



**2018**



## **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. **Important:** Answers to these questions should be selected based solely on the information stated therein.

1. It is legal for players to use completely clear or completely white tooth and mouth protectors. [1-5-1d5(a); Case Book 1.5.1 C(a)]
2. The manufacturer’s name and/or logo is the only commercial advertising allowed on the football. [1-3-1h]
3. Game officials may use replay or television monitoring equipment as well as other supplementary equipment to aid in game administration. [1-1-9; Table 1-7(5)]
4. The *snap* ends when:
  - a. The ball is moved from its place on the ground.
  - b. The ball leaves the snapper’s hand(s).
  - c. The ball touches the ground or any player.[2-40-3]
5. Prior to the start of any down, *free-kick* or *scrimmage*, each Team **A** or **K** player must momentarily be within the 9-yard marks before the ball is marked ready for play. [7-2-1]
6. **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”]
7. The *passer* continues to be a *defenseless player* until the pass ends or the *passer* moves to participate in the play. [2-32-16a]

8. **A1** throws a legal forward pass that falls incomplete. Immediately after the pass is released, **B2** grasps but does not twist **A1's** facemask. RULING:
  - a. No foul.
  - b. *Roughing the passer*. 15-yard penalty and automatic 1<sup>st</sup> down.
  - c. *Inadvertent facemask foul*. 5-yard penalty.
 [9-4-3h; 9-4-4, Penalty]
9. Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a touchdown. [8-2-1; FUNDAMENTAL I – 8]
10. During the months of August and September, there shall be a mandatory heat time-out at the 6-minute mark of every quarter. These time-outs shall be official time-outs and will allow the players to rest briefly and hydrate their bodies. [LHSAA Handbook: Football 14.3.9; 3-5-7g]
11. After the ball goes out of bounds, the clock always starts on the ready-for-play signal. [3-4-3a]
12. The official signal for free-kick infractions, other than neutral-zone encroachment, will be #19 . . . “free kick infraction”. [6-1-3b Penalty; 6-1-4 Penalty; NF Official FB Signals]
13. Team **K's** kickoff is in flight 15 yards beyond Team **K's** free-kick line. **K5** catches the ball. RULING:
  - a. Legal play . . . it's Team **K's** ball at the spot of the catch.
  - b. Legal play if no Team **R** player is in position to catch the ball.
  - c. *Kick-catching interference on K5*.
 [6-1-6]
14. When weather conditions are construed to be hazardous to life or limb of the participants, the crew of game officials is authorized to make the decision on whether to delay or suspend the game. [3-1-5; Case Book 3.1.5 A,B]
15. 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]
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. When non-scoring *kicks* enter **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]
18. **R23** returns a punt but fumbles during his return. **K66** dives to the ground and recovers the fumble. RULING: 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **K**, and the clock starts on the snap. [3-4-3c; 5-1-3f]
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. A shift which is designed to cause Team **B** to encroach is a *false start*. [7-1-7b]
21. During 2<sup>nd</sup> down in the 1<sup>ST</sup> period, the field clock goes directly from **01:45** to **00:45** and is not detected. Following 3<sup>rd</sup> down, time for the period expires. The error is discovered after the **Referee** declares the period officially ended. RULING: The timing error can be corrected until the ball becomes *live* in the subsequent period.  
[3-3-5; Case Book 3.4.8(b)]
22. A *kick* ends when any player secures possession or the ball becomes dead while not in player possession. [2-24-2; Fundamental IV – 1]
23. 4<sup>th</sup> and 10 with the **nose** of the ball touching Team **B's** 20 yardline. **A10's** pass is incomplete. The officials should:
  - a. Move the ball, not the chains, so that the nose of the ball is on **B's** 20 yardline.
  - b. Move the chains, not the ball, so that the tail of the ball is touching **B's** 20 yardline.[5-3-3b]
24. 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]
25. If during a down in which time expires, **K75 holds** during a successful field-goal attempt, the period is automatically ended and the score is canceled. [3-3-3a]
26. The game officials' shall assume authority for the game **30** minutes prior to the scheduled game time or as soon thereafter as they are able to be present. This authority extends through the **Referee's** declaration of the end of the 4<sup>TH</sup> period or overtime.  
[1-1-7, 8; Case Book 1.1.7]
27. The clock will start on the snap following an *official's* time-out taken for television.  
[3-4-3f]
28. The **Umpire** shall resolve any questions regarding the legality of a player's equipment.  
[1-5-4]
29. Regardless of the outcome of any penalties incurred, no series can ever start on other than first down. [5-1-1a; Fundamental II – 6]
30. *Post-scrimmage kick* (PSK) fouls and penalty enforcements can only be committed by Team **R** during *scrimmage-kick* downs. [2-16-2h]
31. 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]
32. During a running play, **A31** breaks into the secondary. Safety **B24** comes up quickly and drives his face mask into the chest of **A31** while simultaneously wrapping his arms around **A31** bringing him to the ground. RULING: *Face-tackling* foul by **B24**.  
[2-20-1b; 9-4-3i; Case Book 9.4.3 L]

