



2019



# 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. A team’s end zone is the one it is defending. 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.

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1. During the play, the **Umpire** notices that a player does not have the usual protrusions indicating that hip pads and tailbone protector are being worn. It is found that the player is wearing a manufactured girdle with closed cell “bubble type” protective padding that conforms and covers the hips and tailbone. **RULING:** There is no padding criteria listed for hip pads and tailbone protector. Therefore, the pads are legal. [1-5-1d1; Case Book 1.5.1 E(b)]
  2. After the ball is ready for play, each player of **A** who participated in the previous down and each substitute for **A** must have been, momentarily, between the 9-yard marks, before the snap. [7-2-1; Case Book 7.2.1 C]
  3. Following the snap on a kick try or field-goal attempt, the offensive linemen “step down” and interlock their feet while blocking. **RULING:** Foul for *illegal blocking* . . . 10-yard penalty. [7-2-2, Penalty; Case Book 7.2.2]
  4. During the months of August and September, there shall be a mandatory heat time-out at the halfway point of every quarter. These time-outs shall be official time-outs and will allow the players to rest briefly and hydrate their bodies. [3-5-7g; LHSAA Handbook: Football 14.3.10]
  5. 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]

6. For a scrimmage down, **7** Team **A** players must be legally on their line at the snap in order to have a legal formation. [2-14-1; 7-2-5a]
7. An illegal forward pass is considered to have occurred during a *loose-ball play*. [2-33-1b, 2; 10-3-1, 2]
8. When the **40-second** play clock is running, the ball becomes ready for play, and Team **A** may snap it, when an **official** places the ball at the appropriate spot between the hash marks and steps toward his position. [3-6-1b2; Case Book 3.6.1 Comment 1]
9. Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a touchdown. [8-2-1; FUNDAMENTAL I – 8]
10. **B36** intercepts a pass at his own **3-yard** line. His momentum takes him into his own end zone, where he fumbles. **B52** and **A88** simultaneously recover the loose ball, which never leaves the end zone. RULING: [7-4-3c; 8-5-2a Except.]
  - a. Team **A** scores a safety.
  - b. Team **A** scores a touchdown.
  - c. Touchback; Team **B** will get the ball at its own 20-yard line.
  - d. The *momentum exception* applies; Team **B** will get the ball at its own 3-yard line.
11. A defensive player is considered to be on his line of scrimmage when he is within **1** yard of his scrimmage line at the snap. [2-25-3]
12. Anytime the play clock is interrupted for improperly worn or missing equipment by a player, the player is to be removed from the contest for at least one play. [1-5-1b1; 1-5-5, 6; 3-5-2b; 3-5-10e; Case Book 3.5.10 I Comment]
13. 4<sup>th</sup> and 6 to go for Team **A** from its own 40-yard line. They initially set in a *scrimmage-kick* formation with **A83** as an interior lineman and 4 other linemen numbered 50-79. Prior to the snap, **B75** *encroaches*. Following enforcement, Team **A** lines up with **A83** on the end of the line and through substitution has 5 interior linemen numbered 50-79. **A83** then goes downfield and catches a touchdown pass. RULING: Legal play . . . the touchdown stands. [7-2-5b Except. 2; Case Book 7.2.5 F]
14. A *scrimmage kick* recovered in or behind the neutral zone may **not** be advanced by either team. [6-2-2, 3; Fundamental VI – 2]
15. *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. [2-35]
16. **25** seconds will be put on the play clock and start on the ready-for-play signal: [3-6-1a1(a, b, d)]
  - a. Prior to a try following a score.
  - b. To start a period or overtime series.
  - c. Following a charged time-out.
  - d. Any of the above.

17. 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]
18. *Tripping* any opponent is illegal anywhere on the field. [2-45; 9-4-3o; Case Book 2.42.1 (d)]
19. A cloud-to-ground *lightning bolt* is seen. RULING: The officiating crew should suspend play and undertake the recommended safety precautions. [Rules Book Pg. 102: NFHS GUIDELINES (Lightning - 3)]
20. In order for a *scrimmage* formation to be legal at the snap, at least **5** Team **A** players must be on their line of scrimmage and no more than **4** Team **A** players may be *backs*. [2-14-1; 7-2-5a; Case Book 7.2.5 C]
21. 3<sup>rd</sup> down and 5 at Team **A's** 30-yard line. Quarterback **A10's** handoff to **A32** is fumbled and the ball is in flight when **A22** bats it forward and out of bounds at **A's** 35-yard line. RULING: [5-1-2a; 5-1-3a; 9-7-2]  
 a. Foul for *illegal batting*. 15-yard penalty from the previous spot & replay the down.  
 b. Foul for *illegal touching*. 10-yard penalty from the spot of the foul & loss of down.  
 c. No foul. Legal play. Team **A** gets a first down at their 35-yard line.
22. It shall be an "administrative stoppage" of play when time-out for an injury is granted. The play clock shall be set to **25 seconds** and started on the ready-for-play signal. [3-6-1a1(e); LHSAA Attachment A – 2c FAQs]
23. 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]
24. During a try, it is possible for either team to score points. [8-3-3]
25. If a foul occurs during a down, the basic enforcement spot is determined by the action that occurs during the down. [10-4-1]
26. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5 yards to go at Team **R's** 20-yard line. Holder **K15** muffs the snap and the ball is loose on the ground at Team **R's** 27-yard line. **K44** kicks the rolling ball, which goes through the uprights. RULING: [2-24-4; 8-4-1b; 9-7-1, Pen.; 10-6; Case Book 9.7.1 A]  
 a. Foul. 10-yard penalty from the spot of the kick.  
 b. Foul. 10-yard penalty from the previous spot.  
 c. Foul. 15-yard penalty from the spot of the kick.  
 d. Legal play. Count the field goal.
27. 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]
28. 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; 10-2-2; 10-4-2b; Case Book 10.2.1 A]

