

2024 SCFOA RATINGS EXAM

Answers & Rationales

After a touchdown, a successful try is always worth 1 point.

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FALSE

- A successful try is worth *either* 1 point for A if they kick a field goal or score a safety, *or* 2 points if they score a touchdown.
- What you also need to know: Only A can score on a try.

Rule Reference(s):

8-3-3

During a free kick, while the ball is still in flight, K7 blocks R3 in the back. R21 catches the ball at his 30 and runs to his 35-yard where he fumbles the ball. The ball rolls out of bounds at R's 38. **Ruling:** R accepts the penalty and has the choice to enforce it from the R38 or from the previous spot (free kick line).

During a free kick, while the ball is still in flight, K7 blocks R3 in the back. R21 catches the ball at his 30 and runs to his 35-yard where he fumbles the ball. The ball rolls out of bounds at R's 38. **Ruling:** R accepts the penalty and has the choice to enforce it from the R38 or from the previous spot (free kick line).

TRUE

- Foul during a loose-ball play.
- Basic spot for foul during loose-ball play is previous spot.
- 10-4-2b provides opportunity for R to enforce from succeeding spot (where ball became dead.)

Rule Reference(s):

10-4-2 Exception; 10-3-1a; 10-4-2b; 2-41-10

2nd and 10 from B's 45. While running a pass route, A81 steps out of bounds at B's 30 to avoid B25. A81 comes back inbounds at B's 28 and catches the pass at B's 25-yard line, where he is downed. **Ruling:** Illegal touching. Five-yard penalty from B's 45 and loss of down.

2nd and 10 from B's 45. While running a pass route, A81 steps out of bounds at B's 30 to avoid B25. A81 comes back inbounds at B's 28 and catches the pass at B's 25-yard line, where he is downed. **Ruling:** Illegal touching. Five-yard penalty from B's 45 and loss of down.

FALSE

- Illegal touching only applies to *ineligible* receivers. A player eligible at the snap remains eligible throughout the down, no matter what he does.
- It is illegal participation for any player to intentionally go out of bounds and return.

Rule Reference(s):

7-5-3; 9-6-1

The following offensive formation is an illegal scrimmage formation:

72 44 51 55 66 33 60

12

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72 44 51 55 66 33 60

12

FALSE

- A must have at least five players numbered 50-79 on the LOS
- It does not matter where they are on the line; just so they are on the line.

Rule Reference(s):

7-2-5b

Team A scores on 4th and goal. During the scoring play, A88 and B7 are injured and require a coach/trainer to come on the field to assist them. They both leave the field. Team A lines up to go for a two-point try. A's head coach requests a timeout. Following the timeout, A88 and B7 both re-enter the field and participate in the try. **Ruling:** Legal.

Team A scores on 4th and goal. During the scoring play, A88 and B7 are injured and require a coach/trainer to come on the field to assist them. They both leave the field. Team A lines up to go for a two-point try. A's head coach requests a timeout. Following the timeout, A88 and B7 both re-enter the field and participate in the try. **Ruling:** Legal.

FALSE

- An "apparently injured player", who requires assistance, which in turn delays the RFP, must be replaced for one down. A timeout cannot buy him back into the game.
- A try is a down. The players may return for the subsequent kickoff (if there is one).

Rule Reference(s):

3-5-10; 2-7-1; 8-3-1

4th quarter. A is trailing 22-20 with 30 seconds remaining and no timeouts. A gains a first down to B's 40. A hurries to the line of scrimmage, lines up, and A71 snaps the ball prior to the box being set and while the Umpire is still standing over the ball. **Ruling:** Delay of game. 5-yard penalty. A will have 1st and 10 from B's 45.

4th quarter. A is trailing 22-20 with 30 seconds remaining and no timeouts. A gains a first down to B's 40. A hurries to the line of scrimmage, lines up, and A71 snaps the ball prior to the box being set and while the Umpire is still standing over the ball. **Ruling:** Delay of game. 5-yard penalty. A will have 1st and 10 from B's 45.

