

8-2 Touchdown

Define a touchdown.

(8-2-1) Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a touchdown.

- a. It is a touchdown when a runner advances from the field of play so that the ball penetrates the vertical plane of the opponent's goal line.
- b. It is a touchdown when a loose ball is caught or recovered by a player while the ball is on or behind the opponent's goal line.
- c. It is a touchdown when a backward pass or fumble is declared dead in the end zone of the opponent of the player who threw the backward pass or fumbled while no player is in possession (other than because of an inadvertent whistle).

How are penalties by opponents of a touchdown scoring team enforced:

A. When there is no change of possession?

(8-2-2) If an opponent of the scoring team commits a foul (other than unsportsmanlike or a nonplayer foul) during a down in which a touchdown is scored and there was not a change in possession during the down. A may accept the results of the play and choose enforcement of the PENALTY:

- a. On the try; or
- b. On the subsequent kickoff.

B. When there is a change of possession and the foul occurs after change of possession?

(8-2-3) If an opponent of the scoring team commits a foul (other than unsportsmanlike or a nonplayer foul) during a down in which a touchdown is scored and there was a change in possession during the down, and such foul occurs after the change of possession, the scoring team may accept the results of the play and choose enforcement of the PENALTY:

- a. On the try; or
- b. On the subsequent kickoff.

C. How are unsportsmanlike or non-player fouls by either team enforced on a scoring play?

(8-2-4) If either team commits an unsportsmanlike conduct or a nonplayer foul during a down in which a touchdown is scored, the opponent may accept the results of the play and choose enforcement of the PENALTY:

- a. On the try; or
- b. On the subsequent kickoff.

D. Describe how fouls by either team that result in succeeding spot enforcement are affected by their relationship to the ready for play prior to the try after a score.

(8-2-5) If after a down in which a touchdown is scored, and prior to the initial ready-for-play signal for the try, either team commits any foul for which the basic spot is the succeeding spot, the offended team may accept the penalty and choose enforcement of the PENALTY:

- a. On the try; or

- b. On the subsequent kickoff.

8-3 The Try

When does the try start/ End?

- (8-3-2) The try begins when the ball is ready for play. It ends when:
- a. B secures possession.
 - b. It is apparent a drop kick or place kick will not score.
 - c. The try is successful.
 - d. The ball becomes dead for any other reason.

Can both teams score during a try?

(8-3-3) ... Only A may score during a try.

How does a loss of down penalty by Team A affect a replay or score?

(8-3-4) If during a successful try, a loss of down foul by A occurs, there is no score and no replay.

How do fouls by A or B affect the successful or unsuccessful try?

- (8-3-5) If during a successful try, a foul by B occurs, A is given the choice of:
- a. Accepting the penalty and replaying the down following enforcement; or
 - b. Accepting the result of the play and enforcement of the penalty from the succeeding spot.

- (8-3-6) If during an unsuccessful try:
- a. A foul by A/K occurs, the penalty is obviously declined, the results of the play stand and there is no replay.
 - b. A foul by B/R occurs, and the penalty is accepted, the down is replayed after enforcement.

How do double fouls affect the try?

(8-3-7) If a double foul occurs, the down shall be replayed.

8-4 Field Goal

Define a successful field goal.

- (8-4-1) A field goal is scored as follows:
- a. The FG attempt shall be a place kick or a drop kick from scrimmage, or from a free kick following a fair catch, or an awarded fair catch.
 - b. The kicked ball shall not touch any player of K beyond the expanded neutral zone or the ground before passing through the goal.
 - c. The kicked ball shall pass between the vertical uprights or the inside of the uprights extended and above the crossbar of the opponent's goal.

How does a foul by B/R affect a successful field goal?

(8-4-3) If during a successful FG, a foul by R occurs, K is given the choice of:

- a. Accepting the penalty and replaying the down following enforcement; or
- b. Accepting the result of the play and enforcement of the penalty from the succeeding spot.

8-5 Force, Safety, Touchback

What generates original force? In what situations may a new force be applied to a ball?

