may not grasp teammates.** (9-2-2)
- Defensive Players May Not ---**
- 42.e -- Use techniques that are not permissible by rule. (9-2-3-a; 2-3-2, -4)
 - 42.f -- Use hands to add momentum to the charge of teammates who are on the line of scrimmage. (9-2-3-b)
 - 42.g -- Restrain opponents (other than the Runner) by using hands or arms to hook, clamp, grasp, encircle, or hold. (9-2-3-c)
 - 42.h -- Contact eligible receivers who are no longer potential blockers. (9-2-3-d)

PENALTIES: 10 Yards.

43



43. Block in the Back (above the waist and below the helmet).
(9-3-5 – PENALTY; 2-5-2)

- NOTE 1:** Blocking in the back is a block against an opponent when the initial contact is in the blocker's back, inside the shoulders and below the helmet and above the waist, and not against a player who is a runner or pretending to be a runner. (2-5-2)
- NOTE 2:** Blocking in the back is permitted in the free blocking zone (a) by offensive linemen who are on the line of scrimmage and in the zone at the snap and (b) against defensive players who are in the zone at the snap and (c) the contact is in the free blocking zone. (2-17-4)
- NOTE 3:** Blocking in the back is permitted when hands and arms are used to contact an opponent above the waist in warding off a block or when attempting to reach a runner, or catch or recover a loose ball which he may legally touch or possess. (9-3-5-b)
- NOTE 4:** Blocking in the back is permitted to tackle a runner or player pretending to be a runner. (9-3-5-c)
- NOTE 5:** See #39 for "Clipping" (which is a 15-yard penalty).

PENALTIES: 10 Yards.

44



44. An offensive player shall not push, pull, or lift the Runner to assist his forward progress. (9-1)

PENALTY: 5 Yards.

45



(Show Open Hand – 5-Fingers)

Players shall not incidentally grasp ---

- 45.a Opponents' face protectors. (9-4-3-h)
- 45.b Any edges or openings of opponents' helmets. (9-4-3-h)

PENALTIES: 5 Yards.

38



45



38:45 Players shall not grasp, twist, or pull opponents' face protectors or any edges or openings of opponents' helmets. (9-4-3-h; 9-4-PENALTY)

PENALTY: 15 Yards.

46



46. Players shall not trip opponents who are not Runners.
(9-3-7; 2-45)

PENALTY: 15 Yards.

NOTE: Tripping is the use of the lower leg or foot to obstruct an opponent, who is not the runner, below the knee. (2-44)

47



47. Player disqualified.
(2-30-6; 2-16-6; 9-4-PENALTY; 9-5-PENALTY; 10-5-6)

NOTE: Signal #47 follows Signals #27, #30, #34, or #38.

INADVERTENT WHISTLE PROCEDURES

Before sounding your whistle: (1) think that you see the ball; (2) know that you see the ball; (3) know that the play is dead; then (4) sound your whistle.

Rule 4-2-3 covers the unfortunate occurrence of an inadvertent whistle.

REPLAY THE DOWN --

If the inadvertent whistle occurs ---

- While a snap is in flight.
- While a legal forward pass is in flight.
- During a legal kick (free kick or scrimmage kick).

REPLAY THE DOWN OR PUT BALL IN PLAY AT THE SPOT POSSESSION WAS LOST --

If the inadvertent whistle occurs while the ball is loose following --

- A fumble.
- An illegal kick.
- A backward pass.
- An illegal forward pass.

REPLAY THE DOWN OR ACCEPT THE PLAY AT THE SPOT --

If the inadvertent whistle occurs while the ball is in player possession.

NOTE 1: Apply inadvertent whistle procedures if a live ball strikes a dog, squirrel, bird, etc.

NOTE 2: If an inadvertent whistle occurs during a down in which a foul occurs prior to the inadvertent whistle and the penalty is accepted, then the inadvertent whistle is ignored. (4-2-3-c)

POST-SCRIMMAGE KICK FOULS

If a foul by the receiving team is committed during a scrimmage kick, the receiving team could gain possession of the football if the following **post-scrimmage kick enforcement** criteria are met:

- (1) Foul occurs on a scrimmage kick (punt, field goal attempt) but does not apply on a try-for-point or successful field goal.
- (2) Foul is committed beyond the expanded neutral zone.
- (3) Foul is committed on Team R's side of the expanded neutral zone.
- (4) Foul occurs before the end of the kick.
- (5) Ball crosses the expanded neutral zone.
- (6) Team R is in possession of the football at the end of the down and Team K will not be next to put the ball in play. (2-16-2-g)

If a foul by Team R occurs on a successful field goal attempt, then Team K has the choice of (1) accepting the penalty (enforced from the previous spot) and replaying the down or (2) accepting the result of the play with penalty enforcement from the succeeding spot. (8-4-3)