FALSE

- The ball is RFP when it is placed on the ground and the game official has stepped away to his position.
- It is a delay of game to snap the before it is RFP.
- Penalties for all fouls committed prior to the RFP are administered before the LTG is established.
- 1st and 10.

Rule Reference(s):

3-6-1b2; 5-3-1

Any penalty can be declined by the offended team (head coach, captain, or designee).

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TRUE

- A penalty is a result imposed by rule against a team or team member that has committed a foul. The distance penalty for any foul can be declined.
- A captain is a player designated to represent his team for penalty decisions **if** designated by his head coach.
- Each head coach shall designate a rep to make penalty decisions.

Rule Reference(s):

2-16-5; 10-1-1; 2-32-5b; 1-4-4

After a score, K's free kick lands out of bounds at R's 20. In an attempt to pick up the ball, R5 muffs the ball. K20 is about to land on the ball at R's 25 when R5 kicks the ball away from K20 and out of bounds at R's 38. **Ruling:** Illegal kicking. If the penalty is accepted, R would next put the ball in play at their own 15-yard line.

After a score, K's free kick lands out of bounds at R's 20. In an attempt to pick up the ball, R5 muffs the ball. K20 is about to land on the ball at R's 25 when R5 kicks the ball away from K20 and out of bounds at R's 38. **Ruling:** Illegal kicking. If the penalty is accepted, R would next put the ball in play at their own 15-yard line.

FALSE

- End of kick? R38. (Kicks end when ball is possessed or becomes dead by rule.)
- •Spot of foul? R25. Illegal kicking by R.
- Type of play? Loose-ball play. The foul occurred during a kick, as the ball had not yet been possessed.
- Enforcement spot? Previous spot.
- Foul for illegal kick? 10 yards.
- 10-4-2 does not apply because the foul was by R and not K.

Rule Reference(s):

10-4-4; 10-4-2; 9-7-1; 2-24-2

Any foul by A that occurs in his own end zone will always result in a safety, but **only if** the penalty is accepted.

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FALSE

• If the penalty for an illegal forward pass is declined, the offended team can choose between having the play count at the spot of the foul, or accept the results of the play.

Rule Reference(s):

10-5-3; 7-5-3

During overtime, both teams kick a successful field goal on their first possession. On their second possession, they both score and have a successful one-point try. Beginning with their third possession, if either team scores, they must attempt a two-point try.

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FALSE

- There is no such rule.
- Team is entitled to a "try" after a touchdown in OT. No mention of which type of try.

Rule Reference(s):

Resolving Tied Games 8-3

A has the ball 1st and 10 from their own 20-yard line. A4 runs the ball to his 25, where he is hit and fumbles the ball. The ball rolls forward to his 30-yard line, where A65 picks the ball up and advances the ball to the A40. After A65 possesses the ball, A8 is flagged for holding at A's 45. **Ruling:** Holding foul on A is enforced from A's 40.

TRUE

- •Once A65 possesses the ball, it begins a new run. Therefore, A8's foul is enforced against that (related) run.
- The end of A65's run is the A40. A8's foul occurs at A's 45, beyond the run.
- Penalty is enforced from the end of the run.

Rule Reference(s):

2-41-9b; 10-4-6c

During the first overtime period, A4 fumbles the ball at B's 2. B7 picks up the loose ball and retreats to his end zone, where A34 hits him and causes the ball to become loose. A4 lands on the ball in B's end zone. **Ruling:** Touchdown.

During the first overtime period, A4 fumbles the ball at B's 2. B7 picks up the loose ball and retreats to his end zone, where A34 hits him and causes the ball to become loose. A4 lands on the ball in B's end zone. **Ruling:** Touchdown.

FALSE

•Once B gains possession of the ball in OT, the ball becomes dead immediately and A's series is over.

Rule Reference(s):

RTG 5-1-1

4th and 7 from K's 15. K22's punt is blocked and does not cross the neutral zone. K24 picks up the ball and throws a forward pass to eligible K81, who is tackled at K's 35. There were no ineligibles downfield. **Ruling:** K's ball, 1st and 10 at their 35. Game clock will start on the snap.