(8-5-1) Responsibility for forcing the ball from the field of play across a goal line is attached to the player who carries, snaps, passes, fumbles, or kicks the ball, unless a new force is applied to a grounded backward pass, kick, or fumble.

- a. The muffing or batting of a pass, kick, or fumble in flight is not considered a new force; and
- b. The accidental touching of a loose ball by a player who was blocked into the ball is ignored and does not constitute a new force.

Define a safety by discussing the ways a safety may occur. How does momentum exception affect this definition?

(8-5-2) It is a safety when:

- a. A runner carries the ball from the field of play to or across his own goal line, and it becomes dead there in his team's possession.

EXCEPTION: When a defensive player intercepts an opponent's forward pass; intercepts or recovers an opponent's fumble or backward pass; or an R player catches or recovers a scrimmage kick or free kick between his 5-yard line and the goal line, and his original momentum carries him into the EZ where the ball remains in the EZ in his team's possession or it goes OOB in the EZ, the ball belongs to the team in possession at the spot where the pass or fumble was intercepted or recovered or the kick was caught or recovered.

- b. A player who is either in the field of play or in his EZ, forces a loose ball from the field of play to or across his goal line by his kick, pass, fumble, snap, or by a new force to a grounded loose ball with his muff or bat or illegal kick (when the penalty is declined), provided the ball becomes dead there in his team's possession (including when the ball is declared dead with no player in possession), or the ball is OOB when it becomes dead on or behind their goal line. This does not apply to a legal forward pass which becomes an incompleting.
- c. A player on offense commits any foul for which the penalty is accepted and enforcement is from a spot in his EZ; or throws an illegal forward pass from his EZ and the penalty is declined in a situation which leaves him in possession at the spot of the illegal pass and with the ball having been forced into the EZ by the passing team.

Discuss ways that a touchback may occur. How essential is force to determining whether a touchback has occurred?

(8-5-3) It is a touchback when:

- a. Any free kick or scrimmage kick:
 1. Which is not a scoring attempt or which is a grounded 3-point FG attempt, breaks the plane of R's goal line unless R chooses a spot of first touching by K.
 2. Which is a 3-point FG attempt, in flight touches a K player in R's EZ, or after breaking the plane of R's goal line is unsuccessful.

- b. Any scrimmage kick or free kick becomes dead on or behind K's goal line with the ball in possession of K (including when the ball is declared with no player in possession) and the new force is R's muff or bat of the kick after it has touched the ground.
- c. A fumble is the force, or a muff or bat of a backward pass or a fumble after either has touched the ground is the new force, which sends the ball to or across the opponent's goal line and provided such opponent is in team possession or the ball is OOB when it becomes dead on or behind its goal line.
- d. A forward pass is intercepted in B's EZ and becomes dead there in B's possession.

9-1 Helping the Runner

Discuss how this is defined. What is the penalty?

(9-1) An offensive player shall not push, pull, or lift the runner to assist in his forward progress.
PENALTY: 5 yards from the spot of the foul (signal 44)

9-2 Illegal Use of the Hands and Holding

What limits exist on an offensive player or runner? A defensive player?

(9-2-1) An offensive player (except the runner) shall not:

- a. Use a blocking technique which is not permissible by rule. (2-3-2, 2-3-3)
- b. Grasp or encircle any teammate to form interlocked blocking.
- c. Use his hands, arms, or legs to hook, lock, clamp, grasp, encircle, or hold in an effort to restrain an opponent.

(9-2-2) The runner may not grasp a teammate.

(9-2-3) A defensive player shall not:

- a. Use a technique that is not permissible by rule. (2-3-2, 2-3-5)
- b. Use his hands to add momentum to the charge of a teammate who is on the LOS.
- c. Use his hands or arms to hook, lock, clamp, grasp, encircle, or hold in an effort to restrain an opponent other than the runner.
- d. Contact an eligible receiver who is no longer a potential blocker.