33. If a loose ball goes into the end zone, the last player who touches the ball in the field of play is the one deemed responsible for *forcing* it across the goal line. [2-13-2]
34. The **Referee** is responsible for determining the legality of the kicking team's formation on kick-offs. [La. Mechanics Manual: V – Free-Kick Responsibilities]
35. 1<sup>st</sup> and goal from Team **B's** 6 yardline. The pylon is properly placed at the goal line. **A33's** fumble deflects off the pylon and bounces back to Team **B's** 2 yardline where **A77** falls on the ball. RULING:  
 a. The ball remains *live*.  
 b. The ball is *dead*; it will be 2<sup>nd</sup> and goal for Team **A** from Team **B's** 2 yardline.  
 c. The ball is *dead*; it will be 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **B** from its 2 yardline.  
 d. The ball is *dead*; it will be 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **B** from its 20 yardline.  
 [1-2-4; 8-5-3c]
36. *Blocking below the waist* and *blocking in the back* are legal actions sometimes depending on when and where they occur but *chop blocks* and *clipping* are always illegal. [9-3-2, 5; 9-3-6]
37. When a foul occurs before a snap or free kick, a game official shall indicate the ball remains dead by blowing his whistle immediately and tossing his flag. [4-2-1]
38. During a down, a replaced player or substitute who enters the field but does not participate, constitutes *unsportsmanlike conduct*. [3-7-6]
39. 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; 1-6-1; Case Book 1.6.1 E]
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 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 from the *previous spot*. [2-10-2; 6-2-2]
41. A *defenseless player* is:  
 a. The quarterback running down the line prior to throwing a pass.  
 b. The defensive player immediately behind and pursuing the runner.  
 c. A runner in the grasp of a defensive player but still moving forward.  
 d. None of the above.  
 [2-32-16a, d, g]
42. When the **Referee** calls 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]
43. **K51** attempts an onside kick from his 40 yardline by kicking the ball toward the sideline. As **R22** goes to recover the ball at **K's 47-yard line**, he is blocked by **K30** and **K44** recovers the ball. RULING: **K30** is guilty of an *illegal block*. **K44's** recovery is negated and the 10-yard penalty, if accepted, is assessed from the *previous spot* with a re-kick. [6-1-6; 9-3-8, Penalty; Case Book 9.3.8 A]

44. 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]
45. When the ball is loose following an *illegal kick*, it will always be treated the same as a fumble. [2-24-9]
46. Receiver **A32** goes deep downfield on a passing play. Cornerback **B20**, beat on the play, turns his attention toward the receiver and waves his hands and arms in **A32's** face without making any contact with him. This action causes **A32** to drop the pass.  
RULING: Defensive *pass interference*. [7-5-10; Case Book 7.5.10 C]
47. At the snap, offensive linemen **A63** and **A55** immediately charge out and simultaneously contact nose tackle **B76** below the knees. All players were in the *free-blocking zone* at the snap and the block occurred in the FBZ. RULING: Legal Block.  
[2-3-8; Case Book 9.3.2 B(d)]
48. Defensive players are restricted from contacting the ball or the snapper's hand(s) or arm(s) until the snapper has released the ball. [7-1-6]
49. It is illegal to intentionally throw a backward pass out of bounds to stop the clock.  
[7-4-1]
50. There is **00:07** on the clock in the 4<sup>TH</sup> 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. The distance penalties for an equal number of 15-yard *unsportsmanlike, nonplayer or dead-ball* personal fouls committed by both teams will offset.  
[10-2-5b; Case Book 10.2.5 A]
52. An attempt by **B** players to interfere with **A's** offensive signals prior to the snap is a *live-ball foul*. [9-5-1d; 9-5 Penalty]
53. Team **A** scores a touchdown on the first possession of overtime. On the try, Team **B** is flagged for *roughing the kicker*. The kick is successful. RULING: The penalty is declined by rule. Team **B** will now start their series at the 10 yardline. [8-3-5; Casebook 8.3.5 A]
54. A *free kick* may be made after a fair catch or an awarded fair catch. It can score a field goal. [2-24-3; 6-4; 8-4-1a; Casebook 8-4-1 B(a,b)]
55. On 2<sup>nd</sup> down and 7 from Team **A's** 33 yardline, wide receiver **A46** voluntarily goes out of bounds and immediately returns inbounds at **A's** 38 yardline. RULING: *Illegal participation foul* on **A46** at **A's** 38 yardline. [9-6-1; Casebook 9.6.1 A: Comment]
56. The *free-blocking zone* (FBZ) disintegrates when the ball has left the zone. [2-17-4]

