



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

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.

- 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]
- 2. A punt may be used for the free kick on a kickoff. [2-24-5, 8]
- 3. It is legal for the manufacturer's name and/or logo to be on the football. [1-3-1h]
- 4. It is illegal to intentionally throw a backward pass out of bounds to stop the clock. [7-4-1]
- 5. 2nd 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. <u>RULING</u>: Team **A** will play 2nd 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]
- 6. With **00:30** remaining in the **2**ND period, **A10**, in *shotgun position* directly behind the center, intentionally spikes the ball forward to the ground immediately after the snap in order to conserve time. <u>RULING</u>: No foul. [7-5-2e Exception]
- 7. 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]
- 8. 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)]

- 9. 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]
- 10. Following Team *R's* punt/kickoff return, the play clock will be set to 40 seconds and started when the runner is tackled. [LHSAA Attachment A 2f, g FAQs]
- 11. The penalty for *illegally kicking or batting* the ball is **15** yards. [9-7-1, 2, Penalty]
- 12. The halftime intermission may be shortened by mutual agreement of the opposing coaches if a weather delay occurs during the last **3 minutes** of the **2**ND period. [3-1-6c Exception]
- 13. Linebacker **B52** is injured after making a tackle. The covering official sounds the whistle to stop the clock. The **Referee** will set the play clock to **40 seconds** and start it on the ready-for-play signal. [3-6-1a(1)e Exception 2]
- 14. For *scrimmage* downs, only Team **A** is required to have at least **5** players on their line of scrimmage. [7-2-5d]
- 15. 1st and 10 for Team *A* at their 30-yard line. *A65 false starts* and *B72* reacts by entering the neutral zone and roughly knocking down *A53*. After both penalties are enforced, it will be . . . [7-1-6a, 7, Penalty; 9-4-3b, Penalty; 10-2-5a]
 - a. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at its 30-yard line.
 - b. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at its 35-yard line.
 - c. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at its 40-yard line.
- 16. Team *K* punts on 4th down. *R25* muffs the catch downfield and the ball rebounds behind the line of scrimmage where *K71* recovers it. Team *K* will play 1st down. The play clock will be set to **25 seconds** and started on the ready-for-play signal. [3-6-1a(1)f]
- 17. A *backward pass* is a pass thrown with its initial direction parallel with or toward the runner's end line. [2-31-5]
- 18. 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]
- 19. An illegal forward pass is considered to have occurred during a *loose-ball play*. [2-33-1b, 2; 10-3-1, 2]
- 20. Chop blocks, clipping and tripping an opponent are legal only if they occur in the free-blocking zone. [2-3-8; 2-5-1; 2-45; 9-3-6; 9-4-30]
- 21. 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]
- 22. 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]
- 23. 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]
- 24. The penalty for all defensive personal fouls includes the award of an automatic 1st down. [10-1-7]