29. *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. 87: OT 10-4-3]
30. **A23** is carrying the ball when **B40** grabs his jersey from behind just below the collar in the name plate area. **A23** crosses the goal line and is then pulled down backward by **B40**. RULING: *Horse-collar foul* on **B40**. Count the touchdown. **A** has the option to penalize Team **B** on either the try or subsequent kickoff. [8-2-1a; 8-2-2; 9-4-3k; Case Book 9.4.3 P(b)]
31. During a down midway through the 4<sup>TH</sup> period, runner **A28** is legally tackled and loses his helmet as a result of the contact. Hoping to keep his player in the game at a crucial point, Team **A's** coach immediately requests and is granted a charged time-out. RULING: **A28** must be replaced for one down as a charged team time-out does not exempt a player from having to leave the game. [3-5-10d; Case Book 3.5.10 E]
32. Team **K's** deep kickoff bounces at **R's** 10-yard line and is in the air above the end zone when **R30**, standing on his 1-yard line, reaches in and grabs it and begins a return. RULING: Since the *kick* did not touch the ground or any player in the end zone, **R30's** return is allowed to continue. [4-2-2d1; 6-3-1a; Case Book 4.2.2 D]
33. 4<sup>th</sup> down and 10 on Team **K's** 30-yard line. **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-yard line. From there, **K32** throws a forward pass intended for eligible **K21** which falls incomplete. RULING: [5-1-3f; 7-5-1, 2; 7-5-5; Case Book 5.1.3 D]  
a. **K32's** pass is illegal.  
b. It will be Team **K's** ball at Team **K's** 30-yard line.  
c. It will be Team **R's** ball at Team **K's** 30-yard line.  
d. The ball is dead when **K32** recovers.
34. It is legal for players to use completely clear or completely white tooth and mouth protectors as long as they protect and separate both biting surfaces. [1-5-1d5(a); Case Book 1.5.1 C(a)]
35. *Illegal forward handing, illegal forward pass and illegal touching of a forward pass by an ineligible* are the only fouls which carry a "loss-of-down" penalty. [10-1-6]
36. For *scrimmage* downs, Team **B** is required to have at least **5** players on their line of scrimmage. [7-2-5d]
37. The down is ended and the ball becomes dead when any forward pass is incomplete or simultaneously caught by opposing players. [4-2-2c]
38. 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)]
39. The loss-of-down aspect of a penalty does not come into play following a change of possession or if the line to gain is reached after enforcement. [Fundamental X – 8]

40. 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]
41. **K15's** free kick is at rest at Team **R's** 1-yard line 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-yard line. [1-2-4; 2-24-2; 8-5-3a1; 8-5-4]
42. 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]
43. As the **Line Judge** is retrieving the ball from tackled runner **A24**, he notices **A24** is wearing corrective eyeglasses with tinted lenses. RULING: Legal [1-5-3c-4 NOTE]
44. **K25's** short kickoff is in flight 14 yards beyond Team **K's** free-kick line when **K30** catches it with no **R** players around. RULING: [6-5-6a]
- Legal play; it's **K's** ball at the spot of the catch.
  - Legal play only if no Team **R** player is in position to catch the ball.
  - Legal play regardless if a Team **R** player is in position to catch the ball.
  - Kick-catch interference* on **K30** under any circumstance.
45. If the kickers catch or recover a *free kick* anywhere after it has been touched by **R**, the ball remains live. [2-24-2; 4-2-2f; 6-1-6; Case Book 6.1.6 A]
46. 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; Case Book 9.1]
47. 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** blocks **A44** before the pass arrives and it falls incomplete. RULING: The only foul in this situation is an *illegal forward pass* beyond the line of scrimmage. The loss-of-down aspect dictates no replay of the down. The half is ended. [3-3-4b3; 7-5-2b, Penalty; 7-5-7]
48. If a place kick is used for a try, it is a *scrimmage-kick formation* and the numbering exception may be used. [7-2-5b Except. 2; Case Book 7.2.5 F]
49. While **K9's** punt is in flight, **K42** commits a *holding foul*. **R33** returns the ball for a touchdown. RULING: The touchdown counts but since **K's** foul occurred prior to the change of possession, **R's** only option for a distance penalty is on the try. [8-2-3; Case Book 6.2 R(a)]
50. A pass from **A10** is possessed by **A25** while he is in the air above **B's** end zone. **A25** loses control when he is hit by **B36** while in the air. The loose ball is subsequently caught by eligible **A41** in **B's** end zone. RULING: Touchdown. [2-4-1; 8-2-1b; Case Book 7.5.4 B(b)]
51. Pass eligibility rules apply to all forward passes. [7-5-6]

