



Rule 2 – Definitions

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Agenda

- Recap of last week
- Rule 2 - Definitions
- Questions & Answers
- Conclusion

Recap

- Accepting of Assignment
 - Communication with crew chief
- Preparing your equipment
 - Do inventory and inspection of equipment every week
 - Do not wait until game day
 - Do not show up at game site forgetting something
 - Come dressed for sub-varsity contests

Recap

- Appearance
 - Clean shaven and fresh haircut
 - No jewelry, which includes earrings
 - Shine your shoes, no matter the level of contest
- Logistics
 - **BE ON TIME**
 - “Being early is on time, being on time is late. “ – Nick Saban
 - Communicate with crew chief
 - Anticipate traffic – build in a 20 – 30-minute cushion

Recap

- Field Inspection
 - Field conditions – report potential unsafe conditions to crew chief
- Chains
 - Linesman must always have a clip, do not assume one will be on the chains
- Move yard markers a minimum of 2-yards off of sideline
- Discus ring covered?
- Yard lines mismarked?

Recap

- Free Kicks
 - Positioning on field prior to kick
 - Count
 - Potential of safety related fouls
 - Back Judge - Kicker communication & protection
 - Mechanic when Free Kick is first touched by R?
 - Free Kicks that go into End Zone

Recap

- Scrimmage Kicks
 - Count
 - Potential of safety related fouls
 - Back Judge – Returner communication & protection
 - When does a scrimmage kick end?
 - Back Judge – Bean Bag mechanics
 - Scrimmage Kicks that are muffed or roll into R's End Zone

Recap

- 3-Point Attempts
 - Count
 - Communication of eligible receivers
 - Who is under the uprights?
 - Who rules on successful or unsuccessful attempt?
 - 3-Point Attempts that are not successful **AND DOES NOT** cross Goal Line
 - 3-Point Attempts that are not successful **AND** cross Goal Line
 - Only Back Judge blows whistle for officials under the uprights

Recap

- Try – Point After
 - Count
 - Communication of eligible receivers
 - Who is under the uprights?
 - Who rules on successful or unsuccessful attempt?
 - Only Back Judge blows whistle for officials under the uprights

Rule 2 - Definitions

- Foundation of understanding the terms in the application of the rules
- How the terms are applied to the rules
- Will guide in exam and game preparation
- Impact on penalty enforcement

False Start

- What is a false start?
- After the ball is ready for play and before the snap begins, no false start shall be made by any A player.
- A false start is:
 - A shift or feigned charge that simulates action at the snap
 - Any act is clearly intended to cause B to encroach
 - Any A player on his line between the snapper and the player on the end of his line, after having placed a hand(s) on or near the ground, moves his hand(s) or makes any quick movement

False Start

- If a false start causes B to encroach, only the false start is penalized
- No defensive players shall use disconcerting acts or words prior to the snap in an attempt to interfere with A's signals or movements
- These are **DEAD BALL FOULS**
 - Immediately blow your whistle
 - Throw your flag
 - May have to conference with R and other officials, **tell what YOU SAW**

Encroachment

- Encroachment occurs when a player is illegally in the neutral zone during the time interval starting at the ready for play and until the ball is snapped or free kicked.
- For the purposes of enforcing encroachment restrictions, an entering substitute is not considered to be a player until he is on his team's side of the neutral zone. Encroachment also occurs when a player violates the free kick restrictions.

Encroachment

- What is the neutral zone?
 - The neutral zone is the space between the two free kick lines during a free kick down and between the two scrimmage lines during a scrimmage down.
 - For a free kick down, the neutral zone is 10 yards wide
 - For a scrimmage down, it is as wide as the length of the football
 - The neutral zone is established when the ball is marked ready for play
 - The offense or kicking team can also commit encroachment

Encroachment

- No player, other than the snapper, shall encroach on the neutral zone after the ball is ready for play by touching the ball or an opponent or by being in the neutral zone to give defensive signals.
- Following the ready for play AND after the snapper has placed his hand(s) on the ball, encroachment occurs if:
 - Any other player breaks the plane of the neutral zone;
 - A defensive player makes contact with the ball prior to the end of the snap; or
 - A defensive player makes contact with the hand(s) or arm(s) of the snapper prior to the snapper releasing the ball
- Similar to False Start, **Encroachment is a DEAD BALL FOUL**
 - Immediately blow your whistle
 - Throw your flag
 - May have to conference with R and other officials, **tell what YOU SAW**

