FOOTBALL EDITORS: JEFFREY STERN © jstern@referee.com

RULES, MECHANICS, TECHNIQUES







OFFICIALS QUIZ 2016

Sponsored by the National Association of Sports Officials and prepared by the editors of *Referee* magazine.



If this kick-catching interefence occurs on the last timed down of a period, is the period extended for an untimed down? See question 2.

In each of the following you are given a situation and at least two possible answers. You are to decide which answer is correct for NFHS and NCAA rules, which might vary. Note: In kicking situations, K is the kicking team, R the receiving team.

1. Third and 10 at team A's 20 yardline. Eligible receiver A1 runs a sideline pattern. He steps out of bounds at team A's 34 yardline and leaps when a pass is thrown in his direction. While airborne over out-of-bounds territory, A1 has a firm grasp of the ball. He lands inbounds and advances to team A's 40 yardline, where he is downed.

a. Legal play under any circumstance. **b**. A1 is guilty of illegal touching. **c.** A1 is guilty of illegal participation.

d. Incomplete pass.

2. R1 makes a valid fair catch at his own 40 yardline, but K2 is flagged for kick-catching interference. Time for the first quarter expires during the play.

a. The period is extended whether or not team R accepts the penalty.

b. The period is extended only if team R declines the penalty.

c. The period is extended only if team R accepts the penalty.

3. Second and 10 for team A from team B's 37 yardline. A1's legal forward pass is intercepted by B2 at his own three yardline. B2's momentum takes him into his own end zone. An official blows an inadvertent whistle.

a. Team A scores a safety.

b. Team B is awarded a touchback.

c. Team B will begin a new series at its own three yardline.

d. B2 should ignore the whistle and continue playing.

4. Regulation play ends in a tie. Team A used all of its second-half timeouts; team B, only one. In the first overtime (NFHS) or extra period (NCAA):

a. Each team will have one timeout at its disposal.

b. Team A will have no timeouts at its disposal; team B, two.

c. Team A will have one timeout at its disposal; team B, three.

d. Each team will have two timeouts at its disposal.

5. The ball is live when B1, realizing his team is playing one man short, enters the field of play. B1 does not make contact with a player and does not influence the play.

a. No problem.

b. Illegal substitution; the penalty is enforced from the previous spot.

c. Illegal substitution; the penalty is enforced from the succeeding spot.

d. B1 is guilty of illegal participation.

6. K1's onside kick is in flight 14 yards beyond team K's free-kick line when K2 catches it.

a. Legal play; it's team K's ball at the spot of recovery.

b. Legal play only if no team R player is in position to catch the ball.

c. Legal play regardless if a team R player is in position to catch the ball.

d. Kick-catch interference on K1 under any circumstance.

7. Team A is attempting a try. Before the ready, team A's captain requests that the ball be placed on the right side hashmark. Team A is granted a charged team timeout. Team A's captain asks that the ball be moved to the center of the field.

a. The ball may be moved.

b. The ball may not be moved.

8. With time winding down in the fourth

quarter, team A tries to rush its field goal team onto the field. When the ball is snapped, three team A players are still moving into position and never came to a complete stop.

a. Team A should be flagged for an illegal shift.

b. Team A should be flagged for a false start.

c. Team A should be flagged for illegal motion.

d. Legal under any circumstance.

9. Team A moves to the line and all players are set for at least one second. Back A2 then moves slowly and deliberately forward to a new position and stops. Immediately after A2 stops, the ball is snapped.

a. Legal play.

b. A2 is guilty of illegal motion.

c. A2 is guilty of an illegal shift.

d. A2 is guilty of a false start.

10. K1's punt bounces at team R's two yardline. The ball has crossed team R's goalline but has not touched the ground when K2 bats it toward his own goalline.

a. That is a foul.

b. No foul, but it is first (NFHS) or illegal (NCAA) touching.

c. The ball is dead when it breaks the plane of team R's goalline.

11. Third and goal for team K from team R's seven yardline. K1 is in position to kick a field goal and K2 is on one knee at team R's 14 yardline in position to hold. K2 takes the snap and, without rising, throws a forward pass to eligible K3, who drops it.

a. It will be team K's ball, fourth and goal from team R's 14 yardline.

b. It will be team K's ball, fourth and goal from team R's seven yardline.

12. Second and 10 on team A's 40 yardline. From his 30 yardline, A1 throws a forward pass that is caught on team A's 33 yardline by eligible A2, who throws a forward pass traveling well downfield. At team B's 23 yardline, eligible A3 and B4 contest for the pass. Clearly before the pass arrives, B4 contacts A3 so that A3 cannot catch the pass.

a. No problem.

b. The only foul on the play is pass interference by B4.

c. The only foul on the play is an illegal forward pass by A2.

d. Both B4 and A2 have fouled; the penalties cancel.

