

Index of Rules and Interpretations

- 10-second Runoff from Game Clock — Common Procedures (Delays/Clock Tactics) 71
- 10-second Runoff from Game Clock – Foul (Delays/Clock Tactics) 70
- 10-second Runoff Summary (Delays/Clock Tactics) 71
- Administration and Enforcement (The Ball) 23
- After the Ball is Snapped (Backward Pass and Fumble) 106
- All Become Eligible (Scrimmage Kicks) 91
- Approved Rulings and Official’s Signals 33
- At Rest (Backward Pass and Fumble) 107
- Ball Dead in End Zone (Free Kicks) 88
- Ball Declared Dead (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 77
- Ball Ready for Play (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 79
- Basic Spot (Spots) 46
- Batting a Backward Pass in Flight (Batting and Kicking) 148
- Batting a Loose Ball (Batting and Kicking) 147
- Batting Ball in Possession (Batting and Kicking) 148
- Batting (Fumble, Muff; Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 38
- Behind the Neutral Zone (Scrimmage Kicks) 90
- Belongs To (Catch, Recovery, Possession) 35
- Below Waist (Blocking) 34
- Between Downs (Down, Between Downs and Loss of Down) 37
- Beyond the Neutral Zone (Scrimmage Kicks) 90
- Blind-side block (Blocking) 34
- Blind-side block (Personal Fouls) 136
- Blocking a Scrimmage Kick (Fumble, Muff; Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 39
- Blocking Below the Waist (Personal Fouls) 130
- Blocking (Blocking) 34
- Blocking in the Back (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 146
- Block in the Back (Blocking) 34
- Boundary Lines (Lines) 39
- Catchable Forward Pass (Passes) 44
- Catch, Interception, Recovery (Catch, Recovery, Possession) 35
- Catch or Recovery by Kicking Team (Scrimmage Kicks) 92
- Catch or Recovery by Receiving Team (Scrimmage Kicks) 92
- Caught or Recovered (Backward Pass and Fumble) 106
- Charged Team Timeouts (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 64
- Chop Block (Blocking) 34
- Chop Blocking (Personal Fouls) 133
- Clipping 36
- Clipping (Personal Fouls) 129
- Coaches’ Certification (Players and Playing Equipment) 30
- Coaches’ Phones (Players and Playing Equipment) 32
- Coach (Team and Player Designations) 49
- Complete Pass (Forward Pass) 110
- Contact Against an Opponent Out of the Play (Personal Fouls) 134
- Contact Against the Snapper (Personal Fouls) 134

- Contacting an Official (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 142
Continued Participation Without Helmet (Personal Fouls) 136
Continuity of Downs Broken (A Series: Started, Broken, Renewed) 82
Criteria for reversing an on-field ruling (Procedures) 163
Crosses Neutral Zone (Passes) 43
Dead Ball Becomes Alive (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 75
Dead-Ball Fouls (Penalties Completed) 151
Dead-Ball Spot (Spots) 45
Dead Ball (The Ball: Live, Dead, Loose, Ready For Play) 33
Dead Where Caught (Fair Catch) 97
Defenseless player (Team and Player Designations) 49
Defensive Linemen on Scrimmage Kick Plays (Scrimmage Kicks) 94
Defensive Team Requirements (The Scrimmage) 104
Delaying the Start of a Half (Delays/Clock Tactics) 68
Determining the Enforcement Spot and the Basic Spot (Enforcement Procedures) 153
Dimensions and Markings (The Field) 18
Disqualified players and coaches (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 143
Disqualified Player (Team and Player Designations) 48
Down (Down, Between Downs and Loss of Down) 37
Drop Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 41
During Live Ball (Backward Pass and Fumble) 106
Eligibility Gained or Regained (Forward Pass) 109
Eligibility Lost by Going Out of Bounds (Forward Pass) 109
Eligibility to Block (Free Kicks) 89
Eligibility to Touch Legal Forward Pass (Forward Pass) 109
Encroachment (Encroachment and Offside) 42
End Lines (Lines) 39
End Zones (Field Areas) 51
Enforcement Spots (Enforcement Procedures) 152
Enforcement Spot (Spots) 45
Equipment and personnel (Procedures) 162
Explicitly reviewable fouls (Scope of the video judge) 161
Extension of Periods (Playing Time and Intermissions) 57
Extra Periods (Start of Each Period) 54
Fair Catch (Fair Catch) 37
Field Goal Attempt (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 42
Field of Play (Field Areas) 51
Field Surface (The Field) 22
Fighting 148, 51
Flagrant Personal Foul (Foul and Violation) 38
Flagrant Personal Fouls (Personal Fouls) 127
Forced Touching Disregarded (Free Kicks) 87
Forced Touching Disregarded (Scrimmage Kicks) 91
Forfeited Games (Value of Scores) 117
Forward and Backward Pass (Passes) 43
Forward, Beyond (Forward, Beyond and Forward Progress) 38
Forward passer (Team and Player Designations) 48
Forward Pass Play (Play Classification) 50
Forward Progress (A Series: Started, Broken, Renewed) 81
Forward Progress (Forward, Beyond and Forward Progress) 38