4th and 7 from K's 15. K22's punt is blocked and does not cross the neutral zone. K24 picks up the ball and throws a forward pass to eligible K81, who is tackled at K's 35. There were no ineligibles downfield. **Ruling:** K's ball, 1st and 10 at their 35. Game clock will start on the snap.

TRUE

- •K can catch or recover a scrimmage kick in or behind the NZ and advance.
- •The block of the kick does not constitute "touching" by R; such a block is ignored if it occurs in or behind the XNZ.
- There is no restriction on throwing a forward pass after a scrimmage kick.
- Unless first touched by R beyond the NZ, if K catches or recovers a scrimmage kick in or behind the NZ, the down counts and the ball belongs to K.
- •K made the LTG. After a 4th down, a new series of downs is awarded only after considering any act during the down, except for noplayer and USP fouls.
- •The game clock starts on the snap if the game clock was stopped because either team is awarded a new series following a legal kick.

Rule Reference(s):

6-2-3; 6-2-6; 5-1-4; 5-1-2b; 3-4-3c

1st and 10 from A's 40-yard line. A33 runs for eight yards and is contacted by B40. The contact causes the ball to come loose, and the ball rolls out of bounds at B's 46. **Ruling:** A will next snap the ball from B's 46, 1st and ten.

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TRUE

- •A new series of downs is awarded after 1st, 2nd, or 3rd down after considering any act during the down other than non-player and USP by A, and any dead-ball foul by B.
- The ball becomes dead when it goes OB.
- When a loose ball goes OB, the OB spot is where the foremost point of the ball crosses the sideline.
- There is no HS rule that states the ball must be returned to the spot the runner loses possession.

Rule Reference(s):

5-1-2a; 4-2-2b; 4-3-1

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TRUE

• This is one time when a whistle is almost required in order to let everyone know the ball is dead by rule.

Rule Reference(s):

Mechanics Manual

3rd and goal from B's 5-yard line. A33 carries the ball and fumbles at the 3-yard line. The ball rolls into the end zone and eventually rolls out of the end zone before anyone secures possession. Prior to the ball rolling out of the end zone, an official sounds his whistle. **Ruling:** Inadvertent whistle. A can choose the result of the play (touchback; B's ball at their 20) or replay the down.

3rd and goal from B's 5-yard line. A33 carries the ball and fumbles at the 3-yard line. The ball rolls into the end zone and eventually rolls out of the end zone before anyone secures possession. Prior to the ball rolling out of the end zone, an official sounds his whistle. **Ruling:** Inadvertent whistle. A can choose the result of the play (touchback; B's ball at their 20) or replay the down.

FALSE

- It is an IW, and A does have a choice. However, the ones are not correct.
- A's choices are:
 - 1. Put the ball in play where possession was lost; or
 - •2. Replay the down.

Rule Reference(s):

A down has ended once a live ball becomes dead.

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TRUE

• "A down ends when the ball next becomes dead."

Rule Reference(s):

2-7-1

There is only one foul that causes a loss of the ball.

There is only one foul that causes a loss of the ball.

FALSE

"No foul causes loss of the ball."

Rule Reference(s):

Football Fundamentals, I.6

A clip is a block against an opponent where the initial contact is from behind and not against a player who is the runner or pretending to be the runner.

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FALSE

- •Clip: Block against an opponent when the initial contact is from behind, [and] at or below the waist, and not against a player who is a runner or pretending to be a runner.
- •Block in the back: Block against an opponent when the initial contact is in the opponent'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.

Rule Reference(s):

2nd and 5 from B's 15. A4 gains a first down to B's 5-yard line. After the play, A4 commits a dead ball USP foul. **Ruling:** 15 yards from the 5. A will have it 1st and goal from B's 20.

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FALSE

- It will, in fact, be a first down, as A got to the LTG on the merits of the play.
- The penalty is in fact 15 yards from the succeeding spot (5-yard line).
- However, the LTG is always ten yards in advance of the ball when a new series is awarded.
- When is it NOT 1st and 10? Inside B's ten; and a dead-ball foul after the RFP.

Rule Reference(s):

5-1-2a; 5-3-1; 5-2-6

Touching of a low scrimmage kick is always ignored, even if such touching causes the ball to go out of bounds.

