

LOUISIANA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

2017 FOOTBALL RULES STUDY QUESTIONS

LHSAA Study Guide Questions: The final test will come from these questions. LHSAA test questions come from the **NFHS Rules Book**, including rule changes, **Points of Emphasis** and **Fundamentals**, as well as the **Louisiana Mechanics Manual** and **NFHS Case Book**.

NOTE: In the following questions, “**A**” refers to the team which puts the ball in play (Offense), and “**B**” refers to their opponents (Defense). “**K**” refers to the kicking team and “**R**” refers to the receiving team. “**A1**”, “**A2**”...etc., “**B1**”...“**K1**”...and “**R1**” are players of these teams. If team possession changes during a down, each team retains its identity. In a kicking situation, it is not during a try and no fair catch signal has been given unless so specified. Unless otherwise stated, acts occur while the ball is inbounds; a forward pass is legal; any out-of-bounds is between the goal lines; “line” means scrimmage line; reference to a foul is to a player foul which is not unsportsmanlike; there is no foul or change of possession unless so stated; penalties are considered accepted.

1. The game officials’ authority extends from **30** minutes prior to the scheduled game time through the **Referee’s** declaration of the end of the 4TH period or overtime.
[1-1-7, 8; Case Book 1.1.7]
2. The manufacturer’s name and/or logo is the only commercial advertising allowed on the football. [1-3-1h]
3. Electronic communication devices, including electronic signage to signal plays or information from the sideline, may be used to communicate with players anywhere on the field. [1-5-3c2; Case Book 1.6.1 E]
4. In Louisiana during the months of August and September, the **Referee** may decide to forego calling heat and humidity time-outs if he feels the weather is cool enough.
[LHSAA Handbook: Football 14.3.9]
5. When a live ball in Team **A’s** possession breaks the vertical plane of Team **B’s** goal line, Team **A** will be awarded a touchdown. [2-26-3; 2-34-1; 8-2-1a]
6. Though they may be modified, football gloves are required to meet either the SFIA specification or the NOCSAE test standard at the time of manufacture.
[1-5 NOTE; 1-5-2b; Case Book 1.5.2 A]
7. Tooth and mouth protectors which meet specifications may be clear, white or any color.
[1-5-1d5a; Case Book 1.5.1 E(a)]
8. During 2nd down, the field clock goes directly from **01:45** to **00:45** and is not detected. Following 3rd down, time for the period expires. The error is discovered after the **Referee** declares the period officially ended. **RULING:** The timing error cannot be corrected.
[3-3-5; Case Book 3.4.8(b)]

9. A field goal is scored even if part of the ball passes through the line of the upright extended. [8-4-1c; Case Book 8.4.1 A(a)]
10. On *scrimmage* downs, each Team **A** player must momentarily be within the 9-yard marks before the ball is marked ready for play. [7-2-1]
11. A *defenseless player* is:
 - a. A player in the act of or just after throwing a pass.
 - b. A player on the ground including a runner who has obviously given himself up and is sliding feet-first.
 - c. A player obviously out of the play or not in the immediate vicinity of the runner.
 - d. All of the above.[2-32-16a, f, g]
12. Scrimmage play formations require a minimum of **7 A** players to be legally on their line at the snap except in *scrimmage-kick* formations. [2-14-1]
13. *Chop blocking* and *clipping* are never allowed anywhere on the field. [2-3-8; 2-5-1; 9-3-6]
14. The responsibility for *forcing* the ball from the field of play across a goal line is attributed to the last player who touches it. [2-13-2]
15. The kickers may, in certain situations, legally catch or recover, and keep possession of a *kick*; but the kickers may **NEVER** advance a *free kick*, or *scrimmage kick* which is beyond the neutral zone. [6-1-6; 6-2-4; 6-5-6 Exception; Case Book 6.1.6 A, 6.2.3 A]
16. The **Referee** decides whether the game ball meets rule specifications and judges its fitness for play. [1-3-3; Case Book 1.3.2 D]
17. The *free-blocking zone* disintegrates when the ball has left the zone. [2-17-4]
18. The **Referee** is responsible for determining the legality of the kicking team's formation on kick-offs. [La. Mechanics Manual: V – Free-Kick Responsibilities]
19. When a penalty is accepted with less than **2 minutes** remaining in either half, the offended team will have the option to start the game clock on the snap. [3-4-7]
20. On *kicks* entering **R's** end zone, the determination of *force* dictates whether the result is a touchback or a safety. [2-13-4a; 6-3-1; Case Book 8.5.3 B]
21. A *blindside block* is a block against an opponent other than the runner, who does not see the blocker approaching. [2-3-10]
22. A *live-ball* foul occurs during the down or the continuing action immediately after the down ends. [2-16-2a,d]
23. A defensive player is considered to be on the line of scrimmage when he is within **2 yards** of the line of scrimmage at the snap. [2-25-3]

