



2021



FOOTBALL RULES STUDY QUESTIONS

LHSAA FB Study Guide Questions: The FB Officials Rules Test is derived from the following questions which are based on the **NFHS FB Rules Book & Case Book**, including current rule changes, **Points of Emphasis** and **Fundamentals**, as well as the **Louisiana Football Officials Mechanics Manual** and the **LHSAA Handbook**.

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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.

1. During the months of August and September, the LHSAA mandates that the game officials take an “official heat timeout” at the halfway point of each period for the purpose of allowing the players a brief rest to hydrate their bodies. [3-5-7g; LHSAA Handbook: Fb 14.3.10]
2. Legal footballs may have either **8** or **12** evenly placed laces and must have stripes only on the two panels adjacent to and perpendicular to the seam upon which the laces are stitched. [1-3-1b, c]
3. Following any kick return, Team **R** may have the ball placed anywhere between the inbounds lines (*hash marks*). [4-3-4, 5, 6]
4. The *coaches’ area* is a minimum of a **2-yard belt** between the front of the team box and the sideline, and becomes a *restricted area* when the ball is *live*. [1-2-3g]
5. During a field goal attempt, the kicked ball passes over the uprights extended, but only part of the ball is between the inside edges of the uprights extended. **RULING:** The kick shall be ruled unsuccessful. [8-4-1c]
6. The **Referee** shall have the authority to correct obvious errors in timing by the play clock if discovery of such an error is prior to the snap. [3-4-9]

7. If the ball is loose following a fumble or kick and then goes into the end zone, the last player who touches it or is touched by it is deemed responsible for *forcing* the ball across the goal line. [2-13-2]
8. The ball becomes dead when any forward pass is simultaneously caught by opposing players. [4-2-2c]
9. At the end of regulation play in a tied game, Team **A** has no time-outs remaining and Team **B** has one time-out left. RULING: Team **B** will have two time-outs to use in the overtime period and Team **A** will have one. [3-5-1]
10. If either team is granted a new series following a legal kick, the play clock will be set to **25 seconds** and started on the **Referee's ready-for-play** signal. [3-6-1a(1)f]
11. Fouls by Team **B** for *roughing the snapper, passer, kicker or holder* are the only ones that include the award of an automatic first down for Team **A**. [10-1-7a, b, c]
12. The free-blocking zone (FBZ) ceases to exist and the exception for players to block in the back shall not continue after the ball has left the zone. [2-17-4]
13. 3rd and 10 from Team **K's** 23-yard line. **K34's** punt is blocked but remains behind the line and is recovered by **K65** at his own 16-yard line. RULING: 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(2)]
14. The *previous spot* is where the ball was last snapped or free kicked. [2-41-7]
15. For *scrimmage downs*, both teams are required to have at least **5** players on their line of scrimmage. [7-2-5d]
16. 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. 101: NFHS GUIDELINES (Lightning - 3)]
17. The **Umpire** shall ascertain that all player equipment is legal and meets rules specifications. [1-5-4]
18. 2nd down & 7 to go at Team **A's** 25-yard line. **A14's** legal forward pass hits the **Umpire** at Team **A's** 29-yard line and bounces back behind the line of scrimmage where it is caught by ineligible **A57** who is then tackled at the 24-yard line. RULING: *Pass interference* foul on **A57**. 2nd down & 17 for Team **A** at their 15-yard line. [2-44; 7-5-13, Penalty; 10-3-1b; 10-4-2b]
19. Quarterback **A10** takes the snap while guard **A68** moves to his set position. **A10's** pass is then intercepted by **B26** and returned for a touchdown. RULING: Foul for *illegal shift*, penalize Team **A** either on the PAT or the *subsequent kickoff*. [2-16-2i; 7-2-6, Penalty; 10-4-2a]
20. On 3rd down & 3 to go, **K34** attempts a field goal from Team **R's** 25-yard line. The kick is deflected in the backfield by **R55** and goes out of bounds at Team **R's** 7-yard line. RULING: [2-24-6; 5-1-3e; 6-2-6, 7]
 - a. 1st and 10 for Team **R** at their 25-yard line.
 - b. 1st and 10 for Team **R** at their 7-yard line.
 - c. 4th and 3 for Team **K** at Team **R's** 25-yard line.
 - d. 1st and 10 for Team **K** at Team **R's** 7-yard line.