Touching of a low scrimmage kick is always ignored, even if such touching causes the ball to go out of bounds.

FALSE

•Only ignored if the touching, by any player, is in or behind the XNZ.

Rule Reference(s):

6-2-6

A live ball foul, followed by a foul by the opponents after the ball becomes dead, is not paired as a double foul.

A live ball foul, followed by a foul by the opponents after the ball becomes dead, is not paired as a double foul.

TRUE

- •Double foul = one or more live ball fouls by both teams during a down. They offset by rule.
- "When a live-ball foul by one team is followed by a dead-ball foul by the opponent, the penalties are administered separately and in the order of occurrence."

Rule Reference(s):

Penalties are either 5, 10, or 15 yards.

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TRUE

• "Penalties are either 5, 10, or 15 yards."

Rule Reference(s):

Football Fundamentals, X.2

Between downs, A11 informs the Referee that they are about to run their trick play as discussed in the pregame meeting. A11 takes the snap and immediately places the ball on the ground, where guard A54, who has legally turned and is facing his goal line, picks the ball up and runs around the end for a gain of 15 yards. **Ruling:** Planned loose-ball infraction on A. 5-yard penalty.

Between downs, A11 informs the Referee that they are about to run their trick play as discussed in the pregame meeting. A11 takes the snap and immediately places the ball on the ground, where guard A54, who has legally turned and is facing his goal line, picks the ball up and runs around the end for a gain of 15 yards. **Ruling:** Planned loose-ball infraction on A. 5-yard penalty.

TRUE

- This is the definition of a planned loose-ball play.
- It does not matter that the lineman turned to face his goal line.
- That only comes into play on forward handing behind the LOS.

Rule Reference(s):

Ball on the left hash. A12 is lined up 4 yards deep (shotgun formation) directly behind the snapper. A52's snap sails over A12's head by three yards. A5 picks up the snap and begins to run to his right. B33 is about to tackle A5 at the right hash for an 8-yard loss when A5 decides to throw the ball forward. The ball lands incomplete 2 yards beyond the line of scrimmage, with no eligible receiver within 30 yards. **Ruling:** Legal.

Ball on the left hash. A12 is lined up 4 yards deep (shotgun formation) directly behind the snapper. A52's snap sails over A12's head by three yards. A5 picks up the snap and begins to run to his right. B33 is about to tackle A5 at the right hash for an 8-yard loss when A5 decides to throw the ball forward. The ball lands incomplete 2 yards beyond the line of scrimmage, with no eligible receiver within 30 yards. **Ruling:** Legal.

TRUE

- Passer has to be outside the boundaries of the free-blocking zone when the ball is thrown incomplete.
- The ball has to get to the neutral zone extended.
- The passer must be the player who possesses the snap.

Rule Reference(s):

7-5-2 Exception 2

A player in possession of the ball an always hand the ball backwards or throw the ball backwards to any player.

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TRUE

- "Any player may hand the ball backward at any time."
- "During any down, any player in possession may make a backward pass..."

Rule Reference(s):

7-3-1; 7-4-1

Blocking in the back is permitted in the free-blocking zone by any offensive player.

Blocking in the back is permitted in the free-blocking zone by any offensive player.

FALSE

- It is true that only offensive players may block in the back.
- •But the only ones who may BIB are offensive linemen who are both on the LOS and in the free-blocking zone at the snap...
- And they may only block defensive players who are in the FBZ at the snap.

Rule Reference(s):

On scrimmage plays: If the ball goes out-of-bounds, the covering official should: 1. Signal timeout immediately. 2. Mark and hold the spot where the ball crossed the sideline. 3. Continue to observe action. **Never** turn your back on a play out-of-bounds!

On scrimmage plays: If the ball goes out-of-bounds, the covering official should: 1. Signal timeout immediately. 2. Mark and hold the spot where the ball crossed the sideline. 3. Continue to observe action. **Never** turn your back on a play out-of-bounds!