24. **B1** intercepts a pass at his own **3-yard line**. His momentum takes him into his own end zone, where he fumbles. **B2** and **A3** simultaneously recover the loose ball, which never leaves the end zone.
- Team A scores a safety.
 - Team A scores a touchdown.
 - Touchback; team B will get the ball at its own 20-yard line.
 - The momentum exception applies; team B will get the ball at its own 3-yard line.
- [7-4-3c; 8-5-2a Exception]
25. **B52** is trailing well behind runner **A30** downfield obviously out of the play. **A25** approaches from across the field and blocks **B52** forcefully from the front with his shoulder, knocking him to the ground. **A30** is at Team **B's** 15-yard line when the block occurs. RULING: Personal foul for *illegal blindside block*. Penalize Team **A** 15 yards from the spot of the foul. [2-32-16g, h; 9-4-3n Penalty; 10-6]
26. **K1's** untouched *pooch kick-off* is in flight **14** yards beyond Team **K's** free-kick line where **K2** catches it. RULING: *Kick-catch interference* by **K1** under any circumstance. [6-5-6a]
27. With **10** seconds remaining in the **2ND** period and the clock running, **A10** takes a direct hand-to-hand snap from the center and fakes placing his knee on the ground, then sweeps around end for a touchdown.
- No foul → The touchdown stands.
 - The ball became dead when **A10** faked kneeling.
 - A10** is flagged for *unsportsmanlike conduct*.
- [4-2-2a; 8-2-1a]
28. Following any kick return, Team **R** may request that the ball be placed anywhere between the inbounds lines (*hash marks*). [4-3-4, 5]
29. A kick try or field-goal attempt goes over the crossbar between the uprights, but a strong wind blows it back over the crossbar. The ball lands in the end zone. RULING: The kick is successful. [8-4-1c; Case Book 8.4.1 A(b)]
30. Pass interference may occur beyond, in or behind the neutral zone. [7-5-10; Case Book 7.5.10 B]
31. If a loose ball touches any player or game official who is out of bounds, the touching is ignored. [2-29-3; Case Book 2.29.3(c)]
32. If Team **B** makes sounds that mimic or disrupt Team **A's** snap count, it is a foul for *unsportsmanlike conduct*. [9-5-1d; Case Book 9.5.1 B(b,c)]
33. As Team **A** snaps the ball, **B12** realizes his team has too many players and runs off the field on his own sideline. He is still on the field while the ball is live but does not participate in or influence the play. An **official** then recognizes the situation and properly throws his flag. RULING: Team **B** is guilty of a live-ball **5-yard illegal substitution** foul. [3-7-4, Penalty; Case Book 3.7.1 B(a)]

34. **K1** attempts an onside kick by kicking the ball toward the sideline. As **R2** goes to recover the ball **2 yards** beyond his free-kick line, he is blocked by **K3** and **K4** recovers the ball. RULING: **K3** is guilty of an *illegal block*. **K4's** recovery is negated and the 10-yard penalty is assessed from the spot of the recovery. **R's** ball, 1st and 10. [6-1-6; 9-3-8, Penalty; Case Book 9.3.8 A]
35. 3rd and 5 at Team **A's** 30-yard line. The handoff goes to **A1**, who fumbles. The ball is in flight when **A2** bats it forward and it goes out of bounds at Team **A's** 37-yard line. RULING: No foul → 1st and 10 for Team **A** at their 37-yard line. [4-2-2b; 4-3-2; 5-1-3a; 9-7-2]
36. Team **A** goes into formation with all players motionless for **3** seconds. When the QB says "Set," all players go into a 3-point stance except guard **A62**. Back **A38** then starts in motion after which **A62** goes into his 3-point stance. The ball is snapped **2** seconds later.
- No foul → Play on.
 - Illegal motion*, a live-ball foul.
 - Illegal shift*, a live-ball foul.
 - False start*, a dead-ball foul.
- [7-2-6, Penalty]
37. On 2nd down and 7 from Team **A's** 33-yard line, right-handed runner **A21** is carrying the ball in that arm when he is hit at Team **A's** 45-yard line where his prosthetic left arm comes completely off as a result of the contact. RULING: The ball is immediately declared dead. Team **A** will play 1st and 10 at their 45-yard line. [4-2-2l; 5-1-3a]
38. The *field of play* is that area of the field bounded by the sidelines and goal lines. [2-10-2]
39. Team **A** scores a touchdown on the first possession of an extra period. On the try, Team **B** is flagged for *roughing the kicker*. The kick is successful. RULING: The penalty is automatically declined by rule. Team **B** now gets their series from the 10-yard line. [8-3-5; Rules Book Pg. 86: 3.1.1 O]
40. If an obviously short field-goal attempt does not break the plane of **R's** goal line, the ball becomes dead and Team **R** will play 1st and 10 from the *previous spot*. [2-10-2; 6-2-2]
41. 1st and 10 at Team **A's** 20-yard line. Quarterback **A10** runs to Team **A's** 23-yard line, retreats to Team **A's** 16-yard line and throws a pass that is caught by eligible **A22** at Team **A's** 37-yard line.
- No harm → No foul.
 - A1** is guilty of an *illegal forward pass*.
 - The penalty is 5 yards & loss of down from the previous spot.
 - The penalty is 5 yards & loss of down from the spot of the pass.
- [7-5-1]
42. **R33** returns a punt but fumbles during his return. **K62** dives to the ground and recovers the fumble. RULING: 1st and 10 for Team **K**, and the clock starts on the snap. [3-4-3c; 5-1-3f]