- 25. 1st and goal from Team **B's** 5-yard line. The pylon is properly placed at the goal line when runner **A37's** fumble deflects off the pylon and bounces back to Team **B's** 3-yard line where **A64** recovers the ball and carries it into the end zone. RULING: [1-2-4; 4-2-2b; 4-3-2; 8-5-3c, 4]
 - a. Touchdown for Team A.
 - b. The ball is *dead*; it will be 2nd and goal for Team **A** from Team **B's** 3-yard line.
 - c. The ball is *dead*; it will be 1st and 10 for Team **B** from its 3-yard line.
 - d. The ball is *dead*; it will be 1st and 10 for Team **B** from its 20-yard line.
- 26. 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]
- 27. The muffing or batting of a pass, kick or fumble *in flight* is considered a new force if it changes the direction of the ball. [2-13-3]
- 28. Following Team **A's** touchdown run, the play clock will be set to **25 seconds** and start on the **Referee's** ready-for-play signal. [LHSAA Attachment A 2b FAQs]
- 29. The kicking tee may not elevate the ball more than **2 inches** above the ground. [1-3-4]
- 30. A football jersey must completely cover the shoulder pads and all pads worn above the waist on the player's torso. [1-5-1b1]
- 31. There is **00:18** 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. **B58** commits a *face-mask foul* when he tackles **A24** inbounds as the clock shows **00:09** remaining. <u>RULING</u>: 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]
- 32. 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]
- 33. In order for post-scrimmage kick penalty enforcement to apply . . . [2-16-2h; 10-4-3]
 - a. The foul must occur any time between the time the ball is kicked and the down ends.
 - b. The kick can be a punt, field goal or kick try.
 - c. Team **K** must have possession of the ball when the down ends.
 - d. The kick must cross the expanded neutral zone.
- 34. Team **A** is granted a charged team timeout. After **30** seconds of the timeout have expired both teams are ready to resume play. <u>RULING</u>: The game may resume. [3-5-3]
- 35. **K40's** kickoff is muffed by **R22** at Team **R's** 35-yard line. **K38** attempts to recover the loose ball but muffs it so it goes out of bounds at Team **R's** 25-yard line. <u>RULING</u>: This is a foul for a *free kick out of bounds*. Team **R** may choose to accept a 5-yard penalty and a re-kick, a 5-yard penalty from the spot the ball went out of bounds or they may put the ball in play at their own 35-yard line. [5-1-5a; 6-1-10]
- 36. If time expires during a down in which *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]

- 37. After breaking the huddle, *A75* positions himself in the backfield behind the quarterback. RULING: [7-5-6a, 12, 13]
 - a. Team **A** should be flagged for *illegal formation* at the snap.
 - b. No problem as long as **A75** reports to the **Referee** that he is an eligible receiver.
 - c. A75 can legally take a handoff and run with the ball.
 - d. **A75** can be the first to touch a forward pass which hasn't crossed the line of scrimmage.
- 38. 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]
- 39. 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]
- 40. The **Head Linesman** has general oversight of the line-to-gain and down-marker crew. [La. Mechanics Manual: III-B Play Responsibilities]
- 41. 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.

 <u>RULING</u>: 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]
- 42. The ball becomes *dead* and the down ends when a prosthetic limb comes completely off the runner. [4-2-2l]
- 43. An inadvertent whistle ends the down. [4-2-3]
- 44. 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 4TH period or overtime. [1-1-7, 8; Case Book 1.1.7]
- 45. 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]
- 46. If **K32's** field-goal attempt deflects off **K70'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]
- 47. First touching of a kick by **K** is ignored if any foul is committed during the down. [5-1-6]
- 48. **A23** runs for a touchdown. After the ball is dead, **B56** slugs **A62**. <u>RULING</u>: [8-2-5a, 5b; 10-5-1f]
 - a. If Team **A** accepts the penalty, it must be enforced on the try.
 - b. If Team A accepts the penalty, it must be enforced on the succeeding kickoff.
 - c. If Team **A** accepts the penalty, it may be enforced on the try or the succeeding kickoff.
 - d. Team **A** must decline the penalty to keep the touchdown.
- 49. On a *free kick,* **K19** places the tee on the right hash mark a yard behind his free kick line. RULING: Legal. [6-1-2 Penalty]