21. Team **K** commits *kick-catching interference* on a 4th down punt. RULING: If the 15-yard penalty is accepted, Team **R** can choose to have it enforced from either the spot of the foul or from the *previous spot*. [6-5-6, Penalty; Case Book 6.5.6 B(a)]
22. By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the **Referee**, any remaining period may be shortened at any time or the game terminated. [3-1-3]
23. An offensive and defensive player simultaneously gain possession of a scrimmage kick muffed by **R** beyond the neutral zone. RULING: The down is ended and the ball belongs to **R** at the spot of recovery. [4-2-2e(1); 6-2-7; Case Book 7.4.3(b)]
24. The game clock shall start with the snap if it was stopped because: [3-4-3b, f, i]
 - a. **B** or **R** is awarded a new series.
 - b. A request for a charged or TV/radio time-out is granted.
 - c. The penalty for a *delay-of-game foul* is accepted.
 - d. Any of the above.
25. 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]
26. 4th down with the **nose** of the ball touching Team **B's** 25-yard line. **A18's** pass is incomplete. RULING: The officials should rotate the ball, so that the **nose** of the ball is touching **B's** 25-yard line. [5-3-3b]
27. **B66** loudly calls out defensive signals while **A9** gives his cadence count. RULING: 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; Case Book 7.1.9 B(b)]
28. The game clock shall start with the snap anytime it is stopped for a *delay-of-game foul*. [3-4-3i]
29. During a down, a replaced player or substitute who enters the field, but does not participate, is guilty of *unsportsmanlike conduct*. [3-7-6]
30. During any kicking down, if any Team **R** runner tosses the ball forward, he has thrown an *illegal forward pass*. [7-5-2a]
31. Team **A** players move to the line and snapper **A57** puts both hands on the ball. As **A10** is calling signals **A57**, slowly and without simulating action at the snap, removes his left hand from the ball. RULING: As long as **A57** keeps at least **1** hand in contact with the ball, there is no foul. [7-1-3a]
32. If time for any period expires while a down is in progress (clock shows **00:00**), play shall continue until the down ends, even if the horn is allowed to sound. [3-3-2]
33. A player, replaced player or a substitute is required to leave the field at the side on which his team box is located and go directly to his team box. He must begin to do so within **10** seconds of being so informed [3-7-1, 2]
34. No matter what the method is for putting the ball in play, it must be done between the inbounds lines (hash marks). [4-1-4]
35. The ball becomes *dead* and the down ends if during a try **B** secures possession or as soon as it is apparent that a kick has failed to score. [4-2-2i]