52. 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at their own 20-yard line. Team **B** intercepts **A10's** pass at **A's** 40-yard line and advances to **A's** 20-yard line. During the return, **B52 clips A60** at **A's** 30-yard line and **A26** commits a 5-yard *face mask foul* at **A's** 35-yard line. **B** subsequently fumbles and **A** recovers the ball at **A's** 35-yard line. RULING: Double foul. Replay the down. [9-3-6; 9-4-3h; 10-2-1b; Case Book 10.2.1b]
53. A request for a time-out may be made only after the ball becomes dead by any player, the head coach or his designee. [3-5-2a; Case Book 3.5.2 B]
54. 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]
55. **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: Legal action by **B23**. No foul on the play. [7-5-10; Case Book 7.5.10 C]
56. **A33's** fumble rolls forward and out of bounds at Team **A's** 25-yard line. The **game** clock will start: [3-4-3a; 3-4-4e]
- 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.
57. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9 at Team **A's** 30-yard line. **A21** fumbles and the ball bounces high in the air. **B42** leaps at the 38-yard line, controls the ball while airborne and lands touching the sideline at Team **A's** 40-yard line. RULING: [2-36-1; 4-2-2b; 4-3-1; 5-1-3a]
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **B** at Team **A's** 40-yard line.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> and 1 for Team **A** at it's 38-yard line.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at it's 40-yard line.
58. A *blindsided block* is a block against any opponent who does not see the blocker approaching and is legal if executed in the *free-blocking zone* or with open hands. [2-3-10; 9-4-3n; Case Book 9.4.3 W]
59. **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)]
60. *Unsportsmanlike-conduct* fouls by *players* do not involve contact and accumulate toward disqualification. [2-32-1; 9-5-1, 2; Case Book 9.5]
61. Defensive back **B40**, running alongside runner **A24**, reaches and grabs the collar of **A24's** jersey and pulls him down forward in making the tackle. RULING: Legal defensive play. [9-4-3k; Case Book 9.4.3 M(d)]
62. An *inadvertent whistle* ends the down. [4-2-3]

63. The penalty for illegally kicking or batting the ball is has been reduced to **5 yards**. [9-7-1, 2; Penalty]
64. The passer continues to be a *defenseless player* until the legal forward pass ends or he/she moves to participate in the play. [2-32-11; 2-32-16a]
65. The ball becomes *dead* and the down ends when a prosthetic limb comes completely off the runner. [4-2-2l]
66. On 4<sup>th</sup> down, **K's** punt is muffed beyond the neutral zone by **R25** following his fair-catch signal. While the ball is *loose* following the muff, the covering official sounds his whistle inadvertently. **RULING**: Replay the down. The **Referee** will start both the game clock and the **25-second play clock** on the "ready-for-play signal." [3-4-2c; 3-4-4i; 3-6-1a1c; 4-2-3a; Case Book 4.2.3 A]
67. Before **A11** throws a pass that goes beyond the neutral zone, guard **A66** blocks defensive lineman **B75** and drives him back **4 yards**. **RULING**: *Offensive pass interference* by **A66** because he has driven **B75** beyond the expanded neutral zone. [2-28-2; 7-5-8a; 7-5-12; Case Book 7.5.12 B]
68. During a kick, an offensive player may use his hands or arms to ward off an opponent who is attempting to block him. [2-3-4b]
69. Pass interference restrictions on a legal forward pass begin for: [7-5-8a]
- A** with the snap.
  - B** with the snap.
  - A** when the ball leaves the passer's hand.
  - None of the above.
70. When **R24** gains possession of a *kick*, blocking below the waist by teammates becomes legal. [2-17-2; 9-3-2]
71. 4<sup>th</sup> down and 15 on Team **K's** 30-yard line. **R28** enters the game as the **12<sup>th</sup> player** while **K's** punt is in flight and blocks during the return. **R15** catches the punt at **R's** 35-yard line and returns to his 42-yard line before being tackled. **RULING**: *Illegal participation foul* on **R28**. The penalty is enforced from the *post-scrimmage kick spot* (R 35-yard line). Team **R** will put the ball in play 1<sup>st</sup> down 10 after enforcement. [2-30; 5-2-2a1; 9-6-4a; 10-4-3; Case Book 9.6.1 D]
72. At the snap, all **A** players numbered **50-79** are *ineligible*. [7-5-6a]
73. If runner **A21**, who is beyond the neutral zone, tosses the ball forward, he has thrown an *illegal forward pass*. [7-5-1; 7-5-2b]
74. If there is a *double foul* during the last timed down of a period, the period is automatically extended. [2-16-2b; 3-3-3b; 10-2-1]
75. Following any 4<sup>th</sup> down play, the clock shall be stopped. [3-5-9]