43. Ineligible receivers may legally go beyond the neutral zone on a pass play when the ball, which crosses the neutral zone, is *in flight*. [7-5-12]
44. In attempting to tackle **A1**, **B2's** helmet comes completely off. **A1** does not go down and runs for a touchdown. RULING: The score stands and **B2** must leave the field for 1 play. [3-5-10d; 4-2-2k; Case Book 4.2.2 K]
45. On a kick-off, **K1** executes a *pop-up kick* from his 40-yard line. RULING: The play is immediately blown dead. **K** will re-kick from his 35-yard line **or** his 40-yard line if the distance penalty is refused. [2-24-10; 6-1-11; Case Book 6.1.11]
46. 4th and 15 at **K's** 30-yard line. **R1** enters the game as the 12th player while **K1's** punt is in the air. **R2** catches the punt at **R's** 35-yardline and returns it to **R's** 42-yard line where he is tackled. RULING: **R1** is guilty of *illegal participation*. If accepted, the penalty will be enforced from the *post-scrimmage kick spot* (R35) and Team **R** will play 1st and 10. [2-16-2h; 9-6-4a; Case Book 9.6 Comment #2; 9.6.1 D]
47. At the snap, linemen **A63** and **A55** immediately charge out and simultaneously contact nose tackle **B76** below the knees. RULING: Illegal *chop block*. [2-3-8; Case Book 9.3.2 B(d)]
48. Following a score, Team **K's** kick-off from his 40-yard line goes out of bounds untouched by **R** at **R's** 32-yard line. Team **R** may choose to:
- Have the 5-yard penalty assessed from the previous spot and a re-kick.
 - Have the 5-yard penalty assessed from the dead-ball spot and play 1st down.
 - Play 1st and 10 from it's own 35-yard line.
 - Either **a** or **c**.
- [6-1-9; Case Book 6.1.9 B(c)]
49. If it is discovered that a player does not have a helmet that meets NOCSAE test standards when manufactured, he will be allowed to participate but a 15-yard penalty will be assessed from the succeeding spot. [1-5-1a1; 1-5-5,6]
50. There is **00:07** on the clock in the 4TH period. Team **A** has goal to go and no time-outs when they snap the ball at Team **B's** 10-yard line. **B55** commits a *face-mask foul* when he tackles **A22** inbounds as the clock shows **00:02** remaining. RULING: Penalize **B** and replay the down. Because of the accepted penalty, Team **A** has the option to start the clock on the snap. [3-4-7; 5-2-2; 9-4-3h]
51. A player who is attempting to pass is a *runner* until he/she gives up possession of the ball by passing. [2-32-11,13]
52. A request for a time-out may be made only after the ball becomes dead by any player, the head coach or any assistant coach. [3-5-2a; Case Book 3.5.2 B]
53. Defensive penalties which automatically grant a first down are roughing the passer, kicker, holder or deep snapper in a scrimmage-kick formation and defensive pass interference. [9-4-4, 5, 6, Penalty; 10-1-7]

54. **R34** muffs a free kick at his 15-yard line. As the ball is rolling at the 20-yard line, **K25** pushes **R34** in the back above the waist and subsequently recovers the ball while grounded at the 15-yard line. RULING: Legal action by **K25** as he can legally possess the ball in this situation. 1st down for team **K** at the 15-yard line. [2-3-4c,5b; 5-1-3b; 9-3-5b; Case Book 9.3.5 A]
55. The punter becomes a *kicker* when his knee, lower leg or foot makes contact with the ball. He is afforded *kicker protection* until he has had the opportunity to regain his balance. [2-32-8; Case Book 9.4.5 G]
56. Team **K** is lining up for the kick-off to start the game. **K1** places the tee on the right hash mark at his 39-yard line. He kicks the ball following the **Referee's** whistle.
- Legal.
 - Live-ball foul; the ball must be placed on the 40-yard line.
 - Dead-ball foul; the ball must be placed on the 40-yard line.
- [6-1-1; 6-1-2 Penalty]
57. 3rd and 10 from team **A's** 5-yard line. QB **A10** throws a pass intended for **A24** beyond the neutral zone. While the pass is in flight, **B42** is flagged for grasping and pulling **A24's** facemask. The pass is complete and **A24** is downed at **A's** 25-yard line. RULING: If team **A** accepts the penalty, it will be enforced from **A's** 25-yard line. [9-4-3h; 10-3-1b; 10-4-2b]
58. Whether the halftime intermission will be extended to **20 minutes** will be determined by the home game management. [Rules Book Pg. 40: Table 3-1 Intermission]
59. **B1** intercepts a pass and begins a return. **B1** is pursued by **A2**, who cannot see **B3** approach. **B3** contacts **A2** in the side with open hands below the neck and shoulders, above the waist.
- No problem → Not a foul.
 - B3** should be flagged for *targeting*.
 - B3** should be flagged for a *blindside block*.
- [2-3-10; 9-4-3n]
60. For a measurement, the ball shall be placed with its long axis parallel with the sideline before the measurement and the inside edge of the foremost rod will mark the line to gain. [5-3-2; Case Book 5.3.2 A]
61. If a *free kick*, first touched by **R** inbounds then touched by **K**, subsequently goes out of bounds between the goal lines, **R** will have an option to penalize **K** and have the ball re-kicked. [6-1-10; Case Book 6.1.9 B(b)]
62. The distance penalties for an equal number of 15-yard *unsportsmanlike*, *nonplayer* or *dead-ball* personal fouls committed by both teams can offset. [10-2-5b; Case Book 10.2.5 A]
63. **K18's** punt is partially blocked in the neutral zone by **R56**. The kick goes beyond the neutral zone where **R24** muffs it back behind the neutral zone. **K44** recovers the ball there and advances across **R's** goal line. RULING: Touchdown for Team **K**. [6-2-3,6; 8-2-1a; Case Book 6.2.3 A]