36. A *scrimmage kick* recovered *in or behind the neutral zone* may **not** be advanced by either team. [6-2-2, 3; Fundamental VI – 2]
37. 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(c), X]
38. 2nd 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]
- 1st and 10 for Team **B** at Team **A's** 40-yard line.
 - 3rd and 1 for Team **A** at its 38-yard line.
 - 1st and 10 for Team **A** at its 40-yard line.
39. **2 teammates** who may legally block below the waist in the *free-blocking zone* against a particular opponent do so by *initially 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)]
40. *Unsportsmanlike-conduct* fouls by *players* do not involve contact and accumulate toward disqualification. [2-32-1; 9-5-1, 2; Case Book 9.5]
41. A ball touching the goal-line plane when it becomes dead is in the end zone, even though it is moving away from the nearer end line and has its foremost point in the field of play. [5-3-4; Case Book 5.3.4 B]
42. For 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]
43. Team **K's** deep kickoff bounces at **R's** 10-yard line and is in the air above the end zone when **R25**, 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, **R25's** return is allowed to continue. [4-2-2d1; 6-3-1a; Case Book 4.2.2 D]
44. 1st and goal from Team **B's** 7-yard line. The pylon is properly placed at the goal line when runner **A43's** fumble deflects off the pylon and bounces back to Team **B's** 3-yard line where **A76** 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 2nd and goal for Team **A** from Team **B's** 3-yard line.
 - The ball is *dead*; it will be 1st and 10 for Team **B** from its 3-yard line.
 - The ball is *dead*; it will be 1st and 10 for Team **B** from its 20-yard line.
45. Each team must be able to field **11** players to start the game but may continue with fewer if no substitutes are available to replace injured or disqualified players. [1-1-3; C.B. 1.1.3]
46. When the 40-second play clock is in use at the end of a non-scoring down, it will be started when the covering official: [LHSAA Attachment A - 3 FAQs]
- Raises an open hand, palm forward overhead (dead ball).
 - Signals "stop-clock" (out-of-bounds) or "wind clock" (plays near sideline).
 - Signals "incomplete pass".
 - Any of the above.
47. *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]

48. 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]
49. On the kickoff, the ball bounces high near the sideline. **R29** leaps from inbounds and grabs the ball while he is airborne over the field of play. **R29** alights so that he lands on the sideline at Team **R's** 12-yard line. RULING: Team **R** will put the ball in play at its own 12-yard line. [2-4-1; Case Book 6.1.9 A]
50. 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]
51. When weather has deteriorated so as to make field conditions hazardous to the safety 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]
52. **K45's** kickoff is muffed by **R23** at Team **R's** 35-yard line. **K88** attempts to recover the loose ball but muffs it so it goes out of bounds at Team **R's** 26-yard line. RULING: No foul has occurred; Team **R** will play 1st down & 10 at its own 26-yard line. [5-1-5a; 6-1-10]
53. Only the player who receives the snap may be a *passer*. [2-32-11]
54. During a *kick*, a Team **K** player may use his hands or arms to ward off an opponent who is attempting to block him. [2-3-4b]
55. Following their huddle, 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 **A61**. Back **A32** then starts in motion after which **A61** goes into his 3-point stance. The ball is snapped **2** seconds later. RULING: [7-2-6, Penalty]
 a. *Illegal motion*, a live-ball foul.
 b. *False start*, a dead-ball foul.
 c. *Illegal shift*, a live-ball foul.
 d. No foul. Play on.
56. All linemen are in the *free-blocking zone*. At the snap, guard **A68** pulls to his left and then blocks defensive tackle **B70** below the waist from the front before the ball has left the zone. RULING: Legal block. [2-17-2c]
57. 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]
58. 3rd and 10 from Team **A's** 20-yard line. As time expires for the **2ND** period, QB **A9** scrambles to Team **A's** 23-yard line and throws a forward pass intended for eligible **A47**. **B26** blocks **A47** 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]
59. As **A31** is running with the ball, **B52** is making a legitimate attempt to get to **A31**. **B52** shoves blocker **A63** out of the way by pushing him on the back above the waist. RULING: [9-3-5b]
 a. Legal.
 b. **B52** is guilty of a blind side block.
 c. **B52** is guilty of a block in the back.