9-3 Illegal Blocking

There are many types of illegal blocks. Discuss plays involving illegal blocks in the following situations:

A. Blocking below the waist

(9-3-2) A player shall not block an opponent below the waist except:

- a. In the free-blocking zone when the contact meets the requirements of 2-17.
- b. To tackle a runner or player pretending to be a runner.

B. When the kicker on a free kick may be blocked

(9-3-4) The kicker or place kick holder of a free kick may not be blocked before:

- a. He has advanced 5 yards beyond his free-kick line; or
- b. The kick has touched the ground or any other player.

C. When is blocking in the back legal?

(9-3-5) A player shall not block an opponent in the back except:

- a. In the free-blocking zone when the contact meets the requirements of 2-17.
- b. Using hands and arms to contact an opponent above the waist in warding off a blocker, or when attempting to reach a runner, or catch or recover a loose ball which he may legally touch or possess.
- c. To tackle a runner or player pretending to be a runner.

D. Define a chop block

(9-3-6) A player shall not chop block or clip.

(2-3-8) Chop block is a combination block by 2 or more teammates against an opponent other than the runner, with or without delay, where one of the blocks is low (at the knee or below) and one of the blocks is high (above the knee).

E. Can any player be tripped?

(9-4-3-o) No player or nonplayer shall trip an opponent.

F. When can K contact or block a member of the receiving team on a free kick?

(9-3-7) No member of the kicking team shall initiate contact to (block) an opponent on a free kick until:

- a. The legal kick has traveled 10 yards.
- b. The kicking team is eligible to recover a free-kicked ball; or
- c. The receiving team initiates a block within the neutral zone.

9-4 Illegal Personal Contact

Define these examples of illegal personal contact

A. Fighting

(9-4-1) No player or nonplayer shall fight.

(2-11) Fighting is any attempt by a player or nonplayer to strike or engage a player or nonplayer in a combative manner unrelated to football. Such acts include, but are not limited to, attempts to strike an opponent(s) with the arm(s), hand(s), leg(s), or foot(feet), whether or not there is contact.

B. Tripping or leg whipping

(9-4-3-a) No player or nonplayer shall swing the foot, shin, or knee into an opponent, nor extend the knee to meet a blocker.

(9-4-3-o) No player or nonplayer shall trip an opponent. ** must be contact, with intent, right?

C. Late contact or unnecessary roughness

(9-4-3-b) No player or nonplayer shall charge into or throw an opponent to the ground after he is obviously out of the play, or after the ball is clearly dead either in bounds or OOB.

(9-4-3-g) No player or nonplayer shall make any contact with an opponent, including a defenseless

player, which is deemed unnecessary or excessive and which incites roughness.

D. All components of grasping a face mask

(9-4-3-h) No player or nonplayer shall grasp an opponent's face mask, any edge of a helmet opening, chin strap, or a tooth and mouth protector attached to the face mask and twist, turn, or pull the face mask, or incidentally grasp an opponent's face mask, helmet opening, chin strap, or a tooth and mouth protector attached to the face mask.

E. Illegal helmet contact

(9-4-3-i) No player or nonplayer shall initiate illegal helmet contact (butt block, face tackle, or spear). **NOTE:** Illegal helmet contact may be judged by the game official a flagrant act. Acts that may be judged to be flagrant include, but are not limited to:

1. Illegal helmet contact against an opponent lying on the ground.
2. Illegal helmet contact against an opponent being held up by other players, and/or
3. Illegal helmet-to-helmet contact against a defenseless opponent.

F. Horse Collar tackle- please apply new definition

(9-4-3-k) No player or nonplayer shall grab the inside back or side collar, or the name plate area (directly below the back collar), of either the shoulder pads or the jersey of the runner and subsequently pull (backward or sideward) that opponent to the ground (horse-collar), even if possession is lost. The horse-collar foul is enforced as a live-ball foul.

G. Targeting or initiating contact on an opponent who has no helmet

(9-4-3-l) No player or nonplayer shall initiate contact with an opposing player whose helmet has come completely off.

(9-4-3-m) No player or nonplayer shall target an opponent.