Holding

- What is holding?
 - Have to know definition of blocking
 - Blocking is obstructing an opponent by contacting him with any part of the blocker's body
- 2 Techniques
 - Closed Hand Technique
 - Open Hand Technique

Holding

- Closed or Cupped Technique
 - The elbows may be inside or outside the shoulders
 - The hands must be closed or cupped with the palms not face to opponent
 - The forearms are extended no more than 45 degrees from the body

Holding

- Open Hand Technique

- The hands **shall** be:

- In advance of the elbow
 - Inside the frame of the blocker's body
 - The frame of the blocker's body is the front of the body at or below the shoulders
 - Inside the frame of the opponent's body, except when the opponent turns his back to the blocker during the block or after the blocker is committed to his charge
 - The frame of the opponent's body is at the shoulders or below other than the back
 - At or below the shoulders of the blocker and the opponent, except when the opponent squats, ducks or submarines during the block or after the blocker is committed to his charge
 - Open, when the palm(s) are facing the frame of the opponent or when the forearms are extended beyond 45-degree angle from the body

Holding

- The blocker shall not:
 - Hand(s) may not be locked nor may swing
 - Hand(s) may not throw or flip the elbow or forearm
 - Initiate contact with his arm or hand against an opponent above the opponent's shoulder
- Blocker can:
 - Use his hand or arm to break a fall or maintain his balance

Holding

- What is holding?
 - Grab and Restrict
 - Grab and Twist
 - Advantage vs. Disadvantage
 - Was a competitive advantage gained?
 - Use of hands, arms, legs to hook, lock, clamp, grasp, encircle or hold in an effort to restrain an opponent
- What is interlocked blocking?
 - Grasp or encircle any teammate to form interlocked blocking
- What is point of attack?
 - Initial engagement at the snap btw. offensive and defensive players on LOS
 - Driving the defender off the **LOS AT THE SNAP IS NOT HOLDING**

Illegal Blocking

- Blocking by a player either on offense or defense is illegal when it is:
 - Kick catching interference – 6-5-6
 - Forward pass interference 7-5-10
- Blocking below the waist, except in free blocking zone 2-17
- To tackle a runner or player pretending to be a runner
- A receiver who has given a valid or invalid fair catch signal shall not block an opponent until the kick has ended

Illegal Blocking

- Player shall not block an opponent in the back except:
 - In free blocking zone when the contact meets the requirements of 2-17
 - Using hands and arm to contact an opponent above the waist in warding of a blocker, or when attempting to reach a runner, or catch or recover a loose ball which he may legally touch or possess
 - Tackle a runner or player pretending to be a runner
- Chop Block or Clip
- No member of the kicking team shall initiate contact of an opponent on a free kick until:
 - The legal kick has traveled 10 yards
 - The kicking team is eligible to recover a free-kicked ball **OR**
 - The receiving team initiates a block within the neutral zone

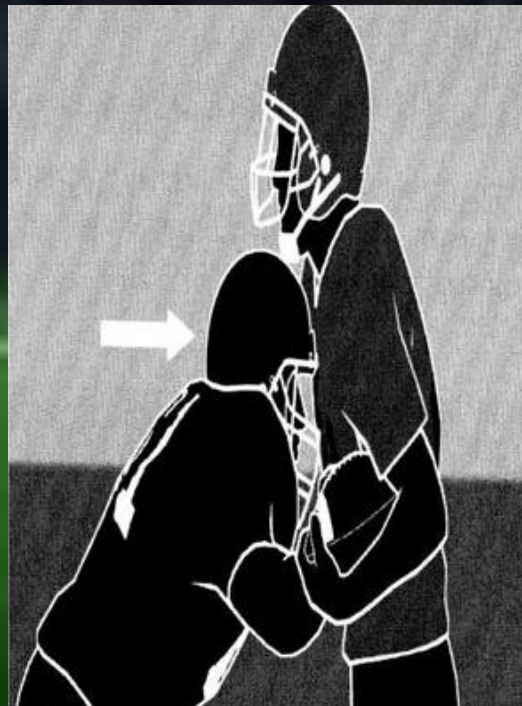
Illegal Helmet Contact

- Illegal Helmet contact is an act of initiating contact with the helmet against an opponent.
- There are several types of illegal helmet contact:
 - Butt Blocking is an act by any player who initiates contact against an opponent who is not a runner with the front of his helmet