64. A pass thrown backward out of bounds to stop the clock is an *illegal pass*. [7-4-1]
65. The clock will start with the snap, if the clock was stopped because of an inadvertent whistle. [3-4-2c; Case Book 3.4.2 C]
66. It is legal for **A1** to immediately return to the field and make a block or touch a pass after being blocked or pushed out of bounds by **B2**. [9-6-1]
67. Illegal helmet contact may be judged by a game official as being *flagrant* which mandates that the offender be ejected from the game. [2-16-2c; 9-4-3i NOTE; Penalty]
68. After the ready-for-play signal is given, center **A55** begins the motion to snap the ball. In an attempt to dislodge it from the snapper, **B79** swipes at the ball and touches **A55's** hand prior to his releasing the ball for the snap. RULING: Dead-ball foul for *encroachment*. [2-8; 7-1-6c; Case Book 7.1.6 E(a)]
69. 4th and 10 on Team **K's** 20-yard line. **K18's** short punt is muffed by **R42** at Team **K's** 30-yard line. The loose ball rolls behind the neutral zone and is recovered by **K30** at Team **K's** 15-yard line. From there, **K30** throws a forward pass intended for eligible **K24**, but the pass is incomplete.
- It will be Team **R's** ball at Team **K's** 20-yard line.
 - It will be Team **K's** ball at Team **K's** 20-yard line.
 - The ball is dead when **K3** recovers.
 - K3's** pass is illegal.
- [5-1-3f; 7-5-1; 7-5-5; Case Book 5.1.3 D]
70. If snapper **A57** makes an *illegal snap* which **A10** muffs and **B70** recovers, Team **B** may keep the ball if **B** declines the penalty. [2-34-1; 4-1-6; 7-1-4]
71. **All game-clock operators** are required to have a count-down stopwatch in their possession for all games in the event of a scoreboard clock malfunction. [La. Officials Manual: III – B “Clock Operators”]
72. **A46** is beyond the neutral zone in position to catch a deep pass. **B23** turns his back to the ball and directs his attention to **A46** by waving his hands and arms to block the vision of the potential receiver but does not make any contact. RULING: No foul. [7-5-10; Case Book 7.5.10 C]
73. **A33's** fumble rolls forward and out of bounds at team **A's** 25-yard line. The game clock will start:
- On the **Referee's** signal only if more than 2 minutes remain in either half.
 - On the **Referee's** signal regardless of the time remaining.
 - On the snap.
 - Team **A** has the option to start it either on the snap or the ready-for-play signal.
- [3-4-3a; 3-4-4e]
74. A player with a legal, clear untinted eye shield properly attached to his helmet is detected wearing tinted eyeglasses (sunglasses). RULING: Legal equipment. [1-5-3c4 NOTE]

75. Any forward pass caught by any player of **A** or **B** may be advanced. [7-5-4]
76. If ineligible **A76** catches a forward pass (untouched by **B**) beyond the neutral zone, the ball becomes dead when caught. [4-2-2c; 7-5-13; Case Book 7.5.13 A(c)]
77. 2nd and 9 at Team **A's** 30-yard line. **A1** fumbles and the ball bounces high in the air. **B2** leaps, controls the ball while airborne and lands touching the sideline at Team **A's** 40-yard line.
 a. 1st and 10 for Team **B** at Team **A's** 40-yard line.
 b. 3rd and 1 for Team **A** at it's 38-yard line.
 c. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at it's 40-yard line.
 [4-2-2b; 4-3-1; 5-3-1a]
78. If **K15's** field-goal attempt is touched by **R31** in the end zone and caroms through the goal, the ball becomes dead when touched and no points are scored.
 [4-2-2d2 Exception; 8-4-1b]
79. Pass eligibility rules apply only to *legal* forward passes. [7-5-6]
80. 4th and 4 from team **A's** 7-yard line. QB **A18** drops straight back into his own end zone under a heavy rush. To avoid being sacked in the end zone, **A18** intentionally throws a forward pass directly to the ground. RULING: Foul for *intentional grounding*. Safety for Team **B**. [7-5-2e; 8-5-2c]
81. A *catch* is the act of establishing player possession of a live ball which is in flight, and first contacting the ground inbounds while maintaining possession of the ball or having the forward progress of the player in possession stopped while the opponent is carrying the player who is in possession and inbounds. [2-4-1]
82. A *fumble* is the touching of a loose ball in an unsuccessful attempt to secure possession.
 [2-18; 2-27]
83. A drop kick or place kick may be used to put the ball back in play following a safety.
 [2-24-3, 6; 8-5-4]
84. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at its own 3-yard line. **A1** is in his end zone when he *muffs* a backward pass from **A2**. **A3** recovers the loose ball and is downed in the end zone. **B4** is flagged for grabbing and twisting **A3's** facemask in the process of making the tackle.
 a. Team **B** scores a safety.
 b. The penalty is enforced from team **A's** goal line.
 c. The penalty is enforced from team **A's** 20-yard line.
 d. The penalty is enforced from the previous spot.
 [10-5-2]
85. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at Team **B's** 12-yard line. Substitute **B1** comes onto the field and replaced player **B2** leaves the field via the back of the end zone.
 a. No problem.
 b. Illegal substitution, a live-ball foul.
 c. Illegal substitution, a dead-ball foul.
 [3-7-2; Penalty]