57. In certain situations, the kicking team may legally catch or recover, and retain possession of a *kick*; but they 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]
58. A *live-ball* foul occurs during the down or the continuing action immediately after the down ends. [2-16-2a, d]
59. **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]
60. 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]
61. During close line play following the snap, legal contact by guard **A65** causes defensive tackle **B70's** helmet to come completely off his head. **B70** disengages with **A65** and pursues the runner several yards downfield. Offensive tackle **A77** blocks **B70** above the waist from the front. RULING:
- Both teams have fouled.
  - B70** should be flagged for *illegal participation*.
  - A77** should be flagged for a *personal foul*.
  - All of these options are correct.
- [9-4-3l; 9-6-4g; 10-2-1]
62. No player or nonplayer shall:
- Hurdle* an opponent.
  - Throw a helmet to trip an opponent.
  - Initiate *illegal helmet contact*.
  - Any of the above.
- [9-4-3d, f, i]
63. An *inadvertent whistle* ends the down. [4-2-3]
64. 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> down and 10 from the *previous spot*. [10-2-1b; 10-4-2b; Case Book 10.2.1 A]
65. A *blindside block* against an opponent other than the runner is legal if it is initiated within the free-blocking zone. [9-4-3n; Case Book 9.4.3 W, X]
66. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10 from team **A's** 20-yard line. As time expires in the 2<sup>ND</sup> 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; 10-2-1]
67. *Initial force* results from a carry, fumble, kick, pass or snap. [2-13-1, 3; 8-5-1]

68. Team **K** is in punt formation on 4<sup>th</sup> 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: Foul for *illegal touching*. Cancel the score. Penalize Team **K** 5 yards and loss of down from the *previous spot*. Team **R** will play 1<sup>st</sup> down and 10 from their 45 yardline. [7-2-5b Exception 2; 7-5-13 Penalty; 10-4-2b; 10-5-3; Case Book 7.2.5 D]
69. A handed ball beyond the neutral zone is considered to be a *pass*. [2-19-1; 2-31-1; Fundamental VII – 3]
70. A *scrimmage kick* recovered in or behind the neutral zone may not be advanced by **K** or **R**. [6-2-2, 3; Fundamental VI – 2]
71. QB **A12** is scrambling and runs just beyond the neutral zone where he throws a forward pass to **A43** for an apparent touchdown. Time expired during the play at the end of the 2<sup>ND</sup> quarter. RULING: The score is canceled and the half is over. [3-3-4b3; 10-5-3; Case Book 3.3.4 A]
72. If a Try, free kick, any play after a fair catch is awarded, after a touchback, or on the first play of an overtime series, Team **A** may put the ball in play anywhere between the inbound lines (hash marks) even if after their own penalty. [4-3-6,7]
73. It is possible that some Team **K** fouls which occur during a *scrimmage kick* can be enforced from either the *previous spot* or the *succeeding spot*. [2-16-2h; 2-33-1a; 10-3-1a; 10-4-2b EXCEPTION]
74. 2<sup>nd</sup> down and 10 at **A**'s 5 yardline. **A12** takes the snap and fades back **5 yards** deep in **A**'s end zone. **A12** throws a pass which is caught by **A33** who is **3 yards** deep in **A**'s end zone. From there, **A33** throws a pass to **A42** at **A**'s 20 yardline. **A42** muffs the pass and **B29** intercepts and returns for an apparent touchdown. RULING: Team **B** can choose a safety or a touchdown. [2-31-2; 7-5-2c; 8-2-1; 8-5-2c; 10-1-1; 10-5-4]
75. All offensive players positioned on the line between the ends are *ineligible* receivers regardless of number. [7-5-6a]
76. Prior to the snap, Team **A** is set for **1 second**. Then QB **A10** takes one full step forward and under the center to receive the snap. While **A10** is moving forward, **A33** goes in motion parallel with the line and is still in motion at the snap. RULING: Live-ball foul for *illegal shift*. [2-16-2i; 2-39; 7-2-6; Case Book 7.2.6 A]
77. Team **A** is attempting to set up a screen pass. QB **A15** takes the snap and fades deep. **A15** throws a *forward pass* to **A40** who is still 5 yards behind the neutral zone. **B32** tackles **A40** before the pass arrives. **B32** was making no attempt to play the ball. RULING: Foul for *pass interference*. Penalize Team **B** 15 yards from the *previous spot* and award Team **A** a first down. [5-2-2; 7-5-7; 9-2-3c, Penalty; 10-4-2b]