- 50. A *blindside 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]
- 51. 3rd down and goal at Team **B's** 8-yard line. **A10's** pass is caught by eligible **A46**, who is at the 4-yard line when his facemask is twisted by **B29**. This causes **A46** to fumble after which the ball rolls into the end zone where **B48** recovers it. <u>RULING</u>: The penalty is enforced from Team **B's** 4-yard line; Team **A** retains possession. [10-4-4]
- 52. **K1's** punt rolls to Team **R's** 4-yard line where **R2** intentionally kicks the ball into **R's** end zone. <u>RULING</u>: [2-13-4a; 8-5-1]
 - a. If Team K declines the penalty, it's a touchback.
 - b. If Team *K* declines the penalty, it's a safety.
 - c. If Team **K** accepts the penalty, it is enforced from the previous spot.
- 53. Face guarding without contact is not considered to be pass interference. [7-5-10, 11]
- 54. Pass eligibility rules apply only to legal forward passes. [7-5-6]
- 55. If Team **A** commits a *loss-of-down foul*, the ball becomes dead immediately. [2-16-4; Fundamental III 2]
- 56. The **Umpire** shall ascertain that the game balls and all player equipment are legal and meet rules specifications. [1-3-3; 1-5-4]
- 57. Replaced players shall begin to leave the field within **3 seconds** of being so informed. [3-7-1; Case Book 3.7.1 A]
- 58. **K44's** 3rd down field goal attempt from Team **R's** 30-yard line goes out of bounds at Team **R's** 10-yard line. <u>RULING</u>: [2-24-6; 5-1-3e]
 - a. 1st and 10 for Team **R** at their 10-yard line.
 - b. 1st and 10 for Team **R** at their 30-yard line.
 - c. 4th and 3 for Team *K* at Team *R's* 30-yard line.
- 59. A pass from **A15** is possessed by **A85** while he is in the air above **B's** end zone. **A85** loses control when he is hit by **B24** while in the air. The loose ball is subsequently caught by eligible **A44** in **B's** end zone. <u>RULING</u>: Touchdown. [2-4-1; 8-2-1b; Case Book 7.5.4 B(b)]
- 60. At the snap, all Team *A* players numbered **50-79** are *ineligible receivers*. [7-5-6a]
- 61. 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 **A63**. Back **A36** then starts in motion after which **A63** goes into his 3-point stance. The ball is snapped **2** seconds later. <u>RULING</u>: A live-ball foul for *illegal shift*. [7-2-6, Penalty]
- 62. 3rd and 10 from Team *K's* 20-yard line. *K28's* punt is blocked but remains behind the line and is recovered by *K72* at his own 18-yard line. <u>RULING</u>: The game clock should continue to run. The play clock should be set to **40 seconds** and started when the ball becomes dead. [3-6-1a(1)f]
- 63. After a safety, Team **R's** free-kick restraining line is always Team **K's** 30-yard line. [6-1-1b]

- 64. 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. <u>RULING</u>: 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]
- 65. The **Umpire** discovers that a player is wearing a manufactured girdle with closed cell "bubble type" protective padding that conforms and covers the hips and tailbone.

 RULING: The pads are legal. [1-5-1d1; Case Book 1.5.1 E(b)]
- 66. 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]
- 67. The **Referee's** *ready-for-play* signal indicates 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]
- 68. **25 seconds** will be put on the play clock and start on the ready-for-play signal: [3-6-1a1(a, b, d)]
 - a. Following a charged time-out.
 - b. Following an administrative stoppage to complete a penalty enforcement.
 - c. To start a period or overtime series.
 - d. Any of the above.
- 69. If a *loose ball* goes into the end zone, the last player who touches or is touched by the ball in the field of play is the one deemed responsible for *forcing* it across the goal line. [2-13-2]
- 70. A *scrimmage kick* recovered in or behind the neutral zone may **not** be advanced by Team **K**. [6-2-2, 3; Fundamental VI 2]
- 71. *Illegal shift* and *illegal motion* are *live-ball fouls* that occur simultaneous with the snap. [2-16-2d,I; 7-2-7]
- 72. 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]
- 73. After the ball has been *run* 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]
- 74. If ineligible **A76** 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)]
- 75. A television time-out is an official's time-out and is not charged to either team. [3-5-7k]
- 76. If a cloud-to-ground *lightning bolt* is seen in the general vicinity of the field, the officiating crew should immediately suspend play and undertake the recommended safety precautions. [Rules Book Pg. 102: NFHS GUIDELINES (Lightning 3)]
- 77. 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]

