

# Summary of penalties

Officials' signals (see pages 170 - 172), the numbers refer to numbered illustrations; R, Rule; S, Section; A, Article; P, Page. Where a signal is marked \*, the referee shall also give Signal 9.

Index		O	R	S	A	P
<b>LOSS OF A DOWN</b>						
1	Illegal scrimmage kick	31*	6	3	10	90
2	Illegally handing ball forward	35*	7	1	6	102
3	Planned loose ball play	19*	7	1	7	102
4	Intentionally throwing backward pass out of bounds	35*	7	2	1	103
5	Illegal forward pass by Team A	35*	7	3	2	104
6	Intentionally grounding forward pass	36*	7	3	2	104
7	Forward pass illegally touched by player out of bounds	16*	7	3	4	106
8	Illegally batting loose ball	31*	9	4	1	144
9	Illegally kicking ball	31*	9	4	4	145
<b>LOSS OF FIVE YARDS</b>						
1	Alteration of playing surface for an advantage	27	1	2	9	21
2	Improper numbering	23	1	4	2	23
3	Coin toss infractions	19	3	1	1	51
4	Illegal delay of game	21	3	4	2	66
5	Advancing a dead ball	21	3	4	2	66
6	Disconcerting offensive signals	21	3	4	2	66
7	Substitution rules infraction	22	3	5	2	69
8	Delay of game (substitutions)	21	3	5	2	69
9	More than 11 players in the formation or during the play (Team A)	22	3	5	3	70
10	More than 11 players in the formation or during the play (Team B)	22	3	5	3	71
11	More than 11 players when the play clock expires	22	3	5	3	71
12	Putting ball in play before it is ready	19	4	1	4	76
13	Exceeding play clock count	21	4	1	5	76
14	Infraction of free kick formation	18, 19	6	1	2	82
15	Player out of bounds when ball free-kicked	19	6	1	2	83
16	Team A player illegally goes out of bounds (free kick)	19	6	1	11	86
17	Team A blocking during a free kick	19	6	1	12	86
18	Free kick out of bounds [or 30-yard option]	19	6	2	1	86
19	Return kick	31	6	3	10	90
20	Illegal scrimmage kick (also loss of down)	31*	6	3	10	90
21	Marking spot of place kick	19	6	3	10	90
22	Team A player illegally goes out of bounds (scrimmage kick)	19	6	3	12	91
23	Defensive linemen in field goal formation	19	6	3	14	91
24	Taking more than two steps after a fair catch	21	6	5	2	95
25	Illegal snap	19	7	1	1	97

Index	O	R	S	A	P
26 Snapper's position and ball adjustment	19	7	1	3	98
27 Team A not within nine-yard marks after ready for play	19	7	1	3	98
28 Encroachment (offense) at snap	19	7	1	3	98
29 False start or simulating start of a play	19	7	1	3	98
30 Player out of bounds when ball is snapped	19	7	1	4	100
31 Offensive player illegally in motion at the snap	20	7	1	4	100
32 Illegal formation	19	7	1	4	100
33 Illegal formation due to numbering exception	19	7	1	4	100
34 Illegal shift	20	7	1	4	100
35 Interference with opponent or ball	18	7	1	5	101
36 Defensive player charging unabated toward a back	18	7	1	5	101
37 Abrupt defensive actions	21	7	1	5	101
38 Offside (defense)	18	7	1	5	101
39 Defensive player out of bounds at snap	19	7	1	5	101
40 Illegally handing ball forward (also loss of down)	35*	7	1	6	102
41 Planned loose ball play (also loss of down)	19*	7	1	7	102
42 Intentionally throwing backward pass out of bounds (also loss of down)	35*	7	2	1	103
43 Player on scrimmage line receiving snap	19	7	2	3	103
44 Illegal forward pass by Team A (also loss of down)	35*	7	3	2	104
45 Ineligible receiver downfield	37	7	3	10	112
46 Forward pass illegally touched	16	7	3	11	112
47 Running into kicker or holder	30	9	1	16	133
48 Game administration interference (also 15 yards)	29	9	2	5	140
49 Interlocked interference or helping ball carrier	44	9	3	2	141
<b>LOSS OF 10 YARDS</b>					
1 Home team delay	21	3	4	1	65
2 Illegal use of hands or arms (offense)	42	9	3	3	142
3 Holding or obstruction (offense)	42	9	3	3	142
4 Locked hands	42	9	3	3	142
5 Illegal use of hands (defense)	42	9	3	4	143
6 Illegal contact with eligible receiver (first down)	38	9	3	5	143
7 Illegal block in the back (offense)	43	9	3	6	144
8 Illegally batting loose ball (also loss of down)	31*	9	4	1	144
9 Illegally batting a backward pass	31	9	4	2	145
10 Batting a ball in possession by player in possession	31	9	4	3	145
11 Illegally kicking ball (also loss of down)	31*	9	4	4	145
<b>LOSS OF 15 YARDS</b>					
1 Marking ball	27	1	3	3	23
2 Numbers changed (also disqualification)	27	1	4	2	23
3 Improper colours	27	1	4	5	25
4 Illegal signal devices (also disqualification)	27, 47	1	4	10	29
5 Illegal signal devices (also disqualification)	27, 47	1	4	13	30