78. A cloud-to-ground *lightning bolt* is seen. RULING: Play should be suspended and recommended precautions taken.  
[Rules Book Pg. 104: NFHS GUIDELINES (Lightning - 3)]
79. 4<sup>th</sup> down and 10 from Team **K's** 5 yardline. At the snap, Team **K** is flagged for *illegal formation*. **K1's** punt is blocked and the ball rolls out of the back of Team **K's** end zone. RULING: Team **R** can keep the 2 points for the *safety* and have the penalty enforced on the *succeeding kickoff*. [2-16-2i; 8-5-2b; 10-4-2a]
80. The pylon, when properly placed on the goal line, is out of bounds at the intersection of the sideline and goal line extended. [1-2-4]
81. Team **A** is driving the ball with the score **A-20 – B-23** and **00:15** left in the 4<sup>TH</sup> quarter. The clock is running after **A23** is tackled inbounds. Team **A** is out of timeouts when the **QB** runs to the **Referee** and requests a timeout. RULING: The request is granted but Team **A** will be penalized 15 yards for *unsportsmanlike conduct*. [3-5-5]
82. **K15's** field-goal attempt has a low trajectory and hits the back of **K51** who is 1 yard behind the *neutral zone*. The ball caroms off **K51** and subsequently goes between the uprights above the crossbar. RULING: The kick is good . . . count the score.  
[4-2-2d2; 8-4-1b]
83. 4<sup>th</sup> down and 10 from Team **K's** 10 yardline. **R30** is flagged for *running into the kicker*. **R45** makes a valid *fair catch*. After the ball is dead, **R45 taunts K27**. RULING: Team **K** can have both penalties enforced and play 1<sup>st</sup> down and 10.  
[2-16-2a; 5-2-2; 9-4-4; 9-5-1a; 10-2-5a; 10-4-2b]
84. Following **A's** incomplete pass, **B25** deliberately pushes receiver **A40** to the ground. RULING: **B25** is charged with *unsportsmanlike conduct*. [2-16-2f; 9-4-3b, Penalty]
85. 4<sup>th</sup> down and 10 on Team **K's** 30 yardline. **K16's** short punt is muffed by **R48** at Team **K's** 40-yard line. The loose ball rolls behind the neutral zone and is recovered by **K32** at Team **K's** 25 yardline. From there, **K32** throws a forward pass intended for eligible **K21** which falls incomplete. RULING:
- a. **K32's** pass is illegal.
  - b. The ball is dead when **K32** recovers.
  - c. It will be Team **K's** ball at Team **K's** 30-yard line.
  - d. It will be Team **R's** ball at Team **K's** 30-yard line.
- [5-1-3f; 7-5-1; 7-5-5; Case Book 5.1.3 D]
86. A *fumble* is the touching of a loose ball in an unsuccessful attempt to secure possession.  
[2-18; 2-27]
87. 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]
88. If a *double foul* occurs during a down in which time expires, the down will be re-played untimed. [3-3-3b]