- Foul After Change of Team Possession (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 83
- Foul Against Kicker (Free Kicks) 88
- Foul Before Change of Team Possession (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 83
- Foul Between Downs (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 83
- Foul Between Series (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 84
- Foul During Free Kick Down (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 83
- Foul (Foul and Violation) 38
- Foul Not Called (Flagrant Fouls) 149
- Fouls After a Try (Try Down) 122
- Fouls by Both Teams (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 84
- Fouls By Kicking Team (Free Kicks) 88
- Fouls By Kicking Team (Scrimmage Kicks) 94
- Fouls by Team A During Kicks (Enforcement Procedures) 156
- Fouls During a Try After a Change of Team Possession (Try Down) 121
- Fouls During a Try Before a Change of Team Possession (Try Down) 120
- Fouls During or After a Touchdown, Field Goal or Try (Enforcement Procedures) 156
- Frame of the body (Blocking) 34
- Free-blocking zone (Blocking) 34
- Free Kick at Rest (Free Kicks) 88
- Free Kick Caught or Recovered (Free Kicks) 88
- Free Kick Formation (Free Kicks) 85
- Free Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 41
- Free Kick Play (Play Classification) 50
- Fumble (Fumble, Muff; Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 38
- Game Administration and Sideline Interference (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 142
- Game Clock (Timing Devices) 50
- Game Officials (General Provisions) 17
- Goal Lines and Pylons (Lines) 39
- Goal Lines (General Provisions) 17
- Goals (The Field) 20
- Half-Distance Enforcement Procedures (Enforcement Procedures) 158
- Handing the Ball 40
- Handing the Ball Forward (The Scrimmage) 105
- Hash Marks (Lines) 40
- Held Ball Out of Bounds (Out of Bounds) 79
- Helmet and Face Mask Fouls (Personal Fouls) 132
- Helmet Comes Off – Timeout (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 67
- Holding and Use of Hands or Arms: Defense (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 145
- Holding and Use of Hands or Arms: Offense (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 144
- Horse-Collar Tackle (Personal Fouls) 135
- How and When Completed (Penalties Completed) 150
- How Scored (Field Goal) 122
- How Scored (Safety) 123
- How Scored (Touchdown) 117
- How Scored (Try Down) 118
- Hurdling 40
- Hurdling (Personal Fouls) 134
- Illegal Block or Contact (Fair Catch) 99
- Illegal Contact and Pass Interference (Forward Pass) 111
- Illegal Delay of the Game (Delays/Clock Tactics) 68