13. After an incomplete pass, A12 enters the game as A11 departs. After the ready signal, the referee stops the 25-second count because B1 is found to be injured. While the ball is dead, A12 withdraws and A11 returns to the huddle.

a. No problem.

b. Illegal substitution.

14. Fourth and 10 with the nose of the ball touching team B's 20 yardline. A1's pass is incomplete. The officials should:

a. Move the ball, not the chains, so that the nose of the ball is on team B's 20 yardline.

b. Move the chains, not the ball, so that the tail of the ball is touching team B's 20 yardline.

15. With three minutes left in the second quarter, team A's coach requests that the halftime intermission be shortened to nine minutes. Team B's coach is agreeable.

a. No problem as long as the game has not yet begun and the referee agrees.

b. No problem as long as the first quarter has not yet ended and the referee agrees.

c. No problem any time if the referee agrees.

d. The referee must refuse the request.

16. Fourth and 10 from team K's 20 yardline. K1 and K2 are positioned in front of punter K3. At the snap, nose guard R4 charges through the line, approaches K1 and K2 and leaps in an attempt to block the punt.

a. No problem under any circumstance.

b. Foul under any circumstance.

c. Foul only if R4 leaps directly over K1 or K2.

17. Fourth and 18 for team K from its own eight yardline. Just after the ball is snapped, guard K1 is flagged for grasping and twisting the facemask of defensive tackle R2. R3 catches the ball and is downed inbounds at team K's 44 yardline. Team R accepts the penalty.

a. The clock starts on the snap.

b. The clock starts on the ready.

18. Third and 10 on team A's five yardline. A1 throws a forward pass intended for A2. While the pass is in flight, B3 is flagged for grasping and twisting A4's facemask. The pass to A2 is complete and he is downed at team A's 25 yardline.

a. If team A accepts the penalty, it is enforced from team A's 25 yardline.

b. If team A accepts the penalty, it is enforced from the previous spot.

c. The penalty is declined by rule.

19. Before the game begins, A1 reports to the umpire that he wants to play wearing prescription eyeglasses with tinted lenses.

a. No problem.

b. The umpire should tell A1 he may not play with the tinted lenses under any circumstances.

c. A1 may play if he presents a letter from his athletic director, athletic trainer or ophthalmologist.

20. Fourth and four from team A's seven yardline. A1 drops straight back into his end zone under a heavy rush. To avoid being sacked in the end zone, A1 intentionally throws a forward pass to the ground.

a. It's a safety whether or not team B accepts the penalty.

b. Team B can decline the penalty and take the ball at the previous spot.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1 — NFHS – c (9-6-1, 9.6.1B); **NCAA – d** (7-3-7)

2 – Both – c (NFHS 3-3-3a, 3.3.3 G; NCAA 3-2-3a)

3 – Both – c (NFHS 8-5-2a Exc.; NCAA 8-5-1a Exc.)

4 — Both – a (NFHS 3-5-1; NCAA 3-1-3g-3)

5 — NFHS – c (3-7-6); **NCAA – b** (3-5-2a)

6 — NFHS – d (6-5-6a); **NCAA – b** (6-1-3a-2)

7 — NFHS – b (4-3-7, 4.3.6); NCAA – a (8-3-2c)

8 — NFHS – a (7-2-6); NCAA – b (7-1-2b-5)

9 — NFHS – c (7-2-6); **NCAA – a** (2-22-1; 7-1-3a-4b)

10 — NFHS – c (8-5-3a-1); **NCAA – b** (6-3-11)

11 – NFHS – a (4-2-2a Exc., 4.2.2 A); **NCAA – b** (4-1-3b Exc.)

12 – Both – c (NFHS 7-5-2c, 7-5-6; NCAA 7-3-1, 7-3-8a)

13 — NFHS – b (3-7-3); **NCAA – a** (3-5-2d)

14 — Both – b (NFHS 5-3-3b, 5.3.3; NCAA 5-1-2) **15 — NFHS – d** (3-1 Table); **NCAA – c** (3-2-2a, AR 3-2-2 I)

16 — **NFHS** – **a** (no specific coverage); **NCAA** – **c** (9-1-11c)

17 — NFHS – b (3-4-2b-3); **NCAA – a** (3-3-2d8)

18 — NFHS – b (10-3-1b, 10-4-2b); **NCAA – a** (7-3-12, AR 7-3-12 l)

19 — NFHS – a (1-5-3c-4 Note); **NCAA – b** (1-4-6c)

20 — NFHS – a (7-5-2e Pen., 8-5-2c); **NCAA – b** (7-3-7c Exc., 8-5-1b, AR 7-3-7 II-IV)