(2-20-2) Targeting is an act by any player who takes aim and initiates contact against an opponent above the shoulders with the helmet, forearm, hand, fist, elbow, or shoulders.

From Reddings, 2019: Targeting means that a player takes aim at an opponent for purposes of attacking with an apparent intent that goes beyond making a legal tackle or a legal block or playing the ball.

Some indicators of targeting include but are not limited to:

- a. Leading with helmet, forearm, fist, hand, or elbow to attack with contact at the head or neck area.
- b. Lowering the head before attacking by initiating contact with the crown of the helmet.
- c. Launch – a player leaving his feet to attack an opponent by an upward and forward thrust of the body to make contact in the head or neck area.
- d. A crouch followed by an upward and forward thrust to attack with contact at the head or neck area – even though one or both feet are still on the ground.

ALL players are protected from being targeted. Targeting MAY be considered a flagrant foul if it is against a defenseless player.

H. Blindside block

(9-4-3-n) No player or nonplayer shall execute a blindside block outside of the free-blocking zone with forceful contact unless initiated with open hands.

From Reddings, 2019: A blindside block is a block outside of the free-blocking zone against an opponent other than the runner who does not see the block coming (2-3-10).

Blindside blocks include, but are not limited to:

- a. Blocks by a player on offense who initiates a “peel back” block toward his own end line or a “crack back” block toward the spot of the snap.
- b. Blocks by a Team R player during a free kick or scrimmage kick play where the Team R player is running toward his own end line and blocks an opponent who has either just turned to pursue the runner or is running roughly parallel to the end line in pursuit of the runner.
- c. Blocks by a player on offense after the runner abruptly changes direction regardless of the designed play.
- d. Any open field block against an opponent whose primary focus is on the runner or the ball and who does not see the block coming.

I. Roughing the passer, holder, kicker or snapper

(9-4-4) Roughing the passer. Defensive players make a definite effort to avoid charging into a passer, who has thrown the ball from in or behind the neutral zone, after it is clear the ball has been thrown. No defensive player shall commit any illegal personal contact foul listed in 9-4-3 against the passer.

(9-4-5) Running into or roughing the kicker or holder. A defensive player shall neither run into the kicker nor holder, which is contact that displaces the kicker or holder without roughing; nor block, tackle, or charge into the kicker of scrimmage kick, or the place-kick holder, other than when:

- a. Contact is unavoidable because it is not reasonably certain that a kick will be made.
- b. The defense touches the kick near the kicker and the contact is unavoidable.
- c. Contact is slight and is partially caused by the movement of the kicker.
- d. Contact is caused by R being blocked into the kicker or holder.

(9-6) Roughing the snapper. A defensive player shall not charge directly into the snapper when the offensive team is in a scrimmage-kick formation.

**Roughing brings a 15-yard penalty and automatic first down. Running into the kicker or holder is a 5-yard penalty and replay the down, if accepted.

J. How is intentional contact or unintentional contact with an official by a non-player in the restricted area while the ball is live enforced? To whom does the penalty apply?

(9-4-2) No player or nonplayer shall intentionally contact a game official.

** This is a personal foul that is illegal personal contact that warrants ejection, no matter the location (restricted area included).

(9-4-8) Unintentional contact between a nonplayer and a game official in the restricted area while the ball is live is illegal personal contact.

** This a personal foul that is illegal personal contact that carries a 15-yard penalty from SS for the first offense. For the second offense it is a 15-yard penalty from SS and the head coach is disqualified/ejected. Applies to all non-players on the sidelines reasonably under the Head coach's jurisdiction. Probably should discuss what happens if an official collides with Marvin James, Ben Jones, or maybe one for officers in blue. Visiting team head coach less responsible for certain non-players?

9-5 Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Define the multiple examples of unsportsmanlike conduct. How are USL fouls enforced?