Index		O	R	S	A	P
6	Team not ready to play at start of either half	21	3	4	1	65
7	Blocking a free kicker	40	6	1	9	85
8	Illegal wedge	27	6	1	10	85
9	Interference with opportunity to catch kick	33	6	4	1	93
10	Illegal block by fair catch signaller	40	6	5	4	96
11	Tackling or blocking fair catcher	38	6	5	5	96
12	Offensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	109
13	Defensive pass interference (first down)	33	7	3	8	109
14	Personal foul (first down)	38	9	1	0	124
15	Striking an opponent (first down)	38	9	1	2	124
16	Tripping (first down)	46	9	1	2	124
17	Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet (first down) (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	3	125
18	Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player (first down) (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	4	125
19	Clipping (first down)	39	9	1	5	127
20	Blocking below the waist (first down)	40	9	1	6	128
21	Late hit (first down)	38	9	1	7	129
22	Action out of bounds (first down)	38	9	1	7	129
23	Helmet/face mask fouls (first down)	38, 45	9	1	8	129
24	Roughing the passer (first down)	34	9	1	9	130
25	Chop blocking (first down)	41	9	1	10	131
26	Leverage/Leaping (first down)	38	9	1	11	131
27	Defensive restrictions	27	9	1	11	131
28	Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play (first down)	38	9	1	12	132
29	Hurdling (first down)	38	9	1	13	132
30	Illegal contact against the snapper (first down)	38	9	1	14	132
31	Horse collar tackle (first down)	25, 38	9	1	15	132
32	Roughing kicker or holder (first down)	30, 38	9	1	16	133
33	Simulating roughed or run into	27	9	1	16	133
34	Blocking a free kicker	40	9	1	16	133
35	Continued participation without a helmet (first down)	38	9	1	17	134
36	Blind-side block (first down)	38	9	1	18	134
37	Unsportsmanlike conduct	27	9	2	1	135
38	Obscene or vulgar language	27	9	2	1	135
39	Persons illegally on the field	27	9	2	1	135
40	Engendering ill will	27	9	2	1	135
41	Player not returning ball to official	27	9	2	1	135
42	Persons leaving team area	27	9	2	1	136
43	Noise by persons subject to the rules	27	9	2	1	136
44	Concealing the ball	27	9	2	2	137
45	Simulated replacements or substitutions	27	9	2	2	137
46	Equipment to confuse opponents	27	9	2	2	137
47	Unusual action or verbiage to confuse opponents	27	9	2	2	137
48	Simulating injury to confuse opponents or officials	27	9	2	2	137

Index		O	R	S	A	P
49	More than one player with same number	27	9	2	2	137
50	Intentionally contacting an official (also disqualification)	27, 47	9	2	4	139
51	Game administration interference (also 5 yards)	29	9	2	5	140
52	Physical interference with an official	27	9	2	5	140
53	Fighting (first down) (also disqualification)	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	145
<b>LOSS OF HALF DISTANCE TO GOAL LINE</b>						
1	If distance penalty exceeds half the distance (except on defensive pass interference)	-	10	2	6	155
<b>OFFENDED TEAM'S BALL AT SPOT OF FOUL</b>						
1	Defensive pass interference (if less than a 15-yard penalty) (first down)	33	7	3	8	109
<b>CHARGED TIMEOUT FOR A VIOLATION</b>						
1	Illegal jersey numbers	27	1	4	5	26
2	Head coach's conference	21	3	3	4	62
3	Head coach's review	21	12	2	1	157
<b>VIOLATION</b>						
1	Illegal touching of free kick by kicking team	16	6	1	3	84
2	Illegal touching of scrimmage kick by kicking team	16	6	3	2	87
3	Scrimmage-kick-batting exception	16	6	3	11	90
<b>DISQUALIFICATION</b>						
1	Prohibited signal devices	47	1	4	10	29
2	Prohibited signal devices	47	1	4	13	30
3	Flagrant fouls	47	9	1	1	124
4	Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet	38	9	1	3	125
5	Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player	38	9	1	4	125
6	Intentionally contacting an official	47	9	2	4	139
7	Two unsportsmanlike fouls	47	9	2	6	140
8	Fighting	47	9	5	1	145
<b>AUTOMATIC FIRST DOWNS (DEFENSIVE FOULS)</b>						
1	Defensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	109
2	Defensive pass interference (if less than a 15-yard penalty)	33	7	3	8	109
3	Personal foul	38	9	1	0	124
4	Striking an opponent	38	9	1	2	124
5	Tripping	46	9	1	2	124
6	Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	3	125
7	Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	4	125
8	Clipping	39	9	1	5	127
9	Blocking below the waist	40	9	1	6	128