Illegal Helmet Contact

- There are several types of illegal helmet contact:
 - Face Tackling is an act by a defensive player who initiates contact against a runner with the front of his helmet



Illegal Helmet Contact

- There are several types of illegal helmet contact:
 - Spearing is an act by any player who initiates contact against an opponent at the shoulders or below with the crown (top portion) of his helmet



Illegal Helmet Contact

- Targeting is an act by any player who takes aim and initiates contact against an opponent above the shoulders with the helmet, forearm, hand, fist, elbow or shoulders.



- These fouls are safety **AND MUST BE PENALIZED**
- **Illegal Helmet Contact fouls can lead to serious injury, including paralysis**
- **These fouls can result in disqualification if judged by game official to be flagrant!**

Facemask

- Grasping an opponent's face mask, any edge of a helmet opening, chin strap, or a tooth and mouth protector attached to the face mask and twist, turn or pull the face mask, helmet opening, chin strap or a tooth and mouth protector attached to the face mask
- Incidentally grasp an opponent's face mask, helmet opening, chin strap or a tooth and mouth protector attached to the face mask

Facemask

- When is a face mask a 5-yard penalty?
 - Incidental grasping the face mask, helmet opening, chin strap, or tooth and mouth protector
- Face Mask Penalty

Facemask

- When is a face mask a personal foul and 15-yard penalty?
 - Grasping and twisting, turning or pulling the face mask, helmet opening, chin strap, or tooth and mouth protector



Question and Answer

- After the ball is marked ready for play for a scrimmage down, A1 or B3 breaks the plane of the neutral zone?
 - A) Double Foul
 - B) Encroachment
 - C) Live Ball Foul
 - D) No Foul

Question and Answer

- After the ball is marked ready for play for a scrimmage down, A1 or B3 breaks the plane of the neutral zone?
 - A) Double Foul
 - B) **Encroachment – 2.8 Situation A**
 - C) Live Ball Foul
 - D) No Foul

Question and Answer

- After the ball is marked ready for play for a free kick, but before it is kicked, place kick holder K1 kneels so one leg and part of his body are beyond K's free kick line.
 - A) Encroachment
 - B) Live Ball Foul
 - C) No Foul
 - D) False Start

Question and Answer

- After the ball is marked ready for play for a free kick, but before it is kicked, place kick holder K1 kneels so one leg and part of his body are beyond K's free kick line.
 - A) Encroachment
 - B) Live Ball Foul
 - C) **No Foul – 2.8 Situation B**
 - D) False Start

Question and Answer

- A is on its line of scrimmage with A1 directly and immediately behind the snapper in a position to receive the ball. As the cadence is started, A1 steps back from the line of scrimmage and while doing so he fakes throwing a forward pass.
 - A) Encroachment
 - B) Live Ball Foul
 - C) No Foul
 - D) False Start

Question and Answer

- A is on its line of scrimmage with A1 directly and immediately behind the snapper in a position to receive the ball. As the cadence is started, A1 steps back from the line of scrimmage and while doing so he fakes throwing a forward pass.
 - A) Encroachment
 - B) Live Ball Foul
 - C) No Foul
 - D) **False Start – 7.1.7 Situation A**

Question and Answer

- On 4/4 from A's 35-yard line, K comes to the line of scrimmage formation. After calling signals, A1 says "shift." All 11 players then make a movement. Some players move to a new position for a scrimmage kick formation, while four interior linemen remain in place and move from a hands-on thighs position to an upright position and finally to a three-point stance.
 - A) Encroachment
 - B) Live Ball Foul
 - C) No Foul
 - D) False Start

Question and Answer

- On 4/4 from A's 35-yard line, K comes to the line of scrimmage formation. After calling signals, A1 says "shift." All 11 players then make a movement. Some players move to a new position for a scrimmage kick formation, while four interior linemen remain in place and move from a hands-on thighs position to an upright position and finally to a three-point stance.
 - A) Encroachment
 - B) Live Ball Foul
 - C) No Foul
 - D) **False Start – 7.1.7 Situation B**
- **This could be ruled a false start if the covering official(s) determine that it was designed to cause B to encroach**