TRUE

Rule Reference(s):

SCFOA Mechanics Manual, page 24

4th and 5 from K's 30. K80 is in punt formation. The ball is legally kicked and crosses the line of scrimmage prior to R30 holding K8 at K's 40-yard line. R18 catches the kick at his 45 and returns the ball to K's 40. **Ruling:** The holding penalty will be enforced from K's 40 (the end of the run).

4th and 5 from K's 30. K80 is in punt formation. The ball is legally kicked and crosses the line of scrimmage prior to R30 holding K8 at K's 40-yard line. R18 catches the kick at his 45 and returns the ball to K's 40. **Ruling:** The holding penalty will be enforced from K's 40 (the end of the run).

FALSE

• We have a PSK foul. The basic spot for PSK fouls are the end of the kick.

Rule Reference(s):

2-16-2h; 10-4-3

4th and 2 from the 50-yard line. K99 punts the ball and it lands at R's 42-yard line, where K81 touches the ball. R15 then muffs the ball at R's 44-yard line and the ball ends up rolling out of bounds back at the 50. After the muff, and prior to the ball rolling out-of-bounds, R12 commits a block in the back at R's 40. **Ruling:** The penalty will be enforced from R's 42, where the spot of first touching occurred.

4th and 2 from the 50-yard line. K99 punts the ball and it lands at R's 42-yard line, where K81 touches the ball. R15 then muffs the ball at R's 44-yard line and the ball ends up rolling out of bounds back at the 50. After the muff, and prior to the ball rolling out-of-bounds, R12 commits a block in the back at R's 40. **Ruling:** The penalty will be enforced from R's 42, where the spot of first touching occurred.

FALSE

- The end of the kick is where the ball is possessed or becomes dead by rule. Here, the EOK is the 50.
- This is also a PSK foul, as R's foul occurred during the kick.
- •R is not allowed to take the spot of first touching if R touches the kick and thereafter during the down commits a foul, or if the penalty is accepted for any foul committed during the down. Here, R touches the kick, and then commits a foul. Therefore, they cannot take the spot of first touching.
- The basic spot for PSK fouls is the end of the kick. (Here, the 50.)

Rule Reference(s):

2-24-2; 2-16-2h; 6-2-5; 10-4-3

Every player on A is wearing either a blue, white, or green helmet and either a purple, black, green, or white legal-sized towel. **Ruling:** Legal.

Every player on A is wearing either a blue, white, or green helmet and either a purple, black, green, or white legal-sized towel. **Ruling:** Legal.

TRUE

- •Helmets can be any color, except ball-colored. There is no rule that says all helmets must be the same color.
- Towels can be any color except ball-colored or flag-colored. There is no rule that says all towels must be the same color.

Rule Reference(s):

If a double foul occurs during a down in which time expires, the period is ended.

If a double foul occurs during a down in which time expires, the period is ended.

FALSE

- This is one of the three times a period is extended (outside the scoring of a TD).
- The other two are the acceptance of any live-ball foul by either team, and an IW.

Rule Reference(s):

A12's pass is tipped by B4. B9 is in position to intercept the tipped ball, but prior to B9 intercepting the pass, the balls hits the Back Judge in the head and goes directly into A8's hands. A8 takes the ball to the end zone for a touchdown. **Ruling:** Touchdown.

A12's pass is tipped by B4. B9 is in position to intercept the tipped ball, but prior to B9 intercepting the pass, the balls hits the Back Judge in the head and goes directly into A8's hands. A8 takes the ball to the end zone for a touchdown. **Ruling:** Touchdown.

TRUE

• "Touching by a game official in the field of play or end zone is ignored."

Rule Reference(s):

3-3-3

During a running play, any foul by A that occurs beyond the line of scrimmage will be enforced from the spot of the foul.

During a running play, any foul by A that occurs beyond the line of scrimmage will be enforced from the spot of the foul.

FALSE

- •The basic spot is the spot of the foul for a foul by A that occurs beyond the LOS during a running play when the run (or related run) ends beyond the LOS and the foul occurs behind the end of the run (or related run).
- •The basic spot is the end of the run (or related run) for a foul by A that occurs beyond the LOS during a running play when the run (or related run) ends beyond the LOS and the foul occurs in advance of the end of the run (or related run).