89. 3<sup>rd</sup> down and 18 from Team **K's** 12 yardline. **K9's** punt is blocked and does not cross the neutral zone. **K9** recovers the ball by falling to the ground on top of it. RULING: Do not stop the clock. Team **K** will play 4<sup>th</sup> down at the dead-ball spot. [3-4-4; 3-5-9; 5-1-4]
90. 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]
91. The *field of play* is that area of the field bounded by the sidelines and goal lines. [2-10-2]
92. Pass eligibility rules apply to all forward passes. [7-5-6]
93. 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]
94. During a Try, it is possible for either team to score points. [8-3-3]
95. 3<sup>rd</sup> down and 10 from Team **A's** 5 yardline. QB **A19** throws a pass intended for **A26** beyond the neutral zone. While the pass is in flight, **B41** is flagged for grasping and pulling **A26's** facemask. The pass is complete and **A26** is downed at **A's** 25 yardline. RULING: If Team **A** accepts the penalty, it will be enforced from **A's** 25 yardline. [9-4-3h; 10-3-1b; 10-4-2b]
96. 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]
97. If runner **A21**, who is beyond the neutral zone, tosses the ball forward, he has thrown an *illegal forward pass*. [7-5-2b]
98. The ball becomes dead and the down is ended when a prosthetic limb comes completely off the *runner*. [4-2-2]
99. At the snap, all **A** players numbered **50-79** are *ineligible*. [7-5-6a]
100. The period shall not be extended if, during a down in which time expires, **B1** commits an *unsportsmanlike foul* and the penalty is accepted. [3-3-4b]
101. Only **1** receiver may give a signal for a *fair catch* while any legal kick is in flight. [6-5-1]
102. Penalties for dead-ball fouls are enforced separately and in the order in which they occurred. [10-2-5b]
103. If a foul occurs during a down, the basic enforcement spot is determined by the action that occurs during the down. [10-4-1]
104. **A12** throws a legal forward pass into **B's** end zone complete to **A33**. **A69** held **B72** 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]

105. 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]
106. **R29** catches a *free kick* at his own 7 yardline and returns it for a touchdown. As he nears the goal line, **R29** turns and taunts the nearest pursuer. **R29** scores, but before he crosses the goal line, he is flagged for *unsportsmanlike conduct*. RULING:
- If the penalty is accepted, it must be enforced on the free kick after the Try.
  - If the penalty is accepted, it must be enforced on the Try.
  - If the penalty is accepted, it may be enforced on the Try or on the free kick after the Try.
  - If the penalty is accepted, the touchdown is canceled. The penalty is enforced from the spot of the foul and Team **R** begins a new series after enforcement.
- [8-2-4; 9-5-1a; 10-4-5a]
107. The only defensive penalties which automatically grant a first down are roughing the passer, kicker, holder or the deep snapper in a scrimmage-kick formation. [9-4-4, 5, 6, Penalty; 10-1-7]
108. The punter becomes a *kicker* when his knee, lower leg or foot makes contact with the ball. He continues to be a *kicker* until he has had reasonable opportunity to regain his balance. [2-32-8; Case Book 9.4.5 G]
109. *False starts, encroachment* and *snap infractions* are always *dead-ball* fouls. [2-8; 2-16-2a; 4-1-6; 7-1, Penalty]
110. With **00:55** remaining in the game, Team **A** has the ball and a 2-point lead. **A67** 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]
111. With **00:10** remaining in the **2<sup>ND</sup>** 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. RULING:
- The ball became dead when **A10** faked kneeling.
  - A10** is flagged for *unsportsmanlike conduct*.
  - No foul . . . The touchdown stands.
- [4-2-2a; 8-2-1a]
112. Following any kick return, Team **R** may request that the ball be placed anywhere between the inbounds lines (*hash marks*). [4-3-4, 5, 6]
113. 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)]
114. **2<sup>nd</sup>** down and 10 from Team **A's** 30 yardline. Under heavy rush, QB **A10** dumps a pass to **A35** and is then *roughed* by **B77**. **A35** is downed at **A's** 28 yardline. RULING: Penalize Team **B** from the *previous* spot and award Team **A** an automatic **1<sup>st</sup>** down. [5-2-2; 9-4-4 Penalty; 10-5-5; Case Book 9.4.4 B(b)]