76. 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-yard line. [7-2-5b Exception 2; 7-5-13 Penalty; 10-4-2b; 10-5-3; Case Book 7.2.5 E]
77. The succeeding spot is where the ball was last snapped or free kicked. [2-41-10]
78. If **K22**'s field-goal attempt deflects off **K50**'s shoulder while he is in the expanded neutral zone, the attempt will be ruled unsuccessful even if the ball subsequently passes between the uprights above the crossbar. [8-4-1b]
79. No foul causes a live ball to become *dead*. [2-16-4; Fundamental III – 2]
80. Team **A** scores a touchdown on the first possession of an extra period. During the try, Team **R** is flagged for *roughing the kicker*. The kick is successful. RULING: [8-3-5]
- The penalty is declined by rule.
  - Team **K** may accept the point and have the penalty enforced at the start of **R**'s overtime session.
  - Team **K** may choose to have the penalty enforced from the *previous spot* and replay the down.
  - Either b. or c.
81. On the kickoff, the ball bounces high near the sideline. **R23** leaps from inbounds and grabs the ball while he is airborne over the field of play. **R23** alights so that he lands on the sideline at Team **R**'s 15-yard line. RULING: [2-4-1; Case Book 6.1.9 A]
- Foul for *free kick out of bounds*.
  - Team **R** will put the ball in play at its own 15-yard line.
82. A *punt* may be used for the free kick on a *kickoff*. [2-24-5, 8]
83. A *backward pass* is a pass thrown with its initial direction parallel with or toward the runner's end line. [2-31-5]
84. 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. RULING: [7-2-6, Penalty]
- No foul. Play on.
  - Illegal motion*, a live-ball foul.
  - Illegal shift*, a live-ball foul.
  - False start*, a dead-ball foul.
85. *First touching* of a kick by **K** is ignored if the penalty is accepted for any foul committed during the down. [5-1-6]

86. 4<sup>th</sup> and 10 on Team **K's** 20-yard line. Punter **K19** takes the snap and starts to run. He pulls up at his 25-yard line and kicks the ball. **R28** catches the kick at his 45-yard line and is tackled immediately. RULING: [2-24-9; 2-33-1d; 6-2-1, Penalty; 9-7-1; 10-4-2 Exception; Case Book 9.7.1 B(a)]
- The ball is dead immediately.
  - The penalty is 10 yards from the *spot of the foul*. Team **K** will play 4<sup>th</sup> and 15 from its 15-yard line.
  - The penalty is 10 yards from the *succeeding spot*. Team **R** will play 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 from Team **K's** 45-yard line.
  - Either b. or c.
87. 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]
88. After a safety, unless moved by a penalty, Team **R's** free-kick restraining line is **K's** 30-yard line. [6-1-1b]
89. A foul that occurs simultaneously with the snap is an exception to the “all-but-one” penalty enforcement principle. [2-16-2i; Fundamental X – 3a]
90. Because an inadvertent whistle is an “error” on the official’s part and prematurely ends the down, penalty enforcement for fouls after the whistle is the same as for *live-ball fouls*. [4-2-2j; 4-2-3; 10-4-5b]
91. Replaced players shall begin to leave the field within **3 seconds** of being so informed. [3-7-1; Case Book 3.7.1 A]
92. After the ball goes out of bounds, both the game clock and the play clock will start on the ready-for-play signal. [3-4-3a; 3-4-4e; 3-6-1a2]
93. The **Umpire** shall ascertain that the game balls and all player equipment are legal and meet rules specifications. [1-3-3; 1-5-4]
94. 4<sup>th</sup> down and 10 on Team **R's** 45-yard line. **K44's** punt is in flight when **R50** blocks **K62** below the waist at Team **R's** 35-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; 5-2-2a1; 10-4-3, 5d; Case Book 10.4.3 C]
95. The kicking tee may not elevate the ball more than **2 inches** above the ground. [1-3-4]
96. Any movement or shift by the offense that is designed to cause Team **B** to *encroach* is a *false start*. [7-1-7b; Case Book 7.1.7 A, B]
97. On a kickoff, **K41** executes a *pop-up kick* from his 40-yard line. RULING: The play is immediately whistled 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, Penalty; Case Book 6.1.11]