<b>Index</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
10 Late hit	38	9	1	7	129
11 Action out of bounds	38	9	1	7	129
12 Helmet/face mask fouls	38, 45	9	1	8	129
13 Roughing the passer	34	9	1	9	130
14 Chop blocking	41	9	1	10	131
15 Leverage/Leaping	38	9	1	11	131
16 Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play	38	9	1	12	132
17 Hurdling	38	9	1	13	132
18 Illegal contact against the snapper	38	9	1	14	132
19 Horse collar tackle	25, 38	9	1	15	132
20 Roughing kicker or holder	30, 38	9	1	16	133
21 Continued participation without a helmet	38	9	1	17	134
22 Blind-side block	38	9	1	18	134
23 Illegal contact with eligible receiver	38	9	3	5	143
24 Fighting (also disqualification)	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	145

**REFEREE'S DISCRETION**

1 Penalty for unfair acts	-	9	2	3	138
---------------------------	---	---	---	---	-----

**WHEN IN QUESTION RULES**

1 Block below waist	-	2	3	2	32
2 Block in the back	-	2	3	4	32
3 Catch, recovery or interception not completed	-	2	4	3	34
4 Ball accidentally touched rather than batted	-	2	11	3	36
5 Ball not touched on kick or forward pass	-	2	11	4	37
6 Ball is accidentally kicked (touched)	-	2	16	1	38
7 Forward pass rather than backward pass	-	2	19	2	41
8 Forward pass and not fumble	-	2	19	2	41
9 It is a catchable forward pass	-	2	19	4	42
10 A player is defenseless	-	2	27	14	46
11 Stop clock for injured player	-	3	3	5	62
12 Forward progress stopped	-	4	1	3	74
13 Kick-catch interference	-	6	4	1	93
14 It is a catchable forward pass	-	7	3	8	109
15 Touchback rather than safety	-	8	5	1	120
16 Twisting, turning or pulling face mask (helmet opening)	-	9	1	8	129
17 Roughing kicker rather than running into	-	9	1	16	133

**Summary of foul codes**

By code:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>
APS	Altering playing surface
ATR	Assisting the runner
BAT	Illegal batting

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>
DEH	Holding, defense
DOD	Delay of game, defense
DOF	Offside, defense
DOG	Delay of game, offense
DPI	Pass interference, defense
DSH	Delay of game, start of half
DSQ	Disqualification
ENC	Encroachment (offense)
FGT	Fighting
FST	False start
IBB	Illegal block in the back
IBK	Illegal block during kick
IBP	Illegal backward pass
IDP	Ineligible downfield on pass
IFD	Illegal formation, defense
IFH	Illegal forward handing
IFK	Illegal free kick formation
IFP	Illegal forward pass
IJY	Illegal jersey numbers
IKB	Illegally kicking ball
ILF	Illegal formation
ILM	Illegal motion
ING	Intentional grounding
IPN	Improper numbering
IPR	Illegal procedure
ISH	Illegal shift
ISP	Illegal snap
ITP	Illegal touching of a forward pass
IUH	Illegal use of hands
IWK	Illegal wedge on kickoff
KCI	Kick catch interference
KIK	Illegal kick
KOB	Free kick out of bounds
OBK	Out of bounds during kick
OFH	Holding, offense
OFK	Offside, free kick
OPI	Pass interference, offense
PF-BBW	Personal foul, blocking below the waist
PF-BOB	Personal foul, blocking out of bounds
PF-BSB	Personal foul, blind-side block
PF-BTH	Personal foul, blow to the head
PF-CHB	Personal foul, chop block
PF-CLP	Personal foul, clipping
PF-FMM	Personal foul, face mask
PF-HCT	Personal foul, horse collar tackle
PF-HDR	Personal foul, hit on defenseless receiver
PF-HTF	Personal foul, hands to the face
PF-HUR	Personal foul, hurdling