(9-5-1) No player shall act in an unsportsmanlike manner once the game officials assume authority for the contest. Examples are, but not limited to:

- a. Baiting or taunting acts or words or insignia worn which engenders ill will.
- b. Using profanity, insulting or vulgar language or gestures.
- c. Any delayed, excessive, or prolonged act by which a player attempts to focus attention upon himself.
- d. Using disconcerting acts or words prior to the snap in an attempt to interfere with A's signals or movements.
- e. Kicking at the ball, other than during a legal kick.
- f. Leaving the field between downs to gain an advantage unless replaced or unless with permission of a game official.
- g. Refusing to comply with a game official's request.
- h. Using alcohol or any form of tobacco product.

(9-5-2) When the ball becomes dead in possession of a player, he shall not:

- a. Intentionally kick the ball.
- b. Spike the ball into the ground.
- c. Throw the ball high into the air or from the field of play or EZ.
- d. Intentionally fail to place the ball on the ground or immediately return it to a nearby game official.

9-6 Illegal Participation

Define illegal participation by A or K prior to or after a change of possession.

(9-6-1) Prior to a change of possession, or when there is no change of possession, no player of A or K shall go OOB and return to field during the down unless blocked OOB by an opponent. If a player is blocked OOB by an opponent and returns to the field during the down, he shall return at the first opportunity.

Define multiple examples of illegal participation.

(9-6-2) No player shall intentionally go OOB during the down and:

- a. Return to the field.
- b. Intentionally touch the ball.
- c. Influence the play; or
- d. Otherwise participate.

(9-6-3) No replaced player, substitute, coach, athletic trainer, or other attendant shall hinder an opponent, touch the ball, influence the play or otherwise participate.

(9-6-4) It is illegal participation:

- a. When any player, replaced player, substitute, coach, athletic trainer, or other attendant enters and participates during the down.
- b. If an injured player is not replaced for at least one down, unless the halftime intermission or overtime intermission occurs.
- c. To have 12 or more players participating at the snap or free kick
- d. To use a player, replaced player, substitute, coach, athletic trainer, or other attendant in a substitution or pretended substitution to deceive opponents at or immediately before the snap or free kick.
- e. For a player to be lying on the ground to deceive opponents at or immediately before the snap or free kick.
- f. For a disqualified player to re-enter the game.
- g. For a player whose helmet comes completely off during a down to continue to participate beyond the immediate action in which the player is engaged.

9-7 Illegal Kicking or Batting

Define illegal kicking. Define illegal batting.

(9-7-1) No player shall intentionally kick the ball other than as a free or scrimmage kick.

(9-7-2) No player shall bat a loose ball other than a pass or fumble in flight, or a low scrimmage kick in flight which he is attempting to block in or behind the expanded neutral zone.

EXCEPTION: A K player may bat toward his own goal line a grounded scrimmage kick which is beyond the neutral zone and may also bat a scrimmage kick in flight beyond the neutral zone, if no R player is in position to catch the ball.

(9-7-3) Any pass in flight may be batted in any direction, by an eligible receiver unless it is a backward pass batted forward by the passing team.

(9-7-4) A ball in player possession shall not be batted forward by a player of the team in possession.

*Discuss that **both of these fouls are 10-yard penalties in 2019.***

10-1 Procedures after a Foul

The distance penalty for any foul may be declined.

(10-1-1) When a foul occurs during a live ball, the referee shall, at the end of the down, notify both captains. He shall inform the captain of the offended team regarding the rights of penalty acceptance or declination and shall indicate to him the number of the ensuing down, distance to be gained, and status of the ball for each available choice. The distance penalty for any foul may be declined. If the penalty is declined or if there is a double foul, there is no loss of distance. In case of a double foul, the captains are not consulted since the penalties offset. The captain's choice of options may not be revoked. Decisions involving penalties shall be made before any charged time out is granted either team.

Know how double fouls are enforced.

(10-2-1-a,b,c) The penalties cancel for double fouls and the down is replayed.

Special situations to know:

A. Dead ball fouls

(10-1-2) When a foul occurs during a dead ball between downs or prior to a free kick or snap, the covering official shall not permit the ball to become alive. The referee shall notify the captains, and the captain of the offended team will be presented with the options and the effect of acceptance or declination on the down and distance to be gained. The captain may accept or decline the penalty.