115. 3<sup>rd</sup> down and goal for Team **K** from Team **R's** 7 yardline. **K5** is in position to kick a field goal and **K12** is on one knee at **R's** 14 yardline 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, 4<sup>th</sup> and goal from **R's** 14-yard line. [4-2-2a Exception; Case Book 4.2.2 A(c)]
116. Team **A** is in *scrimmage-kick formation* for a punt. During the snap, **B3** charges immediately and directly into the snapper. RULING: Automatic 1<sup>st</sup> down for Team **A** if accepted. [2-14-2b; 5-2-2; 9-4-6 Penalty; 10-1-7c]
117. **B26** intercepts a pass at his own 4 yardline. After running a few steps, he is hit and fumbles. The ball rolls back and hits the goal-line pylon which is properly placed. RULING:
- The ball is given to Team **B**; 1<sup>st</sup> down at the 4 yardline.
  - It's a safety; Team **A** scores 2 points.
  - It's a touchback; it's Team **B's** ball at it's own 20 yardline.
- [1-2-4; 7-4-4; 8-5-2B]
118. 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]
119. The rules require that helmets & face masks, tooth protectors, shoulder pads, hip pads, thigh guards, knee pads and shoes be worn by all players. [1-5-1a,d,f]
120. 1<sup>st</sup> down and 10 for Team **A** at their 40 yardline. Runner **A31** is tackled by **B52** at Team **A's** 44 yardline. In trying to fend off the tackle, **A31** grabs but does not pull or twist **B52's** face mask. RULING: *Face mask foul*. Team **A** will be penalized 5 yards from the end of the run. [9-4-3h, Penalty; 10-4-4]
121. Team **A** is illegally in motion at the snap. **B41** intercepts and returns for a touchdown. RULING: Team **B** may elect to Try from **A's** 1½-yard line. [2-16-2i; 2-41-7; 10-4-2a]
122. With **04:35** remaining in the 2<sup>ND</sup> quarter the coach of Team **B** informs the **Referee** that his wireless headset is not functioning and he has no communication with his coaches in the press box. RULING: The **Referee** correctly rules that this situation does not come under the jurisdiction of the officials. [1-6-2; Case Book 1.6.1 B(b)]
123. A player may be withdrawn and re-entered legally during the same dead-ball interval if the period ends during the dead-ball interval. [3-7-3]
124. Team **A** is trailing by **7** points. During a down in which time expires for the **4<sup>TH</sup> quarter**, Team **A** scores a touchdown. **B52** committed a *face-mask foul* during the TD play. RULING: Team **A** has the option of taking this penalty in overtime. [2-16-2d; 8-2-2; Case Book 8.2.2 C(a)]
125. The *initial direction* determines whether a pass is *forward* or *backward*. [2-31-2, 5]

126. 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]
127. If the kickers catch or recover a *free* or *scrimmage kick* after it has been touched by **R**, the ball remains live. [2-24-2; 4-2-2f; 6-1-6; 6-2-3, 4]
128. During the course of the game, players, coaches and nonplayers may use any available communications technology during authorized conferences held outside the 9-yard marks. [1-6-1]
129. 2<sup>nd</sup> down and 10 from Team **A's** 30 yardline. **A8's** forward pass is grabbed near the sideline at Team **A's** 40 yardline by airborne eligible **A28** who jumps straight into the air. **B36** then shoves **A28** so he lands out of bounds beyond Team **A's** 42 yardline. RULING:  
 a. It's a catch.  
 b. It's a catch if the covering official believes **A28** would have landed inbounds without the contact.  
 c. It's no catch.  
 [2-4-1; 7-5-5; Case Book 3.4.3 C]
130. 3<sup>rd</sup> down and 10 on Team **A's** 10 yardline. **A11** pitches the ball backward to **A22**, who muffs the ball on Team **A's** 3 yardline. The ball is lying motionless on the 2 yardline when **B33** legally blocks **A11** into the ball, causing it to go into the end zone then out of bounds. RULING: Touchback . . . **A's** ball 1<sup>st</sup> down and 10. [2-13-1; 5-1-1; 8-5-3c, 4]
131. *Post-scrimmage kick* (PSK) fouls and penalty enforcements do not apply to kick tries, successful field goals or in overtime. [2-16-2h1; Rules Book Pg. 85: OT 10-4-3]
132. An illegal forward pass is considered to have occurred during a *running play*. [2-33-1b,2; 10-3-1,2]
133. *First touching* of a kick by **K** is ignored if the penalty for a foul during the down is accepted. [5-1-6]
134. A punt is in flight or rolling along the ground when an official inadvertently sounds his whistle. RULING: The ball becomes dead immediately and is returned to the *previous spot*. Replay the down. [4-2-2; 4-2-3a; 10-4-2c; Case Book 4.2.3 A]
135. 4<sup>th</sup> down and 10 from Team **R's** 38 yardline. **K45's** unsuccessful field-goal attempt lands untouched at Team **R's** 4 yardline, bounces again in the end zone and is grabbed on one bounce by **R22** who is 2 yards deep in his end zone. RULING: The ball is dead as soon as it breaks the goal line plane and results in a touchback. Team **A** will play 1<sup>st</sup> down and 10 at its 20 yardline. [4-2-2d1; 5-1-1; 6-3-1a; 8-5-4]
136. **B14** intercepts a pass deep in Team **B's** end zone. **B14** then attempts to run the ball out of the end zone but is downed **2 yards** deep in the end zone. RULING: Safety. [2-13-2; 8-5-1, 2b, 3d]
137. Players may wear a *medical-alert* medal if it is properly taped. [1-5-3c6]