98. 3<sup>rd</sup> down and 10 at Team **A**'s 35-yard line. Receiver **A46** is running near the sideline as a forward pass reaches him. He tips the ball, steps out of bounds at Team **A**'s 48-yard line, returns inbounds, catches the ball and carries it across Team **B**'s goal line.  
RULING: [9-6-1, 2; 10-5-3; Case Book 9.6.1 A(b)]
- No problem . . . the touchdown stands.
  - Incomplete pass.
  - Foul for *illegal touching*.
  - Foul for *illegal participation* . . . scratch the touchdown
99. Team **A** fumbles and opposing players dive on the ball, attempting recovery. The covering official stops the game clock after which, Team **A** is determined to have recovered the ball beyond the line to gain. RULING: The **Referee** shall signal the first down and the 40-second play clock shall start immediately.  
[3-5-7b; 3-6-1a2; 5-1-3a; Case Book 3.6.1 F]
100. If during a down in which time expires, **K76 holds** during a successful field-goal attempt, the period is automatically ended and the score is canceled. [3-3-3a; 9-2-1c; 10-5-3]
101. Midway through the 4<sup>th</sup> period, receiver **A84** leaps high in the end zone and catches a touchdown pass. When he alights, **B26** drives the crown of his helmet into **A84**'s chest. The covering official rules that the contact was *flagrant*. RULING: *Flagrant spearing foul* on **B26**. Score the touchdown and disqualify **B26**. Team **A** can choose to enforce the penalty on either the Try or on the subsequent kickoff.  
[2-16-2c; 2-20-1c; 8-2-1, 5; 9-4-3i, Penalty; Case Book 9.4.3 A]
102. **B49** intercepts **A**'s pass in his own end zone and runs around before finally being tackled there. RULING: Safety. Team **A** scores **2** points. [2-13-1; 8-5-3d]
103. Quarterback **A10**, under a heavy defensive rush in his own end zone, *intentionally grounds* a forward pass. RULING: *Illegal forward pass*. Safety whether or not Team **B** accepts the penalty. [7-5-2e, 3; 8-5-2c]
104. 3<sup>rd</sup> down and 8 for Team **A** from their own 40-yard line. Quarterback **A18** is forcefully contacted by **B52** with a slap to the helmet just after he completes a pass to **A86** who is downed on **A**'s 47-yard line. RULING: *Roughing the passer foul* on **B52**. Penalize **B** 15 yards from the 47-yard line. **A** will play 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 at **B**'s 38-yard line.  
[5-2-2b; 9-4-4, Penalty; 10-6-1g; Case Book 9.4.4 B(a)]
105. 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at their 20-yard line. **A64 false starts** and **B71** reacts by entering the neutral zone and roughly knocking down **A55**. After both penalties are enforced, it will be . . . [7-1-6a, 7, Penalty; 9-4-3b, Penalty; 10-2-5a]
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at its 20-yard line.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at its 30-yard line.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at its 35-yard line.
106. **B31** intercepts a pass and begins a return. **B31** is pursued by **A47**, who cannot see **B17** approach. **B17** contacts **A47** in the side with open hands below the neck and shoulders, above the waist. RULING: Legal contact by **B17**. [2-3-10; 9-4-3n; Case Bk. 9.4.3 W(a)]