B. Live ball foul by one team followed by a dead ball foul on the other.

(10-1-3) When a live-ball foul by one team is followed by one or more dead-ball fouls by the opponent, the penalties are administered separately and in the order of occurrence.

C. Live ball foul by one team followed by one or more dead ball fouls by the same team

(10-1-4) When the same team commits a live-ball foul followed by one or more dead-ball fouls, all fouls may be penalized.

D. When does half the distance to the goal become an enforcement?

(10-1-5) Enforcement of a penalty cannot take the ball more than half the distance from the enforcement spot to the offending team's goal line. If the prescribed penalty is greater than this, the ball is placed halfway from the spot of enforcement to the goal line.

E. What fouls involve loss of down?

(10-1-6) The following fouls by A include loss of the right to replay a down:

- a. Illegally handing the ball forward.
- b. Illegal forward pass.
- c. Illegal touching of forward pass by an ineligible.

F. What fouls carry an automatic first down?

(10-1-7) The following fouls by B give A an automatic first down:

- a. Roughing the kicker or holder.
- b. Roughing the passer.
- c. Roughing the snapper.

10-2 Double and Multiple Fouls

Define a double foul. How is this definition affected by change of possession? Post-scrimmage kick enforcement? When is the down replayed?

(10-2-1) It is a double foul if both teams commit fouls, other than nonplayer or unsportsmanlike, during the same live-ball in which:

- a. There is no change of team possession, unless all fouls committed by R are post-scrimmage kick fouls; or

- b. There is a change of team possession, and the team in possession at the end of the down fouls prior to final change of possession unless all fouls committed by R are post-scrimmage kick fouls; or
- c. There is a change of possession and the team in final possession accepts the penalty for its opponent's foul at any time during the down.

In a, b, or c, the penalties cancel and the down is replayed.

(10-2-2) If each team fouls during a down in which there is a change of team possession and the play does not have a post-scrimmage kick foul, the team last gaining possession may retain the ball, provided:

- a. The foul by the team last gaining possession is not prior to the final change of possession, and
- b. The team last gaining possession declines the penalty for its opponent's foul(s), other than a nonplayer or unsportsmanlike foul.

In this case, the team that was not last in possession has no penalty options until the team last in possession has made its penalty decision on the fouls prior to the change of possession. After that decision by the team last in possession, the team not last in possession may decline or accept the penalty by the team last in possession or choose which foul to have enforced in the case that the team last in possession committed more than one foul following the change.

(10-2-3) If each team fouls during a down in which there is a change of possession and all R fouls are post-scrimmage fouls, then R may retain the ball, provided R declines the penalty for K's foul(s), other than nonplayer or unsportsmanlike foul. In this case, the team that was not last in possession has no penalty options until the team last in possession has made its penalty decision. After that decision by the team last in possession, the team not last in possession may decline or accept the penalty by the team last in possession or choose which foul to have enforced in the case that the team last in possession committed more than one foul following the change.

Define multiple fouls. How are they enforced?

(10-2-4) When two or more live-ball fouls (other than nonplayer or unsportsmanlike) are committed during the same down by the same team (multiple fouls), only one penalty may be enforced. The offended captain may choose which one shall be administered, or the captain may decline all penalties. When a team commits a nonplayer or unsportsmanlike foul during that same down, it is administered from the succeeding spot as established by the acceptance or declination of the penalty for the other foul.

How are Unsportsmanlike and Non-Player fouls enforced?