138. On **1<sup>st</sup>**, **2<sup>nd</sup>**, or **3<sup>rd</sup> 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)]
139. A player in the backfield may not wear a jersey numbered 50-79. [1-4-2; 7-2-5b]
140. After the ball is dead, the **umpire** notices **A10** is not wearing thigh guards or knee pads.  
**RULING:**
- A10** is penalized 5 yards and must leave the game until he has proper equipment.
  - A10** is penalized 15 yards and must leave the game until he has proper equipment.
  - Team **A's** head coach is penalized 15 yards and **A10** must leave the game until he has proper equipment.
  - There is no yardage penalty but **A10** shall be replaced for at least 1 down, unless halftime or an overtime intermission occurs, until he has proper equipment.
- [1-5-4, 5; 3-5-10e]
141. A defensive player is considered to be on the line of scrimmage when he is within **1** or **2** yards of the line of scrimmage at the snap. [2-25-3]
142. **1<sup>st</sup> down** and 10 for Team **A** at their 20 yardline. Quarterback **A10** drops straight back to pass under defensive pressure. **B70** grabs the inside back of **A10's** jersey and pulls backward bringing **A10** to the ground at the 15 yardline. **RULING:** Illegal *horse-collar tackle*. The 15-yard penalty will be enforced from the end of the run. Team **A** will play **1<sup>st</sup> down** and 10 at their 30 yardline. [2-33-2; 5-2-2; 9-4-3k, Penalty; 10-4-4]
143. **2<sup>nd</sup> down** and 20 for Team **A** from its 10 yardline. **A8's** pass is intercepted at **A's** 35 yardline. **B52** is flagged for *roughing the passer* and the penalty is accepted. **RULING:**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> down** and 5 from Team **A's** 25 yardline.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> down** and 10 from Team **A's** 25 yardline.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> down** and 10 at the 50 yardline.
- [2-32-11; 5-2-2; 9-4-4, Penalty; 10-1-7b; 10-5-5]
144. **K15's free kick** is at rest at Team **R's** 1 yardline when **R20** muffs the ball trying to recover it. The ball then hits the goal-line pylon. **RULING:** Touchback. Team **A's** ball at its own 20 yardline. [1-2-4; 8-5-3a1; 8-5-4]
145. Team **A** scores a touchdown on the first series in overtime. After the successful 2-point Try, **B5** is flagged for a dead-ball *personal foul*. **RULING:** Team **B** will start their series at the 25 yardline. [4-2-2h; 8-3-5b; 10-4-3; Rules Book Pg. 85: OT 5-3-1]
146. *Illegal helmet contact* is always deemed to be *flagrant* which mandates that the offender be ejected from the game. [2-16-2c; 9-4-3i NOTE; Penalty]
147. The clock will always start on the *ready-for-play signal*, if it was stopped because of an inadvertent whistle during the down. [3-4-2c; Case Book 3.4.2 C]
148. Following any **4<sup>th</sup>** down play, the clock shall be stopped. [3-4-4b; 3-5-9]