Rule Reference(s):

A player in possession of a live ball is either the runner or the passer.

A player in possession of a live ball is either the runner or the passer.

FALSE

- When a player throws a pass, the ball is in flight, and therefore not in player possession. He is a "passer" when he has thrown a pass and is no longer in possession of a live ball.
- A runner is a player in possession of a live ball (or simulating possession of a live ball).

Rule Reference(s):

2-32-13; 2-32-11; 2-31-1

Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a touchdown.

Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a touchdown.

TRUE

• "Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a touchdown."

Rule Reference(s):

Football Fundamentals, I.8

By rule, the pants must cover the knee.

By rule, the pants must cover the knee.

TRUE

• "Pants which completely cover the knee..."

Rule Reference(s):

1-5-1e

4th and 6 at K's 20-yard line. K lines up in a legal scrimmage kick formation with the following on the line of scrimmage:

21

34 63 22 50 40

88

K22 places his hands on the ball. Prior to the snap, K34 steps back (shifts) off the line of scrimmage. When the ball is snapped to K12 (kicker), K21 and K34 go downfield on a fake punt. K12 throws the ball to K21 for an 8-yard gain. **Ruling:** Ineligible downfield.

4th and 6 at K's 20-yard line. K lines up in a legal scrimmage kick formation with the following on the line of scrimmage:

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34 63 22 50 40

88

K22 places his hands on the ball. Prior to the snap, K34 steps back (shifts) off the line of scrimmage. When the ball is snapped to K12 (kicker), K21 and K34 go downfield on a fake punt. K12 throws thge ball to K21 for an 8-yard gain. Ruling: Ineligible downfield.

TRUE

- •Since it is 4th down, K can have any uniform-numbered player on the LOS, as long as they initially set or shift into a scrimmage-kick formation.
- •However, where the players using the exception initially line up—based on where they are when the snapper places a hand or hands on the ball—determines their pass eligibility, even if they ultimately shift to another position.
- •K34's initial position is between the ends, and he is therefore an ineligible receiver.

Rule Reference(s):

A's ball, 1st and 10 from B's 20. During the run, A52 holds B50 at B's 25-yard line. The run ends at B's 21-yard line. **Ruling:** Holding. 10-yard penalty from the spot. A will have the ball 1st and 10 from B's 35.

A's ball, 1st and 10 from B's 20. During the run, A52 holds B50 at B's 25-yard line. The run ends at B's 21-yard line. **Ruling:** Holding. 10-yard penalty from the spot. A will have the ball 1st and 10 from B's 35.

FALSE

- We have "behind/behind": Foul behind the LOS and EOR behind the LOS.
- The basic spot is the previous spot for fouls by A or B when the run (or related run) ends behind the LOS when there is no COP.

Rule Reference(s):

10-4-2d; Table 10-4

During a free kick, and after the ball has travelled at least ten yards, R12 signals for a fair catch. Ten yards away, R13 makes the catch and is legally hit by K20 after making the catch. **Ruling:** No foul on the play.

During a free kick, and after the ball has travelled at least ten yards, R12 signals for a fair catch. Ten yards away, R13 makes the catch and is legally hit by K20 after making the catch. **Ruling:** No foul on the play.

TRUE

- Only the receiver who gives a valid fair catch signal is afforded protection.
- •Although the player who possesses the kick did not give a fair catch signal, the ball is still dead when he possesses it.
- A fair catch signal can be given anywhere on the field while a legal kick is in flight.

Rule Reference(s):

Running play. B fouls beyond the line of scrimmage. A's run ends behind the line of scrimmage. Foul is enforced from the end of the run.

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FALSE

- We have "beyond/behind".
- The basic spot is the previous spot for fouls by A or B when the run (or related run) ends behind the LOS when there is no COP.

Rule Reference(s):

10-4-2d; Table 10-4

All players on the home team must wear a dark jersey (contrasts with white) that is the same color.

All players on the home team must wear a dark jersey (contrasts with white) that is the same color.

TRUE

• "The jerseys of the home team shall all be the same dark color(s) that clearly contrasts to white."