86. 3rd down at **B's** 48-yard line. *Roughing the passer* is called on **B61**. During the play, **A12's** pass was complete to **A23** who is tackled at **B's** 40-yard line. RULING: Penalize 15 yards from the end of **A23's** run and award **A** an automatic first down. [9-4-4 Penalty; 10-1-7b; 10-3-3a; 10-5-5; Case Book 9.4.4 B(a)]
87. 2nd down and 10 for Team **A**. During the down, **A76 held** and **B24** committed *pass interference* after which **B38** intercepted and was immediately downed. RULING: This is a *double foul*. No options . . . Team **A** will replay 2nd down and 10 from the *previous spot*. [10-2-1b; 10-4-2b; Case Book 10.2.1 A]
88. On a kickoff, at the time the ball is kicked, at least 4 **K** players must be on each side of the kicker. [6-1-4; Case Book 6.1.4]
89. In order for a *snap* to be legal, the ball must immediately leave the hand(s) of the snapper and touch a back or the ground before it touches an **A** lineman. [7-2-4]
90. Upon returning to the field at the conclusion of the halftime intermission for the mandatory 3-minute warm-up period, the teams must actively participate by running or exercising. [Table 3-1; Case Book 3.1.1 C(b)]
91. Due to a series of penalties following their touchdown and during the try, Team **A** must attempt the try from deep in their end of the field. **A1** fumbles the snap and in scrambling to avoid defenders, retreats into his own end zone and is tackled there with the ball in his possession. RULING: Safety. Score 2 points for Team **B**. [8-3-3]
92. A *kick* ends when any player secures possession or the ball becomes dead while not in player possession. [2-24-2]
93. **B26** intercepts but is then legally hit such that his helmet comes completely off. RULING: The ball becomes dead immediately. Team **B** will play 1st and 10. **B26** must leave the field for 1 down. [2-32-13; 3-5-10d; 4-2-2k; 5-1-3b]
94. A *defensive* player shall not:
 - Use his hands to add momentum to the charge of a teammate who is on the line of scrimmage.
 - Use his hands or arms to hook, clamp, grasp, encircle or hold in an effort to restrain an opponent other than the runner.
 - Contact an eligible receiver who is no longer a potential blocker.
 - Any of the above.
[9-2-3b, c, d]
95. A *blindside block* against an opponent other than the runner is always illegal anywhere on the field. [9-4-3n; Case Book 9.4.3 W, X]
96. 4th and 10 on Team **K's** 25-yard line. **K27's** punt is in flight when **R12** enters the field at **K's** 42-yard line and blocks **K44** above the waist at **R's** 45-yard line. The uncaught kick is blown dead at **R's** 35-yard line. RULING: *Illegal* participation foul. Post-scrimmage kick enforcement applies. **R** will play 1st and 10 from its own 20-yard line. [2-16-2h; 5-2-2; 9-6-4a; 10-4-3; Case Book 9.6 Comment #2; 9.6.1 D]

97. On 4th down, in apparent punt formation, Team **A** lines up with tackle **A88** in a three-point stance. End **A89** is adjacent. Team **A** has 5 players numbered 50-79 on the line. Shortly prior to the snap, **A89** shifts making **A88** an *end*. Team **A** completes an untouched pass to **A88** beyond the neutral zone for a first down. RULING: Legal play; 1st down for Team **A**. [5-1-3a; 7-2-5b; 7-5-6a; Case Book 7.2.5 B]
98. When weather conditions are construed to be hazardous to life or limb of the participants, the crew of game officials must defer to game administration to make the decision on whether to delay or suspend the game. [3-1-5; Case Book 3.1.5 A,B]
99. From his own 30-yard line, QB **A11** throws a *backward* pass to **A33** at his 27-yard line. The ball bounces off **A33** and hits the ground at **A's** 34-yard line. RULING: *Muffed backward pass* → Ball remains live. Either team may recover the ball and advance. [2-27; 2-31-5, 6; 7-4-2]
100. Only **1** receiver may give a signal for a fair catch while any legal kick is in flight. [6-5-1]
101. It is *encroachment* when any member of the kicking team violates the free-kick restrictions. [2-8; 6-1-3,4; Case Book 2.8 C]
102. Following the snap on a kick try or field-goal attempt, the offensive linemen “step down” and interlock their feet while blocking. RULING: Legal. [7-2-2; Case Book 7.2.2]
103. On **1st**, **2nd**, or **3rd down**, only the snapper is exempt from the numbering rule in scrimmage-kick formation and he must be between the ends. At least 4 other linemen must be numbered 50-79 under such circumstances. [2-14-2; 7-2-5b Exception 1; Case Book 7.2.5 A(a)]
104. 3rd and 10 at team **A's** 20-yard line. Eligible receiver **A22** runs a sideline pattern. He steps out of bounds at **A's** 34-yard line and leaps when a pass is thrown in his direction. While airborne over out-of-bounds territory, **A22** has a firm grasp of the ball. He lands inbounds and advances to team **A's** 40-yard line, where he is downed.
- Legal play under any circumstance.
 - A22** is guilty of *illegal touching*.
 - A22** is guilty of *illegal participation*.
 - Incomplete pass.
- [9-6-2; Case Book 9.6 Comment #4]
105. With **00:55** remaining in the game, Team **A** has the ball and a 2-point lead. **A65** *holds* during a run off tackle which ends inbounds. RULING: After penalty enforcement, Team **B** can choose to have the clock started on the snap. [3-4-7]
106. The penalty for *targeting* an opponent is 15 yards from the basic spot plus an automatic first down. The violator must be ejected. [2-16-2c; 2-20-2; 9-4-3m Penalty; 10-1-7]

