



## COLLEGE FOOTBALL OFFICIATING, LLC

### 2015 CFO BI-WEEKLY RULES QUIZ 3--SOLUTIONS

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

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1. Second and 10 at the A-30. With the ball at the right hash mark A88 is on the line of scrimmage eight yards to the left of the ball in a balanced line formation. As the play develops A88 runs to his right and continues beyond the hash mark. Near the right sideline at the A-40, A88 blocks below the waist against safety B33. A88's block is at B33's front, in the 10-2 region, and is directed toward Team A's goal line. A22 is tackled at the A-45.

- a. **Illegal block below the waist. 15-yard penalty enforced at the spot of the foul.**
- b. Illegal block below the waist. 15-yard penalty enforced where A22 is tackled.
- c. Illegal block below the waist. 15-yard penalty enforced at the previous spot.
- d. Legal block.

**REFERENCES:** 9-1-6, 10-2-2-c

**COMMENTS:** This is a peelback block which is not allowed by Team A once the ball leaves the low blocking zone.

2. During a running play defensive end B88 blocks below the waist against tackle A77. The block is at A77's side—that is, not within the 10-2 region, and takes place one yard beyond the neutral zone.

- a. Illegal block because it is not in the 10-2 region.
- b. Legal block.**
- c. Illegal block because it is beyond the neutral zone.

**REFERENCES:** 9-1-6

**COMMENTS:** Team B is allowed to block below the waist in the five-yard zones on both sides of the neutral zone.

3. Second and 15 at the A-45. Team A trails by five points late in the fourth quarter. The game clock is stopped with seven seconds in the game. Tight end A88 runs a short route and catches a forward pass at the B-45. A88 intends to pass the ball backward to A44, but the pass is forward. A44 catches the pass and carries to the B-10 where he is tackled by B22, who then stands over him and shakes his fist in his face. Running down the sideline to cover the play, the Line Judge runs into a Team A assistant coach in the white area and drops his flag for sideline interference. Time expires on the play.

a. Extend the quarter for one untimed down at the B-10; the unsportsmanlike conduct fouls offset.

b. The foul for the illegal forward pass and the sideline interference offset, the quarter is extended, and the taunting penalty is enforced.

**c. The foul for the illegal forward pass is not offset and the quarter is not extended; the game is over.**

d. None of the above.

**REFERENCES:** 3-2-3, 9-2-1, 9-2-5-b

**COMMENTS:** The unsportsmanlike conduct foul by B22 and the sidelines interference foul by the Team A coach are treated as dead-ball fouls, so the illegal forward pass foul is not offset. However, the period is not extended by the penalty for the illegal forward pass, since the penalty includes loss of down. Therefore the game is over, whether or not this penalty is accepted, and the penalties for the two dead-ball fouls are not enforced.

4. Third and five at the A-40 early in the first quarter. Quarterback A12 drops back to pass. Under a heavy rush, at the A-30 he throws the ball forward and it falls to the ground at the feet of back A44. A44 is pass-protection blocking at the A-35 and is not aware that the pass has been thrown.

a. Foul, intentional grounding since A44 has no opportunity to catch the pass.

b. If the referee rules intentional grounding the penalty is five yards at the spot of the foul plus loss of down.

c. The game clock starts on the referee's signal.

**d. Legal play.**

**REFERENCES:** 7-3-2-h

**COMMENTS:** The rule for avoiding intentional grounding does not require the receiver to have an opportunity to catch the pass. He must simply be in the area.

5. B47 intercepts a pass at the B-3. His momentum carries him into the end zone where he fumbles the ball. It rolls into the field of play and out of bounds at the B-8.

**a. The momentum exception applies. Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-3.**

b. The momentum exception does not apply. Safety. Two points for Team A.

c. The momentum exception does not apply. Team B's ball at the B-8.

**REFERENCES:** 8-5-1-Exception, 7-2-4-b

**COMMENTS:** Because the rule governing a forward fumble out of bounds returns the ball to the spot of the fumble, the effect is the same as if the ball had never left the end zone. Thus the exception to 8-5-1 applies.

6. Team A punts on fourth and 12 at the A-25. Team A is flagged for an illegal shift. During the kick B72 blocks below the waist at the B-45. Receiver B28 signals and makes a fair catch at the B-40.

a. No option: Fouls offset and the down is repeated.

b. Team B may refuse offsetting fouls and have the ball at the B-30.

**c. Team B may refuse offsetting fouls and have the ball at the B-25.**

d. None of the above.

**REFERENCES:** 10-1-4-Exception 1, 10-2-2-c, 10-2-3

**COMMENTS:** This play includes the "clean hands" exception to offsetting fouls. The option resides with Team B to invoke the exception. The BBW foul is governed by postscrimmage kick rules.

7. On a try attempt at the B-3, Team B is flagged for lining up in the neutral zone at the snap. B80 blocks the kick, recovers the ball, and returns it until A18 tackles him with a horse-collar tackle at the A-45.

a. The fouls cancel. The down is not repeated and the try is over.

b. The offside penalty is cancelled and the horse-collar penalty is enforced on the kickoff.

**c. Offsetting fouls. The try is repeated at the B-3.**

d. None of the above.

**REFERENCES:** 8-3-3-a

**COMMENTS:** Because Team B fouls before the change of possession the try down is repeated following the offsetting fouls.

8. First and 10 at the B-40 late in the first quarter. Team A lines up with four players in the backfield and seven on the line of scrimmage, all numbered legally. Before the snap, end A84 goes in motion from a standing position (no false start) and is five yards behind the neutral zone at the snap. QB A12 carries for a seven-yard gain before being driven out of bounds.

a. Foul for not enough players on the line of scrimmage.

b. Legal play. Second and three at the B-33. Clock starts on the snap.

c. Legal play. Second and three at the B-33. Clock starts on the ready.

**d. Illegal motion. Five yards, previous spot. Repeat first down.**

**REFERENCES:** 7-1-4-b-2

**COMMENTS:** A player who is in motion at the snap may not have started from the line of scrimmage.

9. Third and 10 at the 50-yard line. A17's legal forward pass ricochets off A65's helmet before touching any other player or an official. Eligible receiver A27 then catches the ball and is driven out of bounds at the B-38. The game clock shows 1:35 in the second quarter.

- a. **Legal play. First and 10 at the B-38. Clock starts on the snap.**
- b. Foul by A65, illegal touching. Five-yard penalty, previous spot.
- c. Foul by A65, illegal touching. Five-yard penalty, previous spot plus loss of down.
- d. Legal play. First and 10 at the B-38. Clock starts on the ready.

**REFERENCES:** 7-3-11, 3-3-2-d-2

**COMMENTS:** A65's touching of the pass is not illegal because it is not intentional. The clock starts on the snap when the ball carrier goes out of bounds inside the last two minutes of the half.

10. Team A punts on fourth and seven at the A-40. Receiver B27 is at the B-30 where he signals for a fair catch after the ball has hit the ground. A20 then blocks B27 above the waist, causing B27 to touch the ball. A78 recovers the ball while grounded at the B-32.

- a. Foul by B27 for an illegal fair catch signal.
- b. **Illegal touching by A78. Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-32.**
- c. Team A's ball, first and 10 at the B-32.
- d. None of the above.

**REFERENCES:** 6-3-2, 6-3-4-a

**COMMENTS:** B27's signal is invalid because it comes after the ball has hit the ground, but there is no foul for this action. B27's touching of the ball is forced by A20's block, so it is effectively no touching. Thus A78's recovery is illegal touching.

***Rogers Redding***  
***Secretary-Rules Editor***  
***NCAA Football Rules Committee***

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