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>	
PF-ICS	Personal foul, illegal contact with snapper	
PF-LEA	Personal foul, leaping	
PF-LHP	Personal foul, late hit/piling on	
PF-LTO	Personal foul, late hit out of bounds	
PF-OTH	Personal foul, other	
PF-RFK	Personal foul, roughing free kicker	
PF-RTH	Personal foul, roughing the holder	
PF-RTK	Personal foul, roughing the kicker	
PF-RTP	Personal foul, roughing the passer	
PF-SKE	Personal foul, striking/kneeing/elbowing	
PF-TGT	Personal foul, targeting	
PF-TRP	Personal foul, tripping	
PF-UNR	Personal foul, unnecessary roughness	
RNH	Running into the holder	
RNK	Running into the kicker	
SLI	Sideline interference, 5 yards	
SLM	Sideline interference, 15 yards	
SLW	Sideline interference, warning	
SUB	Illegal substitution	
UC-2PN	Unsportsmanlike conduct, two players with same number	NEW 2022
UC-ABL	Unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language	
UC-BCH	Unsportsmanlike conduct, bench	
UC-DEA	Unsportsmanlike conduct, delayed/excessive act	
UC-FCO	Unsportsmanlike conduct, forcibly contacting an official	
UC-RHT	Unsportsmanlike conduct, removal of helmet	
UC-SBR	Unsportsmanlike conduct, simulating being roughed	
UC-STB	Unsportsmanlike conduct, spiking/throwing ball	
UC-TAU	Unsportsmanlike conduct, taunting/baiting	
UC-UNS	Unsportsmanlike conduct, other	
UFA	Unfair acts	
UFT	Unfair tactics	

By foul:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>
APS	Altering playing surface
ATR	Assisting the runner
DOD	Delay of game, defense
DOG	Delay of game, offense
DSH	Delay of game, start of half
DSQ	Disqualification
ENC	Encroachment (offense)
FST	False start
FGT	Fighting
KOB	Free kick out of bounds
DEH	Holding, defense
OFH	Holding, offense
IBP	Illegal backward pass
BAT	Illegal batting

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>
IBK	Illegal block during kick
IBB	Illegal block in the back
ILF	Illegal formation
IFD	Illegal formation, defense
IFH	Illegal forward handing
IFP	Illegal forward pass
IFK	Illegal free kick formation
IJY	Illegal jersey numbers
KIK	Illegal kick
IKB	Illegally kicking ball
ILM	Illegal motion
IPR	Illegal procedure
ISH	Illegal shift
ISP	Illegal snap
SUB	Illegal substitution
ITP	Illegal touching of a forward pass
IUH	Illegal use of hands
IWK	Illegal wedge on kickoff
IPN	Improper numbering
IDP	Ineligible downfield on pass
ING	Intentional grounding
KCI	Kick catch interference
DOF	Offside, defense
OFK	Offside, free kick
OBK	Out of bounds during kick
DPI	Pass interference, defense
OPI	Pass interference, offense
PF-BSB	Personal foul, blind-side block
PF-BBW	Personal foul, blocking below the waist
PF-BOB	Personal foul, blocking out of bounds
PF-BTH	Personal foul, blow to the head
PF-CHB	Personal foul, chop block
PF-CLP	Personal foul, clipping
PF-FMM	Personal foul, face mask
PF-HTF	Personal foul, hands to the face
PF-HDR	Personal foul, hit on defenseless receiver
PF-HCT	Personal foul, horse collar tackle
PF-HUR	Personal foul, hurdling
PF-ICS	Personal foul, illegal contact with snapper
PF-LTO	Personal foul, late hit out of bounds
PF-LHP	Personal foul, late hit/piling on
PF-LEA	Personal foul, leaping
PF-OTH	Personal foul, other
PF-RFK	Personal foul, roughing free kicker
PF-RTH	Personal foul, roughing the holder
PF-RTK	Personal foul, roughing the kicker
PF-RTP	Personal foul, roughing the passer
PF-SKE	Personal foul, striking/kneeing/elbowing



<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>	
PF-TGT	Personal foul, targeting	
PF-TRP	Personal foul, tripping	
PF-UNR	Personal foul, unnecessary roughness	
RNH	Running into the holder	
RNK	Running into the kicker	
SLI	Sideline interference, 5 yards	
SLM	Sideline interference, 15 yards	
SLW	Sideline interference, warning	
UFA	Unfair acts	
UFT	Unfair tactics	
UC-ABL	Unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language	
UC-BCH	Unsportsmanlike conduct, bench	
UC-DEA	Unsportsmanlike conduct, delayed/excessive act	
UC-FCO	Unsportsmanlike conduct, forcibly contacting an official	
UC-UNS	Unsportsmanlike conduct, other	
UC-RHT	Unsportsmanlike conduct, removal of helmet	
UC-SBR	Unsportsmanlike conduct, simulating being roughed	
UC-STB	Unsportsmanlike conduct, spiking/throwing ball	
UC-TAU	Unsportsmanlike conduct, taunting/baiting	
UC-2PN	Unsportsmanlike conduct, two players with same number	NEW 2022