149. A ball without any stripes is illegal even if both coaches agree to use it. [1-3-1c]
150. Kickoff returner **R26** stops at his own 30 yardline where he throws *forward pass* in the direction of **R30** at Team **R's** 40 yardline. The ball hits **R30's** hands and falls to the ground. RULING:  
 a. The ball should be blown dead and treated as an *incomplete* forward pass.  
 b. The ball remains live and is treated as a *fumble*.  
 [4-2-2c; 7-5-2a, Penalty]
151. Team **K** is attempting a Try. During the unsuccessful kick, **K45** is flagged for *blocking below the waist*. RULING: Team **R** must decline the penalty to avoid a replay of the down. [5-2-1]
152. During Team **K's** successful field goal attempt from the 25 yardline, Team **R** *illegally blocks K34* at the 1 yardline. RULING: If Team **K** accepts the penalty, it may be enforced either at the *previous spot* and replay the down, or from the *succeeding spot*.  
 [2-16-2h1; 8-4-3]
153. A *blindside block* is a block against any opponent who does not see the blocker approaching and is always illegal. [2-3-10; 9-4-3n]
154. 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]
155. **2 teammates** who may legally block below the waist in the *free-blocking zone* against a particular opponent do so by charging at that opponent for a **simultaneous** block *at or below the opponent's knees*. RULING: Illegal *chop block*.  
 [2-3-8; 9-3-6 & Table (Combination Blocks); Case Bk. 9.3.2 B(d)]
156. **B21** intercepts a pass and begins a return. **B21** is pursued by **A32**, who cannot see **B53** approach. **B53** contacts **A32** in the side with open hands below the neck and shoulders, above the waist. RULING: Legal contact by **B53**. [2-3-10; 9-4-3n]
157. If a *free kick*, untouched by **R** or **K**, subsequently goes out of bounds at Team **R's** 30 yardline, **R** will have an option to penalize **K** 5 yards from the succeeding spot and play 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 at their 35 yardline. [6-1-9b; Case Book 6.1.9 B(c)]
158. 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]
159. 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)]
160. 4<sup>th</sup> down and 4 from Team **A's** 7-yard line. QB **A12** drops straight back into his own end zone under a heavy rush. To avoid being sacked in the end zone, **A12** intentionally throws a forward pass directly to the ground. RULING: Foul for *intentional grounding*. Safety for Team **B**. [7-5-2e; 8-5-2c]

161. 3<sup>rd</sup> down at **B's** 48-yard line. *Roughing the passer* is called on **B71**. During the play, **A14's** pass was complete to **A28** who is tackled at **B's** 40-yard line. RULING: Penalize 15 yards from the end of **A28's** run and award Team **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)]
162. 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)]
163. 4<sup>th</sup> down and 10 on Team **R's** 40-yard line. **K34's** punt is in flight when **R21** blocks **K43** 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 from its own 10-yard line. [2-16-2h; 2-41-6; 5-2-1; 10-4-3,5d; Case Book 10.4.3 C]
164. The down is ended and the ball becomes dead when:
- When a runner goes out of bounds.
  - When a runner is held so his forward progress is stopped.
  - When any part of the runner's person, other than hand or foot, touches the ground.
  - Any of the above.
- [4-2-2a]
165. 1<sup>st</sup> down and 10 for Team **A** at their 5 yardline. **A7's** legal forward pass is caught by **A27** at Team **A's** 23 yardline. **B71** *roughed the passer*. **A27** advances to Team **A's** 30 yardline and fumbles, but prone **A44** recovers at his own 35 yardline. RULING:
- The penalty is enforced from the *previous spot*.
  - The penalty is enforced from Team **A's** 23 yardline.
  - The penalty is enforced from Team **A's** 30 yardline.
  - The penalty is enforced from Team **A's** 35 yardline.
- [9-4-4, Penalty; Case Book 9.4.4 C]
166. 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]
167. The basic spot of enforcement may, at the option of the offended team, be the *succeeding spot* for fouls by **K** during a *free-kick* or *scrimmage-kick* down (other than kick-catch interference) when **K** will not be next to put the ball in play. [10-4-2 Exception]
168. Artificial limbs may not be worn by any players. [1-7]
169. *Illegal participation fouls* by the receiving team occurring during the kick are now enforced under *post-scrimmage kick* (PSK) rules. [2-16-2h; 9-6-4a]
170. It is a *flagrant personal foul* for a team captain to slug the **Referee** just prior to the pre-game coin toss. [9-4-2]