

2018-19 Football Officials Exam for Postseason Tournament Consideration & Answers

- On an extra point attempt, A16 throws a pass that is intercepted by B7 in the end zone. As B7 takes two steps, he drops the ball and it is recovered in the end zone by A66. What is the correct ruling on this play?
 - Score 2 points for Team A; since Team B never brought the ball outside the end zone, it remained in play and the fumble, and subsequent recovery, results in 2 points for A.
 - No points are scored. The try ended as soon as the ball was intercepted by Team B, creating an immediate dead ball. Nothing can happen on a try once B gains possession.**
 - Score 1 point for Team A; since Team B never brought the ball outside the end zone, it remained in play and the fumble, and subsequent recovery, results in 1 points for A as this is considered to be a "defensive safety".
- Team A has a 4th and 6 from their own 20 yard line and aligns in punt formation. At the snap, Team A commits a foul for an illegal formation. Punt returner B30 catches this long punt on his own 40 yard line and returns the ball 10 yards to the 50. Which options does Team B have with the illegal formation foul by rule?
 - Team B may accept the foul for illegal formation and have it enforced from the previous spot. Repeat the down, 4th down and 11 from their own 15 yard line.
 - Team B may decline the penalty and take possession of the ball 1st and 10 from the 50 yard line.
 - Team B may accept the foul for illegal formation and have it enforced from the succeeding spot. 1st and 10 for Team B on the Team A 45 yard line.
 - All of the above are options for Team B.**
- R1 is running downfield with the ball on a punt return when teammate R2 executes a blindside block against K1 who is pursuing the runner. This blindside block is made with forcible contact and the first contact was made by R2 with his shoulder pad into K1's side (not in the back). The covering official should....
 - Legal play as the block was not in the back; this is a legal football play.
 - Foul for an illegal blindside block as the forcible contact was not initiated first with the hands.**
 - It is entirely up to the covering official's judgment whether or not this is a foul for excessive contact.
- Runner A5 takes the ball and makes a nice cut, clearing nearly all the defenders at the line of scrimmage. As A5 breaks into the open field, defender B7 comes out of nowhere and tackles A5 from the side. It's a huge hit with both players first meeting shoulder-to-shoulder and it takes unsuspecting runner A5 to the ground immediately as the defender was outside of his field of vision. The play is a....
 - Legal play as you cannot have illegal blindside contact against the runner.**
 - Foul for illegal blindside contact as the forcible contact was not initiated with open hands.
- B54's helmet comes completely off while trying to legally tackle runner A32, who continues running after breaking free from B54's grasp. After disengaging, B54 resumes his pursuit of runner A32 without a helmet. Helmetless B54 is then contacted (blocked) by A76 as the runner continues down the field.
 - No foul by either team since the ball carrier's helmet did not come off; play stands.
 - Foul for illegal participation by B54 and foul for illegal personal contact by A76; fouls offset, replay the down. B54 must leave the game for one play.**
 - Foul for illegal participation by B54; there is no foul against A76. B54 must leave the game for one play.
 - None of the answers are correct.
- On the first drive of the game, Team A has a coach is in the restricted area during live ball action. The line judge must go around this coach to cover the play along the sideline. What should the crew do?
 - Ignore the situation as "that's how our crew rolls".
 - Since this is the first time during the game, there is a flag and a warning is issued to Team A. No yardage is assessed but the foul is noted and a signal is given by the referee.**