- Illegal equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 28
- Illegal Forward Pass (Forward Pass) 107
- Illegally Kicking a Ball (Batting and Kicking) 148
- Illegal Touching (Forward Pass) 115
- Illegal Wedge Formation (Free Kicks) 88
- Inbounds Spot (Spots) 46
- Incomplete Pass (Forward Pass) 111
- Ineligible Receiver Downfield (Forward Pass) 115
- Information provision (Procedures) 163
- Initial Impetus (Responsibility and Impetus) 125
- Initiating review (Procedures) 162
- Injured players (Scope of the video judge) 162
- Injury Timeout (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 64
- Interference with Opportunity (Opportunity to Catch a Kick) 95
- Interfering for or Helping the Ball Carrier or Passer (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 144
- Interval Fouls (Penalties Completed) 152
- Invalid Signal (Fair Catch) 37
- Invalid Signals: Catch or Recovery (Fair Catch) 98
- Jersey Design, Colour and Numerals (Players and Playing Equipment) 26
- Jurisdiction 159
- Kick After Safety (Safety) 124
- Kicker and Holder (Team and Player Designations) 47
- Kicking Team (Free Kick Out of Bounds) 89
- Kicking the Ball; Legal and Illegal Kicks (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 40
- Kickoff (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 41
- Late Hit, Action Out of Bounds (Personal Fouls) 131
- Legal and Illegal Kicks (Scrimmage Kicks) 93
- Legal Forward Pass (Forward Pass) 107
- Legal Substitutions (Substitutions) 71
- Length of Periods and Intermissions (Playing Time and Intermissions) 56
- Length of Timeouts (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 66
- Leverage and Leaping (Personal Fouls) 133
- Limit Lines (The Field) 19
- Lineman and Back (Team and Player Designations) 47
- Line-to-Gain and Down Indicators (The Field) 22
- Line to Gain (A Series: Started, Broken, Renewed) 81
- Live Ball Becomes Dead (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 75
- Live-Ball – Dead-Ball Fouls (Penalties Completed) 151
- Live-Ball Fouls by the Same Team (Penalties Completed) 150
- Live Ball (The Ball: Live, Dead, Loose, Ready For Play) 33
- Loose Ball Out of Bounds (Out of Bounds) 80
- Loose Ball (The Ball: Live, Dead, Loose, Ready For Play) 33
- Loose Behind the Goal Line (Scrimmage Kicks) 93
- Loss of down (Down, Between Downs and Loss of Down) 37
- Mandatory and Illegal Equipment Enforcement (Players and Playing Equipment) 29
- Mandatory equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 25
- Markers or Obstructions (The Field) 22
- Marking Balls (The Ball) 24
- Marking Boundary Areas (The Field) 19
- Minimum time for a play after spiking the ball (Playing Time and Intermissions) 59

- More than eleven players on the field (Substitutions) 73
- Muff (Fumble, Muff; Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 38
- Next Play (Field Goal) 122
- Next Play (Try Down) 122
- Nine-Yard Marks (Lines) 40
- No Advance (Fair Catch) 98
- No Tackling (Fair Catch) 99
- Offensive and Defensive Teams (Team and Player Designations) 47
- Offensive Team Requirements — At the Snap (The Scrimmage) 102
- Offensive Team Requirements — Prior to the Snap (The Scrimmage) 101
- Offsetting Fouls (Penalties Completed) 150
- Offside on a free kick play (Encroachment and Offside) 43
- Offside on a scrimmage play (Encroachment and Offside) 43
- Opportunity to Score (Try Down) 119
- Optional equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 27
- Out of Bounds at Forward Point (Out of Bounds) 80
- Out of Bounds (Backward Pass and Fumble) 106
- Out of Bounds Behind Goal Line (Scrimmage Kicks) 92
- Out of Bounds Between Goal Lines or at Rest Inbounds (Scrimmage Kicks) 92
- Out of Bounds Player (Scrimmage Kicks) 94
- Out-of-Bounds Spot (Spots) 46
- Passing (Passes) 43
- Pass Interference: Summary (Forward Pass) 114
- Penalty Declined (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 83
- Penalty Resulting in New Series (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 83
- Personal Foul (Foul and Violation) 38
- Persons Subject to the Rules (General Provisions) 18
- Philosophy (Philosophy and rationale) 160
- Place Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 41
- Planned Loose Ball (The Scrimmage) 105
- Play-Clock Count (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 79
- Play Clock (Timing Devices) 50
- Player Ejection (Flagrant Fouls) 149
- Player Out of Bounds and In Bounds (Team and Player Designations) 49
- Player Out of Bounds (Free Kicks) 89
- Player Out of Bounds (Out of Bounds) 79
- Players' Numbering (Players and Playing Equipment) 25
- Player (Team and Player Designations) 48
- Player Vacancy (Team and Player Designations) 48
- Playing Enclosure (Field Areas) 51
- Playing Surface (Field Areas) 51
- Possession (Catch, Recovery, Possession) 35
- Possession Series (Series and Possession Series) 45
- Postscrimmage Kick Enforcement (Enforcement Procedures) 155
- Postscrimmage Kick Spot (Spots) 46
- Pregame, First and Third Periods (Start of Each Period) 53
- Previous Spot (Spots) 45
- Prohibited Field Equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 30
- Prohibited Signal Devices (Players and Playing Equipment) 30
- Punt (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 41