60. **A10's** long pass is possessed by **A36** while he is in the air above **B's** end zone. **A36** loses control when he is hit by **B24** while in the air. The loose ball is subsequently caught by eligible **A85** in **B's** end zone.
RULING: Touchdown. [2-4-1; 8-2-1b; Case Book 7.5.4 B(b)]
61. It is considered a new *force* if the muffing or batting of a fumble or kick *in flight* causes it to change direction. [2-13-3; 8-5-1a]
62. It is the responsibility of game management to clear the field of play and end zones at the beginning of each half so that play may begin at the scheduled time. Failure to do so will result in a 5-yard penalty for *delay of game*. [3-6-4, Penalty]
63. The head coach's verification that his players are legally equipped includes a visible exterior warning label on the helmet regarding the risk of injury. [1-5-1a(2) NOTE]
64. If a player is charged with an *unsportsmanlike foul* because of a prolonged or excessive act to focus attention on himself, he must also be disqualified. [9-5-1c, Penalty]
65. One of the requirements for **A89** legally being *on the line* is that **A89** face his opponent's goal line with shoulders approximately parallel thereto. [2-32-9]
66. A *block in the back* by a Team **A** lineman is legal if the block occurs in the free-blocking zone before the ball leaves the zone. [2-17-4]
67. 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]
68. Following the snap on a kick try or field-goal attempt, the offensive linemen "step down" and interlock their feet while blocking. RULING: This is a foul for an *illegal blocking* technique . . . 10-yard penalty. [7-2-2, Penalty; Case Book 7.2.2]
69. **K22's** short kickoff is in flight 14 yards beyond Team **K's** free-kick line when **K37** catches it with no **R** players around. RULING: [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. *Kick-catch interference* on **K30**.
70. While **K9's** punt is in flight, **K43** commits a *holding foul*. **R37** 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 to enforce it on the try. [8-2-3; Case Book 6.2 (a)]
71. *Loss of down* means to lose the right to replay a down following penalty enforcement. [2-7-2]
72. The *goal line* is entirely in the end zone and the edge toward the field of play, and its vertical plane is the actual goal line. [1-2-3j]
73. Jerseys may not be altered to produce a knot-like protrusion or a tear-away type jersey. [1-5-3a(3)]
74. 2nd down and 10 for Team **A**. During the down, **A71** held and **B26** committed *pass interference* after which **B39** intercepted and was immediately downed. RULING: This is a *double foul*. No options . . . Team **A** will replay 2nd down and 10 from the *previous spot*. [10-2-1b; 10-2-2; 10-4-2b; Case Book 10.2.1 A]

75. If a player is wearing prescription eyewear under his facemask, it must be clear and untinted in order to be legal. [1-5-3c(4) NOTE]
76. **A88** is beyond the neutral zone in position to catch a deep pass. **B24** turns his back to the ball and directs his attention to **A88** by waving his hands and arms to block the vision of the potential receiver but does not make any contact. RULING: Legal action by **B24**. No foul on the play. [7-5-10; Case Book 7.5.10 C]
77. There is **01:35** remaining in the **2nd period** when **A32's** fumble rolls forward and out of bounds at Team **A's** 22-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 **Referee's** signal.
78. The **Umpire** shall ascertain that the game balls and all player equipment are legal and meet rules specifications. [1-3-3; 1-5-4]
79. 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]
80. If during a down in which time expires, **K72 holds** during a successful field-goal attempt, Team **R** must accept the penalty in order to negate the score. Team **K** will then play an untimed down. [3-3-3a; 9-2-1c; 10-5-3]
81. A defensive player shall not contact an eligible receiver who is no longer a potential blocker. [9-2-3d; Case Book 9.2.3 A]
82. A player participating while not properly equipped is to be removed from the game for at least **1** down unless halftime or an overtime intermission occurs. [1-5-4, 5; 3-5-10e]
83. When **R23** gains possession of a *free kick*, blocking below the waist by teammates becomes legal. [9-3-2a]
84. The *play clock* is set to **25** seconds when an official's timeout is taken for an injury to a defensive player or a defensive player has an equipment issue. [3-6-1a(1)e, EXCEPT. 2,3]
85. 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 series.
 - Team **K** may choose to have the penalty enforced from the *previous spot* and replay the down.
 - Either b or c.
86. Following a safety, unless moved by a penalty, Team **R's** free-kick restraining line is **K's** 30-yard line. [6-1-1b]
87. 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]
88. If time for a period expires during a down in which there is a double foul, the period is automatically extended. [3-3-3b]

89. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at Team **B's** 13-yard line. After the ball has been made ready for play, substitute **B15** comes onto the field and replaced player **B33** 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 8-yard line. It's 1st down and 5 now for Team **A**. [3-7-2, Penalty; 5-2-2b; 5-3-1]
90. During the down, Team **A** commits a *holding foul* after which Team **B** intercepts a pass and *blocks in the back* during the return. RULING: Since Team **B** gained final possession prior to their foul, they will have the option to keep the ball following penalty enforcement for their foul. [9-2-1c; 9-3-6; 10-2-2]
91. 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]
92. Both head coaches are responsible for their teams being on the field for the mandatory 3-minute warm-up period following the halftime intermission. [3-1-7]
93. If an inadvertent whistle is sounded during the last timed down of a period, the period must be extended by an untimed down. [3-3-3c]
94. 1st down and goal at Team **B's** 7-yard line. **A20** fumbles at the 3-yard line. **A35** 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. RULING: [8-5-2, 3, 4]
- Safety.
 - Touchback.
 - A's** ball, 2nd down at the 7-yard line.
 - B's** ball, 1st and 10 at the 3-yard line.
95. With **00:09** remaining in the 1st half, QB **A11** is in shotgun formation behind the center. The snap bounces off **A11's** chest to the ground. **A11** recovers the errant snap, then throws the ball forward directly to the ground to conserve time. RULING: This is an *illegal forward pass*. Penalize Team **A** 5 yards from the spot of the pass and count the down. [7-5-2e, 3, Penalty]
96. While it is possible to have several *running plays* during a down, with each one having its own basic spot of penalty enforcement, there can only be one *loose-ball play* during a down. [Fundamental IX – 6]
97. If the helmet of the tackler comes off in making contact with the runner, the ball becomes dead immediately. [4-2-2k; Case Book 4.2.2 K]
98. Players of the same team shall not participate during the same down while wearing identical numbers. [7-2-5c]
99. During a scrimmage down after a change of team possession, no player may hand the ball forward to a teammate. [7-3-3]
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 contacts 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 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. *Tripping* an opponent is legal if it occurs in the *free-blocking zone*. [9-4-3o]
102. Team **K** attempts a field goal on 4th down from Team **R's** 26-yard line. **R29** touches the kick in **R's** end zone and the ball caroms between the uprights above the crossbar.
RULING: Score 3 points for Team **K**. [4-2-2d EXCEPTION; 8-4-1b, c]
103. After breaking the huddle, a Team **A** player, wearing **#63**, positions himself at tailback.
RULING: It is legal for **A63** to take a handoff and run with the ball. [7-5-6a; 7-5-12, 13]
104. 4th and 5 yards to go at Team **R's** 22-yard line. Holder **K16** muffs the snap and the ball is loose on the ground at Team **R's** 29-yard line. **K84** kicks the rolling ball, which goes through the uprights. RULING: [2-24-4; 8-4-1b; 9-7-1, Penalty; 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.
105. If an *illegal forward pass* strikes the ground inbounds, the ball remains *live* and is treated as a *fumble*. [4-2-2c]
106. Initiating contact with an opposing player whose helmet has come completely off is ruled an *illegal personal contact foul*. [9-4-3l]
107. **B27** intercepts a pass and begins a return. **B27** is pursued by **A38**, who cannot see **B17** approach. **B17** contacts **A38** 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)]
108. 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]
109. There is **00:16** 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. **B47** commits a *face-mask foul* when he tackles **A32** inbounds as the clock shows **00:06** 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]
110. 3rd down and 10 from Team **A's** 40-yard line. Under heavy rush, QB **A9** dumps a pass to **A46** and is then *roughed* by **B70**. **A46** is downed at **A's** 36-yard line.
RULING: Penalize Team **B** from the *previous spot* and award Team **A** an automatic 1st down. [5-2-2b; 9-4-4 Penalty; 10-1-7b; 10-5-5; Case Book 9.4.4 B(b)]
111. There is a **2-minute** intermission period following a Try, successful field goal or safety and prior to the following free kick. [3-5-7l]
112. If a foul occurs during a down, the basic enforcement spot is determined by the action that occurs during the down. [10-4-1]
113. During a 2nd down play in the 3RD period, the game clock goes directly from **01:45** to **00:45** and is not detected. Following 3rd down, time for the period expires. The error is discovered after the **Referee** declares the period officially ended. RULING: The timing error can be corrected until the ball becomes *live* in the subsequent period. [3-3-5; Case Book 3.4.8(b)]
114. The **Head Linesman** has general oversight of the line-to-gain and down-marker crew, and the primary responsibility for counting downs.