107. **A1** throws a legal forward pass that falls incomplete. Immediately after the pass is released, **B2** grasps but does not twist **A1's** facemask.
- No foul.
 - Roughing the passer.* 15-yard penalty and automatic 1st down.
 - Inadvertent facemask foul.* 5-yard penalty.
- [9-4-3h; 9-4-4, Penalty]
108. Charged time-outs shall be reduced in length only if both teams are ready to play prior to the **Referee's** ready-for-play signal. [3-5-3]
109. The penalty for a forward pass batted, muffed or caught by an ineligible **A** player who is behind, in or beyond the neutral zone is 5 yards and loss of down. [7-5-13, Penalty]
110. Regulation play ends in a tie. Team **A** has used all of its 2nd half time-outs; Team **B**, only one. In the 1st overtime:
- Each team will have one time-out at its disposal.
 - Team **A** will have no time-outs at its disposal; team **B**, two.
 - Team **A** will have one time-out at its disposal; team **B**, three.
- [3-5-1; Rules Book Pg. 84: 3-5-1]
111. A player in the backfield may not wear a jersey numbered 50-79. [1-4-2; 7-2-5b]
112. During the dead-ball interval between downs, quarterback **A1** and safety **B2** go to their respective sidelines to receive instructions. All coaches remain in the team box and the players remain on their respective sides of the neutral zone and on the field.
RULING: Legal. [9-8-1f Note]
113. The **Umpire** shall resolve any questions regarding the legality of a player's equipment. [1-5-4]
114. A ball without any stripes is legal for use if both coaches agree to use it. [1-3-1c]
115. When the ball becomes dead following any 4th down play, the clock shall be stopped. [3-4-4b; 3-5-9]
116. Team **K** is in a legal kick-off formation with all players clearly between **K's** 35 and 40-yard lines except potential kicker **K1** who is lined up at his 32-yard line. After the ready for play, **K1** approaches the ball but slows up and one of the other players kicks the ball instead. RULING: Whistle the ball dead for *encroachment* by **K**. Penalize **K** 5 yards and re-kick. [4-2-1; 6-1-3b Penalty; 6-1-8a; Case Book 6.1.3 A]
117. 3rd and 10 from team **A's** 20-yard line. As time expires in the 2ND quarter, QB **A8** scrambles to team **A's** 23-yard line and throws a forward pass intended for eligible **A44**. **B27** interferes with **A44** and the pass falls incomplete. RULING: This situation creates a *double foul*, the penalties offset and the period will be extended to play an untimed down. [3-3-4b3; 7-5-2b Penalty; 7-5-7]
118. Regardless of any penalties, no series can ever start on other than first down. [5-1-1a; Fundamental II – 6]

119. Center **A55** is just beginning his snapping motion when nose tackle **B70** slaps the ball out of **A55's** hands. RULING: Dead-ball foul for *encroachment*. Whistle and flag it immediately. [4-1-6; 4-2-1; 7-1-6b; Case Book 7.1.6 E(a)]
120. 4th and 10 on Team **K's** 20-yard line. Punter **K1** takes the snap and starts to run. He pulls up at his 25-yard line and kicks the ball.
- The ball is dead immediately.
 - The penalty is 15 yards from the spot of the foul.
 - The penalty is 5 yards from the spot of the foul and loss of down.
 - Post-scrimmage kick enforcement applies.
- [6-2-1, Penalty; 9-7-1; 10-4-4]
121. 4th and 10 on Team **R's** 40-yard line. **K35's** punt is in flight when **R22** blocks **K44** below the waist at team **R's** 30-yard line. The untouched kick hits the ground in **R's** end zone. RULING: Post-scrimmage kick enforcement applies. **R** will play 1st and 10 from its own 10-yard line. [2-16-2h; 5-2-1; 10-4-3,5d; Case Book 10.4.3 C]
122. If a *double foul* occurs during a down in which time expires, the down will be re-played untimed. [3-3-3b]
123. Team **K** is in punt formation on 4th down at Team **R's** 40-yard line, using the numbering exception (not having 5 players on the line numbered 50-79). **K** players assume their initial positions with **K25** to the left at tight end and **K23** at left tackle. **After** the snapper touches the ball, **K25** shifts back off the line uncovering **K23**. At the snap, **K23** pauses, then goes downfield and catches a touchdown pass. RULING: Legal play since **K23** was on the end of the line at the snap.
[7-2-5b Exception 2; 7-5-13 Penalty; Case Book 7.2.5 D]
124. Team **A** scores a touchdown during a down in which time for the 1ST period expires. **B77** is flagged for *roughing the passer* on the successful 2-point try. If team **A** accepts the penalty, the 1ST period will be extended for the succeeding free kick. [3-3-4b4; 8-3-5]
125. QB **A1** takes the snap and drops back to pass. Under a heavy rush he scrambles toward the line of scrimmage. His passing arm and one of his feet are beyond the neutral zone when he throws a forward pass to eligible **A2**. RULING: *Illegal forward pass*. 5-yard penalty and loss of down from the spot of the foul.
[7-5-1; 7-5-2b Penalty; Case Book 7.5.1]
126. The down is ended and the ball becomes dead when any part of the runner's person, other than hand or foot, touches the ground. [4-2-2a]
127. A foul which occurs simultaneously with the snap is an act which becomes a foul only if and when the ball is snapped. [2-16-2i]
128. 1st and 10 for Team **A** from Team **B's** 21-yard line. Runner **A44** dives for the goal line at **B's** 1-yard line. The ball in his possession crosses the goal line inside the pylon. **A44** then contacts the ground out of bounds 2 yards beyond the goal line.
- 1st and goal for Team **A** from the 1-yard line.
 - Touchdown.
- [8-2-1a; Case Book 2.26.3]