(10-2-5) Enforcement of penalties for unsportsmanlike, nonplayer, or deadball fouls:

- a. Penalties for dead-ball fouls, other than when both teams commit unsportsmanlike, nonplayer, or dead-ball personal fouls prior to the completion of penalty administration for those fouls, are administered separately and in the order of occurrence. A dead-ball foul is not coupled with a live-ball foul or another dead-ball foul to create a double or multiple foul.
- b. If both teams commit unsportsmanlike, nonplayer, or dead-ball personal fouls prior to the completion of penalty administration for those fouls, the distance penalty for an equal number of 15-yard unsportsmanlike, nonplayer, or dead-ball personal fouls will offset. Any remaining penalties will be enforced separately and in the order of occurrence.
- c. A disqualified player or nonplayer shall be removed.

10-3 Types of Plays

Define loose ball plays

(10-3-1) A loose-ball play is action during:

- a. A free kick or scrimmage kick, other than those defined in 2-33-1a.
- b. A legal forward pass.
- c. A backward pass (including the snap), illegal kick, or fumble made by A from in or behind the neutral zone and prior to a change of team possession.

NOTE: The run(s) which precedes such legal or illegal kick, legal forward pass, backward pass, or fumble is (are) considered part of the action during a loose-ball play.

Define a run.

(10-3-2) A running play is any action not included under Article 1, other than those defined in 2-33-1a.

When does a run end?

(10-3-3) The end of the run is:

- a. Where the ball becomes dead in the runner's possession.
- b. Where the runner loses possession if his run is followed by a loose ball.
- c. The spot of the catch or recovery when the momentum rule is in effect.

10-4 Basic Spots

Define the basic spot

(10-4-1) If a foul occurs during the down, the basic spot is determined by the action that occurs during the down. This is the basic spot for penalty enforcement.

When is the basic spot the previous spot? Is there an exception?

(10-4-2) The basic spot is the previous spot:

- a. For a foul which occurs simultaneously with the snap or free kick.
- b. For a foul which occurs during a loose ball play, as defined in 10-3-1. See 10-5-5 for special enforcement on roughing the passer. See 10-5-1b for special enforcement on kick-catching interference.
- c. For a foul which occurs during a down in which a legal kick occurs and an inadvertent whistle ends the down prior to possession by either team.

EXCEPTION: The basic spot may, at the option of the offended team, be the succeeding spot for fouls by K during a free or scrimmage kick down (other than kick catch interference) prior to the end of the kick when K will not be next to put the ball in play.

What is the basic spot with Post- scrimmage kick enforcement?

(10-4-3) The basic spot is the spot where the kick ends when R commits a post-scrimmage kick foul (2-16-2h). R fouls behind the post-scrimmage kick spot are spot fouls.

What is the basic spot during a run?

(10-4-4) The basic spot is the spot where the related run ends for a foul which occurs during a running play as defined in 10-3-2.

When is the basic spot the succeeding spot?

(10-4-5) The basic spot is the succeeding spot:

- a. For an unsportsmanlike foul.
- b. For a dead-ball foul.
- c. For a nonplayer foul.
- d. When the final result is a touchback.

NOTE: The succeeding spot may, at the option of the offended team, be the subsequent kickoff as in 8-2-2, 8-2-3, 8-2-4, and 8-2-5.

When is the basic spot the 20-yard line?

(10-4-6) The basic spot is the 20-yard line for fouls by either team when the opponent of the team in possession at the time of the foul is responsible for forcing the ball across the goal line of the team in possession, and the related run ends in the end zone and is followed by a loose ball foul, regardless of where the loose ball becomes dead.

The goal line?

(10-4-7) The basic spot is the goal line for fouls, which are committed during running plays by the opponent of the team in possession at the time of the foul when the team in possession is responsible for forcing the ball across its own goal line, and the related run ends in the end zone.

10-5 Special Enforcements

Discuss these special enforcements:

A. Free kick out of bounds untouched by R

(6-1-9) If the ball is kicked OOB untouched by R and R does not accept a penalty for KCI as in 6-5-4, R has the following choices:

- a. Accept a 5-yard penalty from the previous and have K rekick,
- b. Accept a 5-yard penalty from the succeeding spot,
- c. Put the ball in play at the inbounds spot 25 yards beyond the previous spot, or
- d. Decline the penalty and put the ball in play at the inbounds spot.