- 78. The **Referee** is responsible for determining the legality of the kicking team's formation on kick-offs. [La. Mechanics Manual Free-Kick Responsibilities]
- 79. Only the player who receives a hand-to-hand snap and throws a legal forward pass can be a *passer*. [2-32-11]
- 80. 4th and 10 at Team **R's** 32-yard line. **K25's** attempted field goal is successful. **R26** is flagged for holding while the ball is in flight. <u>RULING</u>: [8-2-2a; 8-4-3; 10-5-1e]
 - a. Team **K** may have the penalty enforced from the previous spot and replay the down or have the penalty enforced on the succeeding kickoff.
 - b. If Team **K** wants the penalty, it can only be enforced on the succeeding kickoff.
 - c. If Team **K** wants the penalty, it can only be enforced from the previous spot.
- 81. During a scrimmage down, any player of Team **A** may legally throw a forward pass from behind the line before possession changes. [7-5-1]
- 82. Following any 4th down play, the clock shall be stopped. [3-5-9]
- 83. After any kick return, Team **R** may request that the ball be placed anywhere between the inbounds lines (hash marks). [4-3-4, 5, 6]
- 84. While Team **A** is calling signals, safety **B24** runs toward the line from his position. He stops short of the neutral zone and stomps his foot in front of tackle **A75**. RULING: [7-1-9, Penalty]
 - a. No problem.
 - b. Foul only if a Team A player reacts.
 - c. Disconcerting act foul under any circumstance. The penalty is 5 yards.
 - d. Unsportsmanlike foul under any circumstance. The penalty is 15 yards.
- 85. During a down, a replaced player or substitute who enters the field but does not participate, constitutes *unsportsmanlike conduct*. [3-7-6]
- 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-for-play signal*. [5-3-2; Case Book 5.3.2 A; LHSAA Attachment A 2e FAQs]
- 87. **A31** breaks into the secondary and heading up the sideline to a touchdown. Trailing defensive back **B26** lunges forward and grabs the back of **A31's** jersey in the nameplate area and forcefully pulls it backward causing **A31** to stumble a bit but he continues on for the score. <u>RULING</u>: No *horse-collar foul*. Play on. [9-4-3k; Case Book 9.4.3 N(a)]
- 88. 4th and 10 with the **nose** of the ball touching Team **B's** 20-yard line. **A14's** pass is incomplete. <u>RULING</u>: 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]
- 89. When the **40-second** play clock is in use at the end of a non-scoring down, the covering official shall cause it to be started by: [LHSAA Attachment A 3 FAQs]
 - a. Raising an open hand (palm forward) overhead.
 - b. Signaling "stop-clock" or "wind clock (out-of-bounds plays or near sideline).
 - c. Signaling "incomplete pass".
 - d. Any of the above.