107. If ineligible **A66** catches a forward pass (untouched by **B**) beyond the neutral zone, the ball becomes *dead* immediately when caught. [4-2-2c; 7-5-13; Case Book 7.5.13 A(c)]
108. 1<sup>st</sup> down and 10 for Team **A** at their 5-yard line. **A9's** legal forward pass is caught by **A35** at Team **A's** 24-yard line. **B70** *roughed the passer*. **A35** advances to Team **A's** 30-yard line and fumbles, but prone **A46** recovers at his own 35-yard line. RULING: [9-4-4, Penalty; Case Book 9.4.4 C]
- The penalty is enforced from the *previous spot*.
  - The penalty is enforced from Team **A's** 24-yard line.
  - The penalty is enforced from Team **A's** 30-yard line.
  - The penalty is enforced from Team **A's** 35-yard line.
109. A television time-out is an official's time-out and is not charged to either team. [3-5-7k]
110. A defensive *pass-interference foul* can occur only beyond the neutral zone and only in the direction of the pass. [7-5-10; 7-5-11c; Fundamental VII – 5]
111. A football jersey must completely cover the shoulder pads and all pads worn above the waist on the player's torso. [1-5-1b1]
112. The muffing or batting of a pass, kick or fumble *in flight* is not considered a new force. [2-13-3]
113. There is **00:15** 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. **B58** commits a *face-mask foul* when he tackles **A24** inbounds as the clock shows **00:09** remaining. RULING: Penalize **B** and replay the down. Because the accepted penalty occurred with less than **2 minutes** remaining in the half, Team **A** has the option to start the clock on the snap. [3-4-7; 5-2-2b; 9-4-3h]
114. 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]
115. 2<sup>nd</sup> down and 10 from Team **A's** 30-yard line. Under heavy rush, QB **A15** dumps a pass to **A36** and is then *roughed* by **B73**. **A36** is downed at **A's** 28-yard line. RULING: Penalize Team **B** from the *previous spot* and award Team **A** an automatic 1<sup>st</sup> down. [5-2-2b; 9-4-4 Penalty; 10-5-5; Case Book 9.4.4 B(b)]
116. Team **K** is attempting a Try. During the unsuccessful kick, **K47** is flagged for *blocking below the waist*. RULING: Team **R** must decline the penalty to avoid a replay of the down. [5-2-2b]
117. *Chop blocks, clipping and tripping an opponent* are illegal whenever and wherever they occur on the field. [2-3-8; 2-5-1; 2-45; 9-3-6; 9-4-3o]
118. Center **A51** is just beginning his snapping motion when nose tackle **B70** slaps the ball out of **A51's** hands. RULING: Since **A51** has begun the snapping motion, the **official** should throw the flag and allow the play to continue. **A** will have options after the down. [4-1-6; 4-2-1; 7-1-6b; Case Book 7.1.6 E(a)]

119. 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** from Team **B's** 15-yard line. Runner **A34** dives for the goal line at **B's** 1-yard line. The ball in his possession crosses the goal line inside the pylon. **A34** then contacts the ground out of bounds 2 yards beyond the goal line. RULING: [8-2-1a; Case Book 2.26.3]
- 1<sup>st</sup> and goal for Team **A** from the 1-yard line.
  - Touchdown.
120. *Face guarding*, in and of itself, which does not include contact, is not considered to be *pass interference*. [7-5-10, 11]
121. **A25** is *illegally in motion* at the snap. Quarterback **A19** throws a pass that is intercepted by **B33**, who returns it for a touchdown. RULING: [8-2-3]
- The penalty must be declined for **B** to keep the score.
  - The penalty may only be enforced on the try.
  - The penalty may only be enforced on the succeeding kickoff.
  - The penalty may be enforced on the try or on the succeeding kickoff.
122. There is a **2-minute** intermission period following a Try, successful field goal or safety and prior to the succeeding free kick. [3-5-7I]
123. With the game clock running in the final seconds of a half, quarterback **A17** takes the snap and legally “spikes” the ball to stop the clock. However, Team **A** did not have enough players legally on their line at the snap. RULING: The only applicable foul is for *illegal formation*. Penalize Team **A** 5 yards and start the clock on the snap. [3-4-3e; 3-4-4f; 7-2-5a, Penalty; Case Book 7.5.2 F]
124. The **Referee** is responsible for determining the legality of the kicking team’s formation on kick-offs. [La. Mechanics Manual: V – Free-Kick Responsibilities]
125. 1<sup>st</sup> and goal from Team **B's** 7-yard line. The pylon is properly placed at the goal line when runner **A39's** fumble deflects off the pylon and bounces back to Team **B's** 3-yard line where **A74** recovers the ball and carries it into the end zone. RULING: [1-2-4; 4-2-2b; 4-3-2; 8-5-3c, 4]
- Touchdown for Team **A**.
  - The ball is *dead*; it will be 2<sup>nd</sup> and goal for Team **A** from Team **B's** 3-yard line.
  - The ball is *dead*; it will be 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **B** from its 3-yard line.
  - The ball is *dead*; it will be 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **B** from its 20-yard line.
126. When a foul occurs prior to a snap or free kick, the covering official shall indicate the ball remains dead by sounding his/her whistle immediately and tossing a flag. [4-2-1]
127. Players **A22** and **B31** 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: Touchback for **B**. [2-4-3; 2-41-3; 4-2-2c; 7-5-4; 8-2-1; Case Book 7.5.4 A(b)]
128. Any forward pass caught by any player of **A** or **B** in the field of play may be advanced. [2-10-2; 7-5-4]