- c. This is sideline interference. 5-yard penalty is enforced from the previous spot.
7. On the second drive of the game for Team A, another Team A coach is again in the restricted area during live ball action. The line judge must go around this coach again to cover the play. What's the correct call?
- It's another sideline warning as there was no contact between the coach and official.
 - It's a foul on Team A since it was the second offense. 5-yard penalty from the previous spot.
 - It's a foul on Team A since it was the second offense. 5-yard penalty from the succeeding spot.**
8. Team A calls a timeout early in the 4th quarter. While both teams are huddled in front of their bench, the head coach from Team A approaches the line judge with an iPad. The coach shows the LJ a video clip of the previous play before the timeout that a pass ruled complete for Team B clearly hit the ground and should have been ruled incomplete. The crew should...
- Eject the head coach because the use of technology is prohibited by rule during games.
 - Get the crew together and look at the video; if the crew agrees an obvious mistake has been made, change the call because the most important thing is getting the play right.
 - Inform the coach that while video can be used on the sideline for coaching purposes, it cannot be used to review or dispute any call or decision by a game official. If the coach handles this situation in an unsportsmanlike way, he should be penalized.**
9. During the first half, player B75 is flagged for roughing the quarterback. With two minutes to play in the fourth quarter, B75 is flagged for a late hit. Which of the following is correct?
- B75 is ejected by virtue of his second personal foul but he may remain within the team area.
 - B75 is ejected by virtue of his second personal foul and he must leave the stadium area immediately.
 - B75 may continue participating in the game because ejection results only after two unsportsmanlike conduct fouls, not two personal fouls if they are not flagrant.**
 - None of the answers are correct.
10. Team A is in shotgun formation. At the snap, left tackle A77 sets up to pass block, taking two steps back to block the edge rush end, B50. As B50 tries to rush outside of the blocker, A77 drops and blocks B50 just below the knees, taking both players to the ground. What statement is true?
- Legal play as the contact took place within the free blocking zone.
 - Foul for illegal block below the waist. While the contact took place within the zone, the ball had long left the zone (shotgun snap) and this contact is illegal.**
 - Neither answer is correct.
11. On the last play of regulation, Team B scores a touchdown to tie the game at 28-28. Team B has no kicker so they will attempt a 2-point play. Team B runs a screen pass that is intercepted by A-21 who returns the ball 92 yards for a score.
- Game over, Team A wins 30-28.
 - The game is not over as Team A is required to attempt the PAT after the legal score.
 - The ball became dead as soon as Team A gained possession on the try; no score, move on to overtime.**
12. Which of the following statements regarding choice of footballs is/are true?
- The offensive team may request any ball of its choosing for any offensive play as long as the ball was approved by the officials before the game.
 - The offensive team may request a ball of its choosing before a free kick or to start a series as long as the ball was approved by the officials before the game.**

- c. The offensive team may request a special leather "kicking ball" before any free kick, punt, field goal and extra point as long as the ball was approved by the officials before the game.
- d. None of the answers are correct.
13. Which statement about targeting is correct?
- a. Under NFHS rules, a targeting foul always results in an ejection.
- b. Under NFHS rules, a targeting foul only results in an ejection if the crew deems the foul to be flagrant. Targeting does not require an ejection; it is treated like any other personal foul as the crew can eject if deemed flagrant.**
- c. Under NFHS rules, a targeting foul always results in an ejection but that team may show the referee video at halftime (if foul in the 1st half) or after the game (if foul in the 2nd half) to have the ejection overturned.
14. A kickoff goes out of bounds and the receiving team elects to take the ball on the 35 yard line. Where should the officials place the ball on the 35 yard line?
- a. In the middle of the field
- b. The receiving team has the option of where to place the ball within the hash marks.
- c. The ball is placed on the closest hash mark to where the kick went out of bounds.**
- d. None of the above.
15. B1 intercepts a pass at his own three yardline. His momentum takes him into his own end zone, where he fumbles. B2 and A3 simultaneously recover the loose ball, which never leaves the end zone.
- a. Team A scores a safety.
- b. Team A scores a touchdown.
- c. Touchback; team B will get the ball at its own 20 yardline.
- d. The momentum exception applies; team B will get the ball at its own three yardline.**
16. B1 intercepts a pass and begins to advance. B1 is pursued by A2, who cannot see B3 approach. B3 contacts A2 with his shoulder below the neck and shoulders, above the waist, in the side.
- a. No problem.
- b. B3 should be flagged for targeting.
- c. B3 should be flagged for a blindside block.**
17. First and 10 for team A at its own three yardline. A1 is in his end zone when he muffs a backward pass from A2. A3 recovers the loose ball and is downed in the end zone. B4 is flagged for grabbing and twisting A3's facemask in the process of making the tackle.
- a. Team B scores a safety.
- b. The penalty is enforced from team A's 20 yardline.
- c. The penalty is enforced from team A's goalline.**
- d. The penalty is enforced from the previous spot.
18. K1's field-goal attempt hits the ground at team R's five yardline, is muffed by R2 at his own two yardline, then rolls into the end zone. Six yards deep in the end zone, K3 falls on the ball.
- a. The ball is dead the moment it crosses the goalline.
- b. It's a touchback; it will be team R's ball at its own 20 yardline.
- c. Team K scores a touchdown.
- d. Team K scores a safety.
- e. Both A and B are correct**

19. First and 10 for team A from its own 20 yardline midway through the first quarter. A1 fumbles at team A's 25 yardline. The ball rolls forward and out of bounds at team A's 29 yardline.