- 90. Team *K's* kickoff is airborne but completely over out-of-bounds ground when it is touched first by *R20*, who is straddling the sideline at *R's* 37-yard line. <u>RULING</u>: Team *K* is flagged for *free kick out of bounds*. [2-29-1,3; 6-1-9; Case Book 6.1.9 C]
- 91. Force is not a factor on non-scoring kicks going into Team **R's** end zone as these are always touchbacks. [2-13-4a; 8-5-3a1]
- 92. A defensive player is considered "on his line of scrimmage" if he is within **2** yards of his scrimmage line and in a 3 or 4 point stance at the snap. [2-25-3]
- 93. After the snap on a kick try or field-goal attempt, the offensive linemen "step down" and interlock their feet while blocking. <u>RULING</u>: Legal. [7-2-2; Case Book 7.2.2]
- 94. During a scrimmage down, if any Team **A** runner who is beyond the neutral zone tosses the ball forward, he has thrown an *illegal forward pass*. [7-5-1; 7-5-2b]
- 95. **B47** intercepts **A's** pass in his own end zone and runs around before accidently stepping on the end line while avoiding a tackle. <u>RULING</u>: Safety. [2-13-1; 8-5-3d]
- 96. 1st and 10 for Team *A* from Team *B's* 15-yard line. Runner *A21* dives for the goal line at *B's* 1-yard line. The ball in his possession crosses the goal line inside the pylon. *A21* then contacts the ground out of bounds 2 yards beyond the goal line. RULING: [8-2-1a; Case Book 2.26.3]
 - a. 1st and goal for Team A from the 1-yard line.
 - b. Touchdown.
- 97. *Unsportsmanlike-conduct* fouls by *players* do not involve contact and accumulate toward disqualification. [2-32-1; 9-5-1, 2; Case Book 9.5]
- 98. **B26** intercepts a pass at his own **3-**yard line. His momentum takes him into his own end zone, where he fumbles. **B52** and **A84** simultaneously recover the loose ball, which never leaves the end zone. <u>RULING</u>: [7-4-3c; 8-5-2a Exception]
 - 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.
- 99. *Tripping* any opponent is illegal anywhere on the field. [2-45; 9-4-30; Case Book 2.42.1 (d)]
- 100. 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. <u>RULING</u>: Foul for *illegal touching*. Cancel the score. Penalize Team *K* 5 yards and loss of down from the *previous spot*. Team *R* will play 1st 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]
- 101. 2nd down and 10 for Team **A**. During the down, **A73** held and **B28** committed pass interference after which **B37** intercepted and was immediately downed. <u>RULING</u>: This is a double foul. No options . . . Team **A** will replay 2nd down and 10 from the previous spot. [10-2-1b; 10-2-2; 10-4-2b; Case Book 10.2.1 A]

- 102. A period will be extended if: [2-16-2b; 3-3-3b,c,d]
 - a. There was a double foul.
 - b. There was an inadvertent whistle.
 - c. A touchdown was scored and a try will be attempted.
 - d. All of the above.
- 103. During a try, it is possible for Team **B** to score **2** points if they intercept a pass or recover a fumble and return either for what would normally be a touchdown. [8-3-3]
- 104. Ineligible receivers may not legally go beyond the expanded neutral zone on a pass play until the pass crosses the expanded neutral zone. [7-5-12]
- 105. A foul that occurs simultaneous with the snap is an act which becomes a foul only if and when the ball is snapped or free kicked. [2-16-2i]
- 106. 4th and 4 yards to go at Team **R's** 23-yard line. Holder **K17** muffs the snap and the ball is loose on the ground at Team **R's** 28-yard line. **K45** kicks the rolling ball, which goes through the uprights. <u>RULING</u>: [2-24-4; 8-4-1b; 9-7-1, Pen.; 10-6; Case Book 9.7.1 A]
 - a. Legal play. Count the field goal.
 - b. Foul. 10-yard penalty from the spot of the kick.
 - c. Foul. 10-yard penalty from the previous spot.
 - d. Foul. 15-yard penalty from the spot of the kick.
- 107. 4th and 10 for Team *K* at its own 20-yard line. *K38's* punt is blocked and bounces to Team *K's* 23-yard line. *R87* muffs the ball, which rolls to *K's* 17-yard line. *K41* picks up the ball and punts it again. The ball goes out of bounds at Team *K's* 45-yard line. <u>RULING</u>: [5-1-3e; 6-2-3]
 - a. The ball becomes dead when K41 recovers it.
 - b. The ball becomes *dead* when *K41* kicks it.
 - c. Team **R** will play 1st down and 10 at Team **K's** 45-yard line.
 - d. It will be Team **K's** ball 1st down and 10 at its own 17-yard line.
- 108. 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]
- 109. It is a successful field goal even if part of the ball passes through the line of the upright extended. [8-4-1c]
- 110. If a *free kick* is repeated due to a foul, the clock will start when the ball is legally touched, other than *first touching* by *K*. [3-4-3]
- 111. Prescription eyewear that is tinted and worn beneath the face mask is legal. [1-5-3c(4) NOTE]
- 112. Time for the 1ST period expires on a play in which Team **A** scores a touchdown. During their successful kick try, **B54** is flagged for *roughing the kicker*. Team **A** elects to have Team **B** penalized on the ensuing kickoff. <u>RULING</u>: Penalty enforcement and the kickoff will occur after the teams switch ends of the field. [3-3-4a; 8-3-5b]
- 113. On the 2nd play of the 4TH period Team **A** scores to make the score **A**-7; **B**-56. Team **B**'s captain tells the **Referee** his team wishes to kick off. <u>RULING</u>: Legal option; the request is granted. [8-3-9]