129. When a field-goal attempt is blocked behind the neutral zone, the ball becomes *dead* immediately. [6-2-2, 3]
130. The manufacturer's name and/or logo is the only commercial advertising allowed on the football. [1-3-1h]
131. On 4<sup>th</sup> down in *scrimmage-kick formation*, Team **A** snaps the ball from its own 40-yard line. **B56** charges directly into the snapper, knocking him down. RULING: Foul for *roughing the snapper*. If accepted, Team **A** will be awarded a 1<sup>st</sup> down, 15 yards in advance of the *previous spot*. [2-14-2; 9-4-6, Penalty; 10-1-7c; Case Book 9.4.6 B]
132. 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at Team **B's** 12-yard line. Substitute **B12** comes onto the field and replaced player **B32** leaves the field via the back of the end zone prior to the snap. RULING: *Dead-ball foul for illegal substitution*. Penalize Team **B** to the 7-yard line. It's 1<sup>st</sup> down and 7 now. [3-7-2, Penalty; 5-2-2b]
133. **B29** intercepts a pass at his own 4-yard line. After turning and running a few steps, he is hit and fumbles. The ball rolls back and hits the goal-line pylon which is properly placed. RULING: [1-2-4; 4-3-2; 7-4-4; 8-5-2b]  
 a. The ball is given to Team **B**; 1<sup>st</sup> down at the 4-yard line.  
 b. It's a safety; Team **A** scores 2 points.  
 c. It's a touchback; it's Team **B's** ball at its own 20-yard line.
134. **A35** catches a long pass for a touchdown. He follows this with an excessive display of exuberance by spinning the ball and "shooting" the defensive players. RULING: Foul for *unsportsmanlike conduct*. Score the touchdown. Team **B** can choose to have the penalty enforced on either the Try or the subsequent kickoff. If **A35** is charged with a 2<sup>nd</sup> *unsportsmanlike foul*, he will be disqualified for the remainder of the game. [2-16-2f; 8-2-1; 8-2-5; 9-5-1c, Penalty]
135. During the down, Team **A** commits a *holding foul* after which Team **B** intercepts a pass and *clips* during the return. RULING: Since Team **B** gained final possession prior to their foul, they will have the option to keep possession following the penalty for their foul. [9-2-1c; 9-3-6; 10-2-2]
136. Following all dead-ball *personal* and *unsportsmanlike fouls* by Team **B**, Team **A** will be awarded an automatic 1<sup>st</sup> down. [10-1-7]
137. Prior to the last **2 minutes** of either half, when the ball goes out of bounds the game clock always starts on the ready-for-play signal. [3-4-3a]
138. The free-blocking zone (FBZ) ceases to exist and the exception for players to block below the waist or block in the back shall not continue after the ball has left the zone. [2-17-4]
139. 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]

140. 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]
141. Regardless of the outcome of any penalties incurred, no series can ever start on other than first down. [5-1-1a; Fundamental II – 6]
142. During *scrimmage-kick* downs, *post-scrimmage kick* (PSK) fouls can be committed by either team as long as they occur beyond the expanded neutral zone. [2-16-2h]
143. When the 40-second play clock is in use at the end of a non-scoring down, the covering official shall start it by: [LHSAA Attachment A - 3 FAQs]
- Raising an open hand (palm forward) overhead.
  - Signaling “stop-clock” or “wind clock (out-of-bounds plays or near sideline).
  - Signaling “incomplete pass”.
  - Any of the above.
144. **R27** returns a punt but fumbles during his return. **K65** 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]
145. During a 2<sup>nd</sup> down play in the 3<sup>RD</sup> period, the game clock goes directly from **02:45** 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)]
146. 4<sup>th</sup> and 10 with the **nose** of the ball touching Team **B's** 20-yard line. **A10's** pass is incomplete. RULING: The officials should move the chains, not the ball, so that the tail of the ball is touching **B's** 20-yard line. [5-3-3b]
147. During a running play, **A21** breaks into the secondary. Safety **B42** comes up quickly and drives his face mask into the chest of **A21** while simultaneously wrapping his arms around **A21** bringing him to the ground. RULING: *Face-tackling* foul by **B42**. [2-20-1b; 9-4-3i; Case Book 9.4.3 L]
148. The **Head Linesman** has general oversight of the line-to-gain and down-marker crew, and the primary responsibility for counting downs. [La. Mechanics Manual: VI – Play Responsibilities]
149. It is illegal to intentionally throw a backward pass out of bounds to stop the clock. [7-4-1]
150. **A30** breaks into the secondary and heading up the sideline to a touchdown. Trailing defensive back **B24** lunges forward and grabs the back of **A30's** jersey in the nameplate area and forcefully pulls it backward causing **A30** to stumble a bit but he continues on for the score. RULING: No *horse-collar foul*. Play on. [9-4-3k; Case Book 9.4.3 N(a)]