B. Unfair acts

(9-9) For unfair acts articles 1, 2, and 5, the referee can enforce any penalty he feels is equitable, including the awarding of a score.

For article 3, hiding the ball under a jersey, the penalty is a 15-yard unsportsmanlike penalty. You also use signal 23, regarding equipment, along with signal 27.

For article 4, using an illegal kicking team, the penalty is a 15-yard unsportsmanlike.

C. Fouls on successful tries or field goals

(8-3-5) Already cited previously in the document.

D. Fouls that occur during or after a touchdown

(8-2) Already cited previously in the document.

E. Fouls by K during a free kick or scrimmage kick

(10-4-2) Already cited previously in the document.

F. When the foul by the offense is enforced from within the end zone

(10-4-4) If the offensive team throws an illegal forward pass from its end zone or commits any other foul for which the penalty is accepted and measurement is from on or behind its goal line, it is a safety.

*G. Special enforcements for all types of roughing plays- passer, holder, kicker and snapper.
What is the all-but one principal?*

(9-4-4, 9-4-5, 9-4-6) Already cited previously in the document.

New Rules

40/25 second clock

No recent rule change has caused more stir than this rule. When reading the 2019 Rule Book it is important to differentiate when it is discussing the **GAME or PLAY clock**. New rules pertain to both. The game clock is the focus of Rule 3-4, 3-5. The play clock is the focus of Rule 3-6.

Rule 3-6 Play Clock, Ball Ready for Play

When will the play clock be set to 25 seconds and start on the ready for play signal?

(3-6-1-a-1) Play clock will be 25 seconds and start on the ready-for-play signal:

- a. Prior to a try following a score.
- b. To start a period or overtime series.
- c. Following administration of an inadvertent whistle.
- d. Following a charged time out.
- e. Following an official's timeout as in 3-5-7 or 3-5-10, except for 3-5-7b
- f. Following the stoppage of the play clock by the referee for any reason.

When will the play clock be set to 40 seconds and when will it start?

(3-6-1-a-2) Play clock will be set to 40 seconds anytime else other than specified in 3-6-1-a-1 (above)

and start when the ball is declared dead by a game official.

Define when the ball is ready for play in 2019? There are two definitions that will apply during games. What is the play clock set for after any administration for an inadvertent whistle?

(3-6-1-b) The ball is ready for play:

- a. When the ball has been placed for a down and the referee marks the ball ready for play after giving the ready for play signal as in 3-6-1-a-1.
- b. Starting immediately after the ball has been ruled dead by a game official after a down, the ball has been placed on the ground by the game official, and the game official has stepped away to position as in 3-6-1-a-2.

It is important that the new definition of ready for play, Rule 2-35, be fully understood.

(2-35) Ready-for-play signifies that the ball may be put in play by a snap or a free kick with 25 seconds or 40 seconds on the play clock.

The ball is not ready for play with the Umpire standing over the ball, if the chain crew or field crew is not ready. There must be an understanding that in the majority of instances “ready for play” is an event without an audible whistle or signal.

2-14-1, 7-2-5a Redefined Requirements for a Legal Scrimmage Formation

Despite its poor wording, this rule is intended to speed up the game. It also changes mechanics. We now count number of players in the backfield - never no more than four regardless of how many Team A snaps with.

A. They still cannot snap with more than 11 players

B. They may snap with less than 11 players if they have no more than four in the backfield and they meet the requirements of at least five on the line of scrimmage with numbers 50-79. This means that in confusion snapping with ten players and no more than four in the backfield and still with six on the line of scrimmage - five of which are numbered 50-79- is a legal play. It is strongly advised you do not over-interpret the statement “five on the line of scrimmage”.

9-4-3o Tripping the Runner

This is no longer legal. Equally important the runner does not have to go down to be tripped.

6-2-1, 9-7 Illegal Kicking and Batting

These are now 10-yard penalties.

9-4-3k Horse Collar Re-defined

Please note that grasping the name plate area and pulling the runner down forcing a sudden change in direction or buckling of legs is now illegal.