- 114. A player who takes a hand-to-hand snap is a *passer* until he/she moves to participate in the play. [2-32-11, 13]
- 115. If the Team **K** catches or recovers a *free kick* after it has been touched by **R**, the ball remains *live*. [2-24-2; 4-2-2f; 6-1-6]
- 116. With **15** seconds and no time-outs remaining in the 2ND period, **A14** muffs the snap in "shotgun" position. He recovers and immediately *spikes* the ball to stop the clock. <u>RULING</u>: Foul. Once the ball touches the ground, it cannot be legally grounded. [7-5-2e Exception]
- 117. **B55** loudly calls defensive signals while **A17** gives his cadence count. <u>RULING</u>: If the covering official judges that action as hindering **A**, a *disconcerting act* foul should be called and the whistle blown prior to the snap. The penalty is 5 yards. [7-1-9, Penalty]
- 118. During a field-goal attempt, the ball becomes *dead* if the *kick* is blocked behind the neutral zone. [6-2-2, 3]
- 119. If a forward pass is batted, muffed or caught by an ineligible **A** player who is behind, in or beyond the neutral zone, it is a foul for *illegal touching* which carries a 5-yard penalty and loss of down. [7-5-13, Penalty]
- 120. If a foul occurs during a down, the basic enforcement spot is determined by the action that occurs during the down. [10-4-1]
- 121. The down is ended and the ball becomes dead when any forward pass is incomplete or simultaneously caught by opposing players. [4-2-2c]
- 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. Blocker A contacts opponent B in his chest and blocker B hits him at or below the knees. RULING: Illegal *chop block*. [2-3-8; 9-3-6 & Table (Combination Blocks); Case Bk. 9.3.2 B(d)]
- 123. On a kickoff, *K38* executes a *pop-up kick* from his 40-yard line. <u>RULING</u>: 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]
- 124. **A19's** legal forward pass hits the **Umpire** at Team **A's** 25-yard line and bounces back toward the line of scrimmage where it is caught by ineligible **A77** at the 18-yard line. RULING: [2-44; 7-5-13]
 - a. No problem.
 - b. **A77** is guilty of *illegal touching*.
 - c. **A77** is guilty of pass interference.
 - d. The **Umpire** should work on his mechanics.
- 125. Following a touchdown, Team **A** lines up to kick the extra point. <u>RULING</u>: This is a scrimmage-kick formation and the numbering exception may be used. [7-2-5b Except. 2; Case Book 7.2.5 F]
- 126. It is legal for **A23** to immediately return to the field and make a block or touch a pass after being blocked or pushed out of bounds by **B29**. [9-6-1]