- Pylons (The Field) 21
- Rationale (Philosophy and rationale) 160
- Receiving Team (Free Kick Out of Bounds) 89
- Recommended Numbering (Players and Playing Equipment) 24
- Referee communication (Players and Playing Equipment) 32
- Referee's Notification (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 66
- Removing persons from the playing enclosure (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 144
- Replaced Player (Team and Player Designations) 48
- Requesting a review (Scope of the video judge) 160
- Responsibilities 159
- Responsibility (Responsibility and Impetus) 125
- Restraining Lines (Free Kicks) 85
- Restraining Lines (Lines) 40
- Result of the Play (Play Classification) 51
- Return Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 42
- Reviewable plays (Scope of the video judge) 161
- Roughing or Running into Kicker or Holder (Personal Fouls) 135
- Roughing the Passer (Personal Fouls) 132
- Rules Decisions Final (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 84
- Runner and Ball Carrier (Team and Player Designations) 48
- Running Play and Run (Play Classification) 50
- Scoring Plays (Value of Scores) 117
- Scrimmage Down (Scrimmage) 44
- Scrimmage Kick Formation (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 42
- Scrimmage Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 41
- Scrimmage Kick Play (Play Classification) 50
- Scrimmage Line (Scrimmage) 44
- Second and Fourth Periods (Start of Each Period) 54
- Series (Series and Possession Series) 45
- Shift 44
- Shift and False Start (The Scrimmage) 100
- Sidelines (Lines) 39
- Side Zone (Field Areas) 51
- Simultaneous Catch or Recovery (Catch, Recovery, Possession) 36
- Simultaneous with Snap (Penalties Completed) 150
- Snap After a Touchback (Touchback) 125
- Snapper (Team and Player Designations) 48
- Snapping the Ball 44
- Special Enforcement of Post-Possession Fouls (Enforcement Procedures) 158
- Specifications: Mandatory Equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 25
- Specifications (The Ball) 23
- Spot of the Foul (Spots) 45
- Spot Where Kick Ends (Spots) 46
- Spot Where Run Ends (Spots) 46
- Squad Member (Team and Player Designations) 48
- Starting and Stopping the Clock (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 60
- Starting with a Snap (The Scrimmage) 100
- Striking Fouls and Tripping (Personal Fouls) 127
- Substitute (Team and Player Designations) 48
- Substitution Procedures (Substitutions) 71

- Succeeding Spot (Spots) 45
- Suspending the game (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 63
- Tackle Box 52
- Targeting 52
- Targeting and Making Forcible Contact to Head or Neck Area of a Defenseless Player (Personal Fouls) 128
- Targeting and Making Forcible Contact With the Crown of the Helmet (Personal Fouls) 128
- Team Area and Coaching Box (The Field) 19
- Team B personal foul and unsportsmanlike conduct during legal forward pass play (Forward Pass) 116
- Team Captains (General Provisions) 17
- Teams A and B (Team and Player Designations) 47
- Teams Subject to the Rules (General Provisions) 18
- The Field (Field Areas) 51
- The Game (General Provisions) 17
- The Neutral Zone 42
- Timeout (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 60
- Timing Adjustments (Playing Time and Intermissions) 56
- Timing Devices (Playing Time and Intermissions) 58
- Touching and Recovery of a Free Kick; Illegal Touching (Free Kicks) 87
- Touching (Fumble, Muff; Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 39
- Touching Ground On or Behind Goal Line (Scrimmage Kicks) 92
- Unfair Acts (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 141
- Unfair Clock Tactics (Delays/Clock Tactics) 69
- Unfair Tactics (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 140
- Unsportsmanlike Acts (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 137
- Valid Signal (Fair Catch) 37
- Violation (Foul and Violation) 38
- Violation Timeouts (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 66
- When Ball is Ready for Play (The Ball: Live, Dead, Loose, Ready For Play) 33
- When Declared (Touchback) 125
- When to Award Series (A Series: Started, Broken, Renewed) 81
- Who May Block (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 144
- Winning Team and Final Score (General Provisions) 17
- Yard Lines (Lines) 40