- a. It will be second and five for team A from its 25 yardline and the clock will start on the ready for play.
- b. It will be second and one for team A from its 29 yardline and the clock will start on the ready for play.
- c. It will be second and five for team A from its 25 yardline and the clock will start on the snap.
- d. **It will be second and one for team A from its 29 yardline and the clock will start on the snap.**

20. During the dead-ball interval between downs, quarterback A1 and safety B2 go to their respective sidelines to receive instructions. All coaches remain in the team box and the players remain on their respective sides of the neutral zone and on the field.

- a. Each team is guilty of an illegal conference.
- b. Only team A is guilty of an illegal conference.
- c. Only team B is guilty of an illegal conference.
- d. The penalty is five yards.
- e. The penalty is 15 yards.
- f. **No problem for either team; legal in all ways.**

21. First and 10 at team B's 30 yardline. Receiver A1 catches a pass and heads toward the goalline. He is at team B's six yardline when he taunts pursuing B2. A1 crosses the goalline with the ball in his possession.

- a. Legal play. The touchdown counts.
- b. **Touchdown, but a 15-yard penalty will be enforced on the try or kickoff.**
- c. No score. It will be team A's ball, first and 10 at team B's 21 yardline. Clock on the ready.
- d. No score. It will be team A's ball, first and 10 at team B's 21 yardline. Clock on the snap.

22. Team A scores a touchdown on the first possession of an extra period. On the try, team B is flagged for roughing the kicker. The kick is successful.

- a. The penalty is declined by rule.
- b. **Team A may accept the point and have the penalty enforced at the start of team B's overtime series, or choose to have the penalty enforced from the previous spot with the down repeated.**
- c. Team A may accept the point and have the penalty enforced at the start of team B's overtime series, but it may not choose to have the penalty enforced from the previous spot with the down repeated.
- d. Team A may choose to have the penalty enforced from the previous spot with the down repeated, but it may not accept the point and have the penalty enforced at the start of team B's overtime series.

23. On a free kick, K1 drives the ball immediately into the ground. The ball strikes the ground once and goes into the air in the manner of a ball kicked directly off the tee. R2 signals for and makes a fair catch.

- a. **Dead-ball foul on K1.**
- b. Live-ball foul on K1.
- c. Legal play.

24. Fourth and four from team K's 36 yardline. Team K is in scrimmage kick formation. K1 receives the long snap and uses an overhand motion to throw a high and deep pass downfield toward eligible K2. R3 blocks K2 while the ball is in flight. The ball hits the ground untouched at team R's 45 yardline.

- a. **R3 is guilty of defensive pass interference.**

- b. There is no foul on the play as the manner in which the ball was thrown looked just like a punt. This is an exception to the pass interference rule.
- c. Neither other answer is correct.

25. A1 takes the snap and drops back to pass. Under a heavy rush he scrambles toward the line of scrimmage. His passing arm and one of his feet are beyond the neutral zone when he throws a forward pass to eligible A2.

- a. Legal play. The passer's entire body must be beyond the zone for that to be a foul.
- b. Foul. If only A1's arm had been beyond the zone, there would be no foul.**
- c. Foul. If any part of the passer's body is beyond the zone, it is a foul.

26. K1's inside "pooch" kick is in flight (it has NOT touched the ground or a player) 14 yards beyond team K's free-kick line when K2 catches it in the air.

- a. Legal play; it's team K's ball at the spot of recovery.
- 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 on K1 under any circumstance.**

27. With six minutes to go in the second period, an official signals the game clock to stop when he sees A1 limping from a twisted ankle. Within a few seconds, A1 says he feels fine and wants to remain in the game. Team B is then granted a charged team timeout.

- a. A1 must leave the game for at least one down.**
- b. Because team B was granted a timeout, A1 may remain in the game.
- c. Since A1 was ready to play before the timeout request was granted, he may remain in the game.

28. First and 10 for team A at team B's 12 yardline. Substitute B1 comes onto the field and replaced player B2 leaves the field via the back of the end zone.

- a. Legal play.
- b. Illegal substitution, a live ball foul.
- c. Illegal substitution, a dead-ball foul.**

29. Fourth and 10 on team K's 20 yardline. K1's short punt is muffed by R2 at team K's 30 yardline. The loose ball rolls behind the neutral zone and is recovered by K3 at team K's 15 yardline. From there, K3 throws a forward pass intended for eligible K4, but the pass is incomplete.

- a. It will be team R's ball at team K's 20 yardline.
- b. It will be team K's ball at team K's 20 yardline.**
- c. The ball is dead when K3 recovers.
- d. K3's pass is illegal.

30. R1 makes a fair catch on the near hashmark at his own 23 yardline. Before the ready signal, team R's captain indicates his team wishes to snap the ball from the middle of the field.

- a. The request is honored.**
- b. The request is denied.