- 127. A26 is illegally in motion at the snap. Quarterback A10 throws a pass that is intercepted by B37, who returns it for a touchdown. <u>RULING</u>: The penalty may be enforced on the try or on the succeeding kickoff. [8-2-3]
- 128. Quarterback *A10*, under a heavy defensive rush in his own end zone, *intentionally grounds* a forward pass. <u>RULING</u>: *Illegal forward pass*. Safety, whether or not Team *B* accepts the penalty. [7-5-2e, 3; 8-5-2c]
- 129. 2nd down and 16 from Team **A's** 32-yard line. **A12** throws complete to **A85** who is tackled at **B's** 35-yard line. Immediately after **A12** releases the pass, **B56** hits him in the chest with the crown of his helmet. <u>RULING</u>: Roughing the passer foul. Team **A** will play 1st down and 10 at **B's** 20-yard line. [5-2-2; 9-4-4; 10-5-5]
- 130. Team **A** players move to the line and snapper **A55** puts both hands on the ball. As **A13** is calling signals **A55**, slowly and without simulating action at the snap, removes his right hand from the ball. <u>RULING</u>: [7-1-3a]
 - a. Dead-ball foul, snap infraction.
 - b. Dead-ball foul only if Team **B** reacts and enters the neutral zone.
 - c. No foul as long as **A55** keeps at least 1 hand on the ball.
- 131. The succeeding spot is where the ball would next snapped or free kicked had a foul not occurred. [2-41-10]
- 132. There is a **2-minute** intermission period following a Try, successful field goal or safety and prior to the succeeding free kick. [3-5-7l]
- 133. The *Referee* is responsible for securing and approving the game balls for play. [1-3-2, 3]
- 134. Any receiver may signal for a fair catch while any legal kick is in flight. [6-5-1]
- 135. Following a legal kick, if either team is awarded a *new series*, the play clock will be set to **25 seconds**. [3-6-1a(1)f]
- 136. The *Referee* has the authority to correct obvious errors in timing by the *play clock* if the discovery is prior to the snap. [3-4-9]
- 137. **B29** is charged with an illegal helmet contact foul on a tackle and is disqualified by the calling official. Team **A** declines the penalty. <u>RULING</u>: **B29** may remain in the game. [10-5-6]
- 138. A foul that occurs simultaneous with the snap is an exception to the "all-but-one" penalty enforcement principle. [2-16-2i; Fundamental X 3a]
- 139. 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]
- 140. Initiating contact with an opposing player whose helmet has come completely off is ruled an *illegal personal contact* foul. [9-4-3l]
- 141. 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]
- 142. A foul can cause loss of the ball. [Fundamental I 6]

- 143. 4th down and 10 on Team *K's* 40-yard line. *K34's* punt is in flight when *R20* blocks *K72* below the waist at Team *R's* 35-yard line. *R37* catches the ball at his 33-yard line and is tackled at his 42-yard line. <u>RULING</u>: Post-scrimmage kick enforcement applies. *R* will play 1st and 10 from its own 23-yard line. [2-16-2h; 2-41-6; 5-2-2a; 10-4-3; Case Book 10.4.3 D]
- 144. **B42** is making a legitimate attempt to get to runner **A31**. **B42** shoves blocker **A64** out of the way by pushing him in the back above the waist. <u>RULING</u>: [9-3-5b]
 - a. Legal action.
 - b. **B42** is guilty of a *blind side block*.
 - c. **B42** is guilty of a block in the back.
- 145. A handed ball beyond the neutral zone is considered to be a *pass*. [2-19-1; Fundamental VII 3]
- 146. All fouls by **A** during the down are enforced from the basic spot. [10-4]
- 147. A period shall not be extended when a foul occurs that specifies a loss of down and the penalty is accepted. [3-3-4b(3)]
- 148. 1st down and goal at Team **B's** 8-yard line. **A22** fumbles at the 3-yard line. **A34** tries to recover the ball but muffs it, forcing the loose ball into **B's** end zone and out of bounds beyond the end line. <u>RULING</u>: [8-5-2, 3, 4]
 - a. Touchback.
 - b. Safety.
 - c. **A's** ball, 2nd down at the 8-yard line.
 - d. B's ball,1st and 10 at the 3-yard line.
- 149. During a down, if time expires for a period and a signal is sounded, the game officials shall ignore the signal and finish the down. [3-3-2]
- 150. Attempting to tackle *A42*, *B60's* helmet comes completely off. *A42* does not go down and runs for a touchdown. <u>RULING</u>: The play should be blown dead when *B60* loses his helmet. *B60* must leave the field for 1 play. [3-5-10d; 4-2-2k; Case Book 4.2.2 K]
- 151. 2nd and 10 from Team *A's* 45-yard line. As time expires in the 2ND period, QB *A8* scrambles to Team *A's* 47-yard line and throws a forward pass complete to *A44* for a touchdown. <u>RULING</u>: Foul for *illegal forward pass* beyond the line of scrimmage. Cancel the touchdown. The loss-of-down aspect dictates no replay of the down. The half is ended. [3-3-4b3; 7-5-2b, Penalty; 10-5-3]
- 152. A *forward-pass interference foul* can occur only beyond the neutral zone. [7-5-10; Fundamental VII 5]
- 153. The enforcement spot for any foul by the defense is the *previous spot* when the run ends in the end zone and would result in a safety. [10-5-2]
- 154. 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]
- 155. Even if the action concludes after the ball becomes *dead*, a *horse-collar foul* is enforced as a *live-ball foul*. [9-4-3k]