Rule Reference(s):

1-5-1b3

1st and 10 from A's 40. A4 takes the ball and runs for three yards, where he loses the ball. B5 is about to secure possession at A's 38 when A6 kicks the loose ball. The ball goes out of bounds at A's 35. **Ruling:** Illegal kicking. 10 yards from the previous spot.

1st and 10 from A's 40. A4 takes the ball and runs for three yards, where he loses the ball. B5 is about to secure possession at A's 38 when A6 kicks the loose ball. The ball goes out of bounds at A's 35. **Ruling:** Illegal kicking. 10 yards from the previous spot.

FALSE

- Running play. End of related run is A43. Spot of foul is A38.
- Illegal kicking is a spot foul when it occurs behind EOR.

Rule Reference(s):

10-4-4a

A really windy night. 4th and 10 from K's 30. K is lined up to punt. K40 takes the snap and punts the ball, and it lands at K's 34. Without touching anyone, it bounces backwards to K's 28, where K77 picks up the ball and secures possession, then punts the ball downfield, where R4 fair catches the ball. After K77 kicked the ball, R33 charges into him and knocks him down. **Ruling:** Roughing the kicker. 15 yards from the previous spot.

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TRUE

- •There is no rule that says a team may only have one scrimmage kick per down. A legal scrimmage kick simply must be made from in or behind the NZ during a scrimmage down.
- The definition of a kicker is a player who legally punts, drop kicks, or place kicks. K77 is a kicker by definition.

Rule Reference(s):

2-32-8; 9-4-5 Penalty

Two seconds left in the 4th quarter. A has the ball at the 50, trailing 27-20. A12's pass on the last timed down falls incomplete. After the play, B13 taunts A20. **Ruling:** There is no enforcement of the taunting on B13.

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TRUE

• For there to be an untimed down, the foul must be a live-ball foul that occurs during the down in which time expires.

Rule Reference(s):

1-1-8; 3-3-3

An eligible receiver can only bat a forward pass that is in flight backwards.

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FALSE

• "Any pass in flight may be batted in any direction, by an eligible receiver, unless it is a backwards pass batted forward by the passing team."

Rule Reference(s):

9-7-3

A52 can throw a legal forward pass, and catch a backwards pass, but cannot catch a legal forward pass that. Was untouched by B

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TRUE

- "Pass eligibility rules apply only to a legal forward pass. The following players are eligible pass receivers: a. All A players eligible by position and number including those who, at the time of the snap, are on the ends of their scrimmage line or legally behind the line...and are numbered 0-49 or 80-99."
- Any player can throw a legal forward pass. There are no numbering restrictions.
- Any player can catch any backwards pass. There are no numbering restrictions

Rule Reference(s):

For tripping to be called a foul, the official must determine that it was intentional.

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TRUE

• "Tripping is the intentional use of the lower leg or foot to obstruct an opponent below the knee."

Rule Reference(s):

2-45

During a running play, while A5 is carrying the ball, his tooth and mouth protector is hanging from his face mask. B4 grabs the tooth and mouth protector hanging and takes A5 down to the ground, ripping the tooth and mouth protector off. A flag is thrown by the Line Judge. After the play, the LJ notices that A5 has another tooth and mouth protector in his mouth. **Ruling:** There is no foul on B. A5 can remain in the game since he is wearing equipment legally.

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FALSE

- It is a foul on B4 for grabbing and pulling the tooth and mouth protector, even if A5 has more than one of them.
- However, players may only have one tooth and mouth protector. Because he is wearing legal equipment in an illegal manner, he must be replaced for one down.

Rule Reference(s):

9-4-3h; 1-5-5; 1-5-1d5a

3rd and goal from B's 4. A10 carries the ball outside and towards the front corner of the end zone. He dives forward from the 2-yard line and is hit by B7 and fumbles the ball. In a scramble to recover, the ball hits the pylon and then goes out of bounds just inside the 1-yard line. Ruling: A's ball, 4th and goal from just inside the one.

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FALSE

- When properly placed, the pylon is out of bounds behind the goal line.
- •It is a touchback when the fumble is the force that sends the ball across the opponent's goal line and the ball becomes dead behind the goal line.

Rule Reference(s):