115. A 3rd down *scrimmage kick* recovered by **K** in or behind the neutral zone belongs to **K** and the ball remains *live*. [5-1-4]
116. The prohibition against *spearing* is not applicable to the runner. [2-20-1c; 9-4-3i]
117. **A22** breaks into the secondary and heading up the sideline to a touchdown. Trailing defensive back **B26** lunges forward and grabs the back of **A22's** jersey in the nameplate area and forcefully pulls it backward causing **A22** to stumble a bit but he continues on for the score. RULING: No *horse-collar foul* has occurred. Play on. [9-4-3k; CB 9.4.3 N(a)]
118. **K74** attempts an onside kick from his 40-yard line by kicking the ball toward the sideline. As **R41** goes to recover the ball at **K's 48-yard line**, he is blocked by **K51**. **K64** then recovers the ball. RULING: **K51** is guilty of an *illegal block*. **K64'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* and play a 1st down. [6-1-6; 9-3-7, Penalty; 10-4-2 EXCEPTION; Case Book 9.3.7 A]
119. 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; Case Book 8.4.1 B(a, b)]
120. The kicking tee may not elevate the ball more than **2** inches above the ground. [1-3-4]
121. 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]
122. The penalty for *targeting* an opponent is 15 yards from the *basic spot* plus an automatic 1st down. The violator shall be disqualified. [2-16-2c; 2-20-2; 9-4-3m, Penalty; 10-1-7]
123. 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]
124. 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.
125. 4th down and 15 on Team **K's** 30-yard line. **R21** enters the game as the **12th player** while **K's** punt is in flight and blocks during the return. **R33** catches the punt at **R's** 36-yard line and returns to his 44-yard line before being tackled. RULING: *Illegal participation foul* on **R21**. The penalty is enforced from the *post-scrimmage kick spot* (**R** 36-yard line). Team **R** will put the ball in play 1st down 10 after enforcement. [2-30; 5-2-2a1; 9-6-4a; 10-4-3; Case Book 9.6.1 D]
126. 2nd down and 10 at Team **A's** 30-yard line. **B65** fouls passer **A13** by grasping but not pulling **A13's** facemask. The pass is incomplete. RULING: Team **A** will play 2nd down and 5 at their 35-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]
127. **B29** is charged with a *flagrant illegal helmet-contact foul* on a tackle and is disqualified by the calling official. Team **A** declines the penalty. RULING: **B29** will be allowed to remain in the game. [10-5-6]
128. The distance penalties for any *dead-ball fouls* committed by both teams will offset. [10-2-5b; Case Book 10.2.5 A]