- 156. 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)]
- 157. 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]
- 158. **K27's** grounded *kickoff* from his 40-yard line is muffed by **K48** at Team **K's** 47-yard line. **R59** scoops up the ball at Team **R's** 45-yard line and advances with the ball. RULING: The game clock should be started: [3-4-3, 5]
 - a. When K27 kicks the ball.
 - b. When *K48* muffs the ball.
 - c. When **R59** recovers the muff.
- 159. Each head coach shall designate a representative who will make decisions regarding penalty acceptance or declination. [1-4-4]
- 160. Each team shall be permitted **1** time-out during each overtime period regardless of any unused 2ND half or overtime time-outs. [3-5-1; Rules Book Pg. 85: Tied Games 3-5-1]
- 161. Disconcerting act fouls are now 10-yard penalties. [7-1-9, Penalty]
- 162. **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. <u>RULING</u>: [6-5-6a]
 - a. Legal play; it's **K's** ball at the spot of the catch.
 - b. Legal play only if no Team **R** player is in position to catch the ball.
 - c. Legal play regardless if a Team *R* player is in position to catch the ball.
 - d. Kick-catch interference by K30 under any circumstance.
- 163. Any **R** players who signal for a fair catch during a punt may not block until the kick ends. [6-5-1]
- 164. It is a *touchback* when **A1** fumbles on **B's** 2-yard line and the ball bounces into **B's** end zone and out-of-bounds there. [8-5-3c]
- 4th down and 10 on Team *K's* 35-yard line. *K24's* short punt is muffed by *R58* at Team *K's* 48-yard line. The loose ball rolls behind the neutral zone and is recovered by *K22* at Team *K's* 23-yard line. From there, *K22* throws an incomplete forward pass intended for eligible *K31*. <u>RULING</u>: [5-1-3f; 7-5-1, 2; 7-5-5; Case Book 5.1.3 D]
 - a. It will be Team **K's** ball at Team **K's** 35-yard line, 1st down and 10.
 - b. It will be Team *R's* ball at Team *K's* 35-yard line, 1st down and 10.
 - c. **K32's** pass is illegal.
 - d. The ball becomes dead when *K32* recovers.
- 166. 4TH down and 2 for Team **A** at Team **B's** 22-yard line. **A33's** fumble rolls forward and out of bounds at Team **B's** 19-yard line. <u>RULING</u>: Team **A** will play 1st and 10 at the 19-yard line, the **play** clock will start when the covering official signals the play dead and the **game** clock will start on the snap. [3-4-3a; 3-4-4e]
- 167. **K45'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. <u>RULING</u>: Touchback. Team **A's** ball at its own 20-yard line. [1-2-4; 2-24-2; 8-5-3a1; 8-5-4]

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