Question and Answer

- In blocking B1, A1's forearms are almost fully extended from his body and he contact B1, A1's forearms are almost fully extended.
 - A) Illegal Block
 - B) Legal Block
 - C) Illegal Block, A1 is disqualified
 - D) Holding

Question and Answer

- In blocking B1, A1's forearms are almost fully extended from his body and he contact B1, A1's forearms are almost fully extended.
 - A) **Illegal Block – 9.2.1 Situation E**
 - B) Legal Block
 - C) Illegal Block, A1 is disqualified
 - D) Holding

Question and Answer

- K is attempting a try by kick. After the ball is snapped, the offensive guards and tackles each grab the jersey of an adjacent teammate. The kick by K1 is successful.
 - A) Legal Block
 - B) K committed a person foul
 - C) Illegal Block
 - D) Interlock Blocking

Question and Answer

- K is attempting a try by kick. After the ball is snapped, the offensive guards and tackles each grab the jersey of an adjacent teammate. The kick by K1 is successful.
 - A) Legal Block
 - B) K committed a person foul
 - C) Illegal Block
 - D) **Interlock Blocking – 9.2.1 Situation I**

Question and Answer

- With 2/5 from B's 30-yard line, A1 throws a pass to eligible A2. Following the reception, A2 inadvertently grasps B1's face mask/helmet opening, chin strap or attached tooth and mouth protector at B's 15-yard line as B1 attempts to tackle A2 who scores a touchdown.
 - A) B accepts the foul, the score nullified, A's ball, 2/10 at B's 30-yard line
 - B) B accepts the foul, the score nullified, A's ball, 1/10 at B's 20-yard line
 - C) B accepts the foul, touchdown by A and the face mask is enforced on the try
 - D) A2 committed a personal foul, face mask, A's ball, 2/20 at B's 45-yard line

Question and Answer

- With 2/5 from B's 30-yard line, A1 throws a pass to eligible A2. Following the reception, A2 inadvertently grasps B1's face mask/helmet opening, chin strap or attached tooth and mouth protector at B's 15-yard line as B1 attempts to tackle A2 who scores a touchdown.
 - A) B accepts the foul, the score nullified, A's ball, 2/10 at B's 30-yard line
 - B) B accepts the foul, the score nullified, A's ball, 1/10 at B's 20-yard line – Situation 9.4.3 Situation G
 - C) B accepts the foul, touchdown by A and the face mask is enforced on the try
 - D) A2 committed a personal foul, face mask, A's ball, 2/20 at B's 45-yard line

Question and Answer

- Defensive Back B1 sees receiver A1 running a crossing route while A2 is taking the under route. As they near each other, B1 takes aim at A1 and misses A1 but makes contact with A2 above the shoulders with the helmet of B1.
 - A) No foul as A2 was not the intended receiver
 - B) B1 commits both targeting and illegal helmet contact
 - C) B1 commits targeting
 - D) B1 commits illegal helmet contact

Question and Answer

- Defensive Back B1 sees receiver A1 running a crossing route while A2 is taking the under route. As they near each other, B1 takes aim at A1 and misses A1 but makes contact with A2 above the shoulders with the helmet of B1.
 - A) No foul as A2 was not the intended receiver
 - B) B1 commits both targeting and illegal helmet contact – 9.4.3 Situation V – B1 committed both a targeting foul and a foul for illegal helmet contact. The targeting foul should be reported and enforced
 - C) B1 commits targeting
 - D) B1 commits illegal helmet contact
- Note: It is critical that all game officials in a game be aware of the actions of the players who may not be near the football. In addition, to potentially being considered defenseless and needing additional protection, even those players directly involved in the play may not be targeted for contact above the shoulders

Conclusion

- Appearance and preparation
- Rule 2 sets the foundation of the rules
- False Start & Encroachment Fouls – DEAD BALL
 - **Immediately blow your whistle and then throw your flag**
- Illegal Blocking, Targeting & Illegal Helmet Contact
 - Safety related fouls – non-negotiable
- **STUDY, STUDY, STUDY**
 - Read the rules and case books

Questions