129. Team **A** scores a touchdown during the last timed down of the 1ST period. During the successful 2-point Try, **B68** is flagged for *roughing the passer*. RULING: The penalty will be assessed on the *subsequent kickoff* after the teams change ends. There will be no extension of the period. [3-3-4a; 8-3-5b]
130. 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]
131. At the snap, offensive linemen **A56** and **A67** 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; 2-17-2; 9-3-2a; Case Book 9.3.2 B(d)]
132. 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]
133. **K25's** *free kick* from his 40-yard line is rolling at Team **R's** 1-yard line when **R30** muffs the ball while attempting 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]
134. If the kickers catch or recover a *free kick* anywhere in the field of play 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]
135. A football jersey, unaltered from the manufacturer's original design, must completely cover the shoulder pads and all pads worn above the waist on the torso. [1-5-1b(1)]
136. Any receiver who gives a valid or invalid fair-catch signal is prohibited from blocking until the *kick* has ended. The penalty is 15 yards. [6-5-1, Penalty]
137. 2nd down and 7 at Team **A's** 33-yard line. Receiver **A44** is running near the sideline as a forward pass reaches him. He tips the ball, steps out of bounds at Team **A's** 45-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)]
- a. No problem . . . the touchdown stands.
 - b. Foul for *illegal participation* . . . scratch the touchdown.
 - c. Incomplete pass.
138. Midway through the 4th period, receiver **A88** leaps high in the end zone and catches a touchdown pass. When he alights, **B25** drives the crown of his helmet into **A88's** chest. The covering official rules that the contact was *flagrant*. RULING: *Flagrant spearing foul* on **B25**. Score the touchdown and disqualify **B25**. 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]
139. **B47** intercepts **A's** pass deep in his own end zone and attempts to run it out before finally being tackled there. RULING: Safety. Team **A** scores **2** points. [2-13-1; 8-5-3d]
140. *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]
141. A *safety* will be scored when an offensive player commits any foul for which the penalty is accepted and enforcement is from a spot in his end zone. [8-5-2c]

142. 2nd and 7 from Team **A's** 42-yard line. As time expires in the 2ND period, QB **A8** scrambles to Team **A's** 46-yard line and throws a forward pass complete to **A21** for a touchdown. RULING: 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]
143. **K85's** grounded *kickoff* from his 40-yard line is muffed by **K59** at Team **K's** 47-yard line. **R62** scoops up the ball at Team **R's** 47-yard line and advances with the ball. RULING: The game clock should be started: [3-4-3, 5]
 a. When **K85** kicks the ball.
 b. When **K59** muffs the ball.
 c. When **R62** recovers the muff.
144. On 4th down, **K's** punt is muffed beyond the neutral zone by **R34** 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 play clock (set to 25-seconds) on the *ready-for-play signal*. [3-4-2c; 3-4-4i; 3-6-1a1c; 4-2-3a; Case Book 4.2.3 A]
145. It is illegal to intentionally throw a *backward* pass out of bounds to stop the clock. [7-4-1]
146. 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]
147. Because of damp or rainy weather, Team **A's QB** requests the use of a towel containing a product to help give the wet ball a tacky grip. RULING: The **Referee** shall deny the request. [1-5-3a(2)]
148. Touching of a low scrimmage kick by any player is ignored if it occurs in or behind the expanded neutral zone. [6-2-6; Fundamental VI – 1]
149. 4th down and 8 on Team **K's** 37-yard line. **K44's** punt is in flight when **R23** blocks **K77** below the waist at Team **R's** 32-yard line. **R38** catches the ball at his 36-yard line and is tackled at his 45-yard line. RULING: *Post-scrimmage kick enforcement* applies. **R** will play 1st and 10 from its own 17-yard line. [2-16-2h; 2-41-6; 5-2-2a; 10-4-3; Case Book 10.4.3 D]
150. 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]
151. 4th down and 9 on Team **K's** 38-yard line. **K26's** short punt is muffed by **R51** at Team **K's** 47-yard line. The loose ball rolls behind the neutral zone and is recovered by **K20** at Team **K's** 22-yard line. From there, **K20** throws an incomplete forward pass intended for eligible **K36**. RULING: [5-1-3f; 7-5-1, 2; 7-5-5; Case Book 5.1.3 D]
 48-It will be Team **K's** ball at Team **K's** 38-yard line, 1st down and 10.
 49-It will be Team **R's** ball at Team **K's** 38-yard line, 1st down and 10.
 50-**K20's** pass is illegal.
 51-The ball becomes dead when **K20** recovers.
152. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at their 20-yard line. **A64** *false starts* and **B73** reacts by entering the neutral zone and roughly knocking down **A52**. 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 20-yard line.
 b. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at its 25-yard line.
 c. 1st and 10 for Team **A** at its 30-yard line.