129. When the ball is loose following an *illegal kick*, it retains the same status as prior to the *illegal kick*. [2-24-9; 9-7-1]
130. 3rd and 7 for team **A** at team **B's** 12-yard line. Following a 2-yard run by **A33**, **B52** piles on and **A33** retaliates by *slugging B52*. RULING: Following enforcement, Team **A** will play 4th and 5 at Team **B's** 10-yard line. **A33** will be ejected. [4-2-2a; 9-4-1,3c; 10-2-5b,c; Case Book 10.2.5 A]
131. Helmets & face masks, tooth protectors, shoulder pads, hip pads, thigh guards, knee pads and shoes are all pieces of required equipment for players. [1-5-1a,d,f]
132. Tight end **A84** is in the neutral zone at the snap. The **Line Judge** drops his penalty flag but allows the play to continue. **B41** then intercepts **A12's** pass and advances for a touchdown. RULING: Since the action occurred after the snap, it is a *live ball*. **B** can decline the foul and keep the touchdown. [2-8; 4-1-6; 7-1-5]
133. Even though a non-scoring kick has been touched by **R** in the *field of play* it becomes dead immediately when it breaks the plane of **R's** goal line. [2-24-2; 4-2-2d1; Case Book 6.3.1 A]
134. While it is possible to have several *running plays* during a down, there can only be one *loose-ball play* during a down. [Fundamental IX – 6; Case Book 10.4.2 B Comment]
135. 2nd and 20 for Team **A** from Team **B's** 32-yard line. QB **A19** is *roughed* after he releases a legal forward pass. **A34** catches the pass and runs to **B's** 4-yard line where he fumbles. The ball strikes the goal line pylon. The next play will be:
- A's** ball, 1st and 10 on **B's** 15-yard line.
 - A's** ball, 1st and goal on **B's** 2-yard line.
 - A's** ball, 1st and 10 on **B's** 17-yard line.
 - B's** ball, 1st and 10 on its own 10-yard line.
- [9-4-4, Penalty; 10-5-5; Case Book 9.4.4 C]
136. *Face guarding*, in and of itself, which does not include contact, is no longer considered *pass interference*. [7-5-10]
137. **K1's** punt hits the ground at Team **R's** 5-yard line. **K5** bats the ball backward while it is over the end zone but has not touched the ground there. **R2** grabs the ball at his 4-yard line and advances all the way to **K's** end zone. RULING: Touchdown for Team **R**. [4-2-2d1; 8-5-3a1]
138. **K1's** untouched punt rolls to a stop at **R's** 22-yard line. **K2** places a hand on it but does not gain possession. **R1** then scoops up the ball and runs for a touchdown. RULING: Dead ball → 1st and 10 for Team **R** at their 22-yard line. [4-2-2f; 5-1-3e]
139. **K1's** punt is rolling inside **R's** 5-yard line when **K7** legally blocks **R4** into contact with the ball. RULING: **R4's** touching of the ball is ignored in this situation. [6-2-4]