151. 1<sup>st</sup> down and 10 at Team **A**'s 30-yard line. **B70** is flagged for *roughing the passer*. **B29** intercepts the pass, and fumbles on the return. **A43** recovers and is tackled at his own 35-yard line. RULING: [3-4-2; 5-1-3d; 9-4-4, Penalty; 10-1-7b]
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at their 45-yard line. The game clock starts on the "ready".
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at their 45-yard line. The game clock starts on the snap.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at the 50-yard line. The game clock starts on the "ready".
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 for Team **A** at the 50-yard line. The game clock starts on the snap.
152. **A12** takes the snap and drops back to pass. Under a heavy rush he scrambles toward the line of scrimmage. His passing arm and **1** of his feet are beyond the neutral zone when he throws a forward pass to eligible **A31**. RULING: Foul for *illegal forward pass*. Penalize Team **A** 5 yards from the spot of the pass and loss of down. [7-5-1, 2b; Penalty; Case Book 7.5.1]
153. 2<sup>nd</sup> down and 10 at Team **A**'s 20-yard line. **B55** fouls passer **A11** by grasping but not pulling **A11**'s facemask. The pass is incomplete. RULING: Team **A** will play 2<sup>nd</sup> down and 5 at their 25-yard line. The play clock will be set to **25 seconds** and start on the *ready-for-play* signal. [2-33-1b; 5-2-2b; 9-4-3h, Penalty; 10-4-2b; LHSAA Attachment A - 2b FAQs]
154. Team **A** runs the ball in to score a touchdown. RULING: The play clock will be set to **40 seconds** and start when the covering official signals the score. [LHSAA Attachment A - 2b FAQs]
155. When the ball is loose following an *illegal kick*, it retains the same status as prior to the *illegal kick*. [2-24-9]
156. **K98** attempts an onside kick from his 40-yard line by kicking the ball toward the sideline. As **R20** goes to recover the ball at **K**'s **47-yard line**, he is blocked by **K39** and **K50** recovers the ball. RULING: **K39** is guilty of an *illegal block*. **K50**'s recovery is negated and, if accepted, **R** can choose to have the 10-yard penalty assessed from either the *previous spot* with a re-kick or from the *succeeding spot*. [6-1-6; 9-3-7, Penalty; Case Book 9.3.7 A]
157. At the snap, offensive linemen **A66** and **A55** immediately charge out and simultaneously contact nose tackle **B78** below the knees. All players were in the *free-blocking zone* at the snap and the block occurred in the FBZ. RULING: Legal Block. [2-3-7, 8; 9-3-2a; Case Book 9.3.2 B(d)]
158. The distance penalties for any *dead-ball fouls* committed by both teams will offset. [10-2-5b; Case Book 10.2.5 A]
159. Team **A** scores a touchdown during the last timed down of the 1<sup>ST</sup> period. During the successful 2-point Try, **B58** is flagged for *roughing the passer*. RULING: The penalty will be assessed on the succeeding kickoff after the teams change ends. No extension of the period. [3-3-4a; 8-3-5b]
160. 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 Table (Free Kick-2); 8-4-1a; Casebook 8.4.1 B(a, b)]

161. When the **Referee** calls for a measurement, the ball shall be placed with its long axis parallel with the sideline before the measurement. The play clock will be set to **25 seconds** and started on the “ready”.  
[5-3-2; Case Book 5.3.2 A; LHSAA Attachment A - 2e FAQs]
162. Ineligible receivers may legally go beyond the expanded neutral zone on a pass play when the ball, which crosses the neutral zone, is *in flight*. [7-5-12]
163. Regardless of the number of 2<sup>nd</sup> half time-outs remaining, neither team will have more than 1 time-out at its disposal in any overtime period. [3-5-1; Rules Bk. Pg. 86: 3-5-1]
164. **A21** goes back to pass from his own end zone. **B51** tackles him there by grabbing and twisting **A21’s** facemask. RULING: [8-5-2a; 9-4-3h; 10-5-2]
- a. Team **B** scores a safety.
  - b. The penalty is enforced from the previous spot.
  - c. The penalty is enforced from Team **A’s** goal line.
  - d. The penalty is enforced from Team **A’s** 20-yard line.
165. The penalty for *targeting* an opponent is 15 yards from the *basic spot* plus an automatic 1<sup>st</sup> down. The violator shall be disqualified. [2-16-2c; 2-20-2; 9-4-3m, Penalty; 10-1-7]
166. A foul which occurs simultaneously with the snap is an act which becomes a foul only if and when the ball is snapped or free kicked. [2-16-2i]
167. Unless Team **A** is in a *scrimmage-kick formation*, the 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]
168. Following Team **R’s** punt/kickoff return, the play clock will be set to 25 seconds and started on the **Referee’s ready-for-play** signal. [LHSAA Attachment A - 2f, g FAQs]
169. During a down, a replaced player or substitute who enters the field but does not participate, constitutes *unsportsmanlike conduct*. [3-7-6]
170. It is a *flagrant personal foul* if one of the team captains slugs the **Umpire** just prior to the pre-game coin toss. Penalize 15 yards on the kickoff and disqualify the offender.  
[2-16-2c; 9-4-2, Penalty; 10-4-5b]

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