153. During a running play, **A38** breaks into the secondary. Safety **B26** comes up quickly and drives his face mask into the chest of **A38** while simultaneously wrapping his arms around **A38** bringing him to the ground. RULING: *Face-tackling* foul by **B26**. [2-20-1b; 9-4-3i; Case Book 9.4.3 L]
154. Following all *personal* and *unsportsmanlike fouls* by Team **B**, Team **A** will be awarded an automatic 1st down. [10-1-7]
155. On 4th down and 25 to go on their own 17-yard line, Team **A** lines up in punt formation. Nose tackle **B56** immediately charges head first into snapper **A57**. **R37** returns the punt for a touchdown. RULING: *Roughing the snapper*. Scratch the touchdown; Team **A** will play a 1st down and 10 from their own 32-yard line. [2-14-2b; 5-2-2b; 9-4-6, Penalty; 10-1-7c; 10-3-1a]
156. Other than during a *try for point*, any forward pass caught by any player of **A** or **B** in the field of play may be advanced. [2-10-2; 4-2-2i; 7-5-4]
157. 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]
158. **K44's** kickoff is muffed by **R28** at Team **R's** 33-yard line. **K68** attempts to recover the loose ball but muffs it so it goes out of bounds at Team **R's** 22-yard line. RULING: 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]
159. 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]
160. 3rd down and goal at Team **B's** 7-yard line. **A15's** pass is caught by eligible **A42**, who is at the 4-yard line when his facemask is twisted by **B26**. This causes **A42** to fumble after which the ball rolls into the end zone where **B58** recovers it. RULING: The penalty is enforced from Team **B's** 4-yard line; Team **A** retains possession. [9-4-3h; 10-3-2; 10-4-4]
161. **B41** intercepts a pass at his own 3-yard line. His momentum takes him into his own end zone, where he fumbles. **B63** and **A81** simultaneously recover the loose ball, which never leaves the end zone. RULING: [7-4-3c; 8-5-2a Exception]
- Team **A** scores a safety.
 - Team **A** scores a touchdown.
 - Touchback; Team **B** will get the ball at its own 20-yard line.
 - The *momentum exception* applies; Team **B** will get the ball at its own 3-yard line.
162. 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]
163. 3rd down and 5 at Team **A's** 25-yard line. Quarterback **A12's** handoff to **A33** is fumbled and the ball is in flight when **A21** bats it forward and out of bounds at **A's** 35-yard line. RULING: [5-1-2a; 5-1-3a; 9-7-2]
- Foul for *illegal batting*. 15-yard penalty from the previous spot & replay the down.
 - Foul for *illegal touching*. 10-yard penalty from the spot of the foul & loss of down.
 - No foul. Legal play. Team **A** gets a first down at their 35-yard line.

164. 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]
165. Each head coach is responsible for designating a representative who will make decisions regarding penalty acceptance or declination. [1-4-4]
166. Under heavy pressure, QB **A7** tosses a *forward* underhand pitch to **A31** behind the neutral zone which is not caught. RULING: Incomplete pass; *dead ball*. [2-31-2, 4; 4-2-2c]
167. A *kick* ends as soon as a Team **R** player *touches* the *kick*. [2-24-2; Fundamental IV – 1]
168. The re-entry into the game of a disqualified player is an *illegal participation foul*. [9-6-4f]
169. QB **A17** is deep in his own end zone when, under a heavy rush, he *intentionally grounds* a forward pass to save a loss of yardage. RULING: Safety, even if Team **B** declines the penalty. [7-5-3; 8-5-2c]
170. Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the game and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional. [3-5-10b]