140. Team **A's** ball 4th and 10 with the nose of the ball touching **B's** 20-yard line. Following an incomplete pass, the officials should move the ball, not the chains, so that now the nose of the ball is on the inside edge of team **B's** 20-yard line. [5-3-3b; Case Book 5.3.3]
141. A *multiple foul* is any combination of live-ball or dead-ball fouls committed by the same team. [2-16-2e; 10-2-4]
142. Team **A** is in *scrimmage-kick formation* for a punt. During the snap, **B3** charges immediately and directly into the snapper. RULING: Automatic 1st down for Team **A** if accepted. [2-14-2b; 5-2-2; 9-4-6 Penalty; 10-1-7c; 10-3-1c; 10-4-2b]
143. 3rd and goal for Team **K** from Team **R's** 7-yard line. **K5** is in position to kick a field goal and **K12** is on one knee at **R's** 14-yard line in position to hold. **K12** takes the snap and, without rising, throws a forward pass to eligible **K30**, who drops it. RULING: It will be team **K's** ball, 4th and goal from **R's** 14-yard line. [4-2-2a Exception; Case Book 4.2.2 A(c)]
144. Players **A21** and **B32** jump up and possess a legal forward pass while airborne inside **B's** end zone near the end line. They both come to the ground on their feet in joint possession inbounds in the end zone and then fall to the ground over **B's** end line. RULING: Touchdown for **A**. [2-4-3; 2-41-3; 4-2-2c; 7-5-4; 8-2-1; Case Book 7.5.4 A(b)]
145. During a running play, **A1** breaks into the secondary. Safety **B2** comes up quickly and drives his face mask into the chest of **A1** while simultaneously wrapping his arms around **A1** bringing him to the ground. RULING: *Face-tackling* foul by **B2**. [2-20-1b; 9-4-3i; Case Book 9.4.3 L]
146. *Initial force* results from a carry, fumble, kick, pass, snap or muff. [2-13-1, 3; 8-5-1]
147. A *kick* ends as soon as any **R** player touches the kicked ball. [2-24-2; Fundamental IV – 1]
148. *False starts, encroachment* and *snap infractions* are always *dead-ball* fouls. [2-8; 2-16-2a; 4-1-6; 7-1, Penalty]
149. Just as runner **A20** hits the hole between center and guard, **B52** grabs him by the side collar of the shoulder pads and immediately pulls him down to that side. RULING: Illegal *horse-collar* tackle. Enforce the penalty from the end of the run. [9-4-3k; 10-3-2; 10-4-4]
150. 2nd and 10 on team **A's** 40-yard line. QB **A9** throws a completed pass from his 30-yard line to eligible **A45** on **A's** 33-yardline. **A45** then throws a forward pass well downfield. Clearly before the pass arrives, **B37** contacts **A24** so that **A24** cannot catch the pass.
- No foul.
 - The only foul on the play is *pass interference* by **B37**.
 - The only foul on the play is an *illegal forward pass* by **A45**.
 - Both **A45** and **B37** have fouled; the penalties cancel.
- [7-5-2c; 7-5-7]

151. 2nd and 10 from Team **A's** 30-yard line. Under heavy rush, QB **A10** dumps a pass to **A35** and is then *roughed* by **B77**. **A35** is downed at **A's** 28-yard line.
RULING: Penalize Team B from the *previous* spot and award Team A an automatic 1st down. [5-2-2; 9-4-4 Penalty; 10-5-5; Case Book 9.4.4 B(b)]
152. **A2** throws a legal forward pass into **B's** end zone complete to **A3**. **A64** held **B2** behind the neutral zone during the play. Time expired during the play. RULING: **B** must accept the penalty in order to cancel the score. Team **A** will then play an untimed down after the penalty is enforced. [3-3-3a; 9-2-1c; 10-5-3]
153. A down is action which starts with a legal snap or a free kick and ends when the ball next becomes dead. [2-7-1]
154. The penalty for *illegally kicking* or *batting* a loose ball includes loss of down. [9-7-1,2 Penalty; 10-1-6]
155. Unless Team **A** is in a *scrimmage-kick formation*, failure of Team **A** to have at least 5 players on the line numbered 50-79 is a foul at the snap. [7-2-5b; Exceptions]
156. Following a change of possession, if an *inadvertent whistle* is sounded, the down must be re-played. [4-2-2j; 4-2-3b; Case Book 4.2.3 G]
157. The **Head Linesman** has the responsibility for the conduct of the line-to-gain and down-marker crew, and the primary responsibility for counting downs.
 [La. Mechanics Manual: VI – Play Responsibilities]
158. If runner **A1**, who is beyond the neutral zone, tosses the ball forward, he has thrown an *illegal forward pass*. [7-5-2b]
159. *Post-scrimmage kick* (PSK) fouls and penalty enforcements can only be committed by Team **R** during *scrimmage-kick* downs. [2-16-2h]
160. Penalties for *dead-ball* fouls are enforced separately and in the order in which they occurred. [10-2-5b]
161. Blocking by either team is permissible, unless it is *kick-catching interference* or *pass interference*, a *personal foul* or an *illegal block*. [9-3; Fundamental VIII]
162. An offensive player may push, pull or lift the runner to assist his forward progress only if that action occurs behind the line of scrimmage. [9-1]
163. The penalty for any one of the **5** illegal passes is:
 a. Count the down at the spot of the foul.
 b. 5 yards and loss of down from the spot of the foul.
 c. Loss of 5 yards only from the spot of the foul if after team possession changes during the down.
 d. Any of the above.
 [5-2-2; 7-5-2 Penalty; 7-5-3]

164. Team **A** is in punt formation at **A's** 20-yard line. The deep snap to potential punter **A10** standing at **A's** 5-yard line is *muffed* into the air where **B1** bats the ball *in flight* into and out of **A's** end zone. RULING: Safety. Score 2 points for Team **B**.
[2-13-1, 2, 3; 8-5-2b; 9-7-2]
165. Each team must begin the game with **11** players but may continue with fewer if no substitutes are available to replace injured or disqualified players.
[1-1-3; Case Book 1.1.3]

[Rev: 6/14/17]