

# Summary of penalties

Officials' signals (see pages 174 - 176), 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	93
2	Illegally handing ball forward	35*	7	1	6	105
3	Planned loose ball play	19*	7	1	7	105
4	Intentionally throwing backward pass out of bounds	35*	7	2	1	106
5	Illegal forward pass by Team A	35*	7	3	2	107
6	Intentionally grounding forward pass	36*	7	3	2	107
7	Forward pass illegally touched by player out of bounds	16*	7	3	4	109
8	Forward pass illegally touched	16*	7	3	11	115
9	Illegally batting loose ball	31*	9	4	1	147
10	Illegally kicking ball	31*	9	4	4	148
<b>LOSS OF FIVE YARDS</b>						
1	Alteration of playing surface for an advantage	19	1	2	9	22
2	Improper numbering	23	1	4	2	25
3	Coin toss infractions	19	3	1	1	53
4	Illegal delay of game	21	3	4	2	69
5	Advancing a dead ball	21	3	4	2	69
6	Disconcerting offensive signals	21	3	4	2	69
7	Substitution rules infraction	22	3	5	2	72
8	Delay of game (substitutions)	21	3	5	2	72
9	More than 11 players in the formation or during the play (Team A)	22	3	5	3	73
10	More than 11 players in the formation or during the play (Team B)	22	3	5	3	73
11	More than 11 players when the play clock expires	22	3	5	3	73
12	Putting ball in play before it is ready	19	4	1	4	79
13	Exceeding play clock count	21	4	1	5	79
14	Infraction of free kick formation	18, 19	6	1	2	85
15	Player out of bounds when ball free-kicked	19	6	1	2	86
16	Team A player illegally goes out of bounds (free kick)	19	6	1	11	89
17	Team A blocking during a free kick	19	6	1	12	89
18	Free kick out of bounds [or 30-yard option]	19	6	2	1	89
19	Return kick	31	6	3	10	93
20	Illegal scrimmage kick (also loss of down)	31*	6	3	10	93
21	Marking spot of place kick	19	6	3	10	93
22	Team A player illegally goes out of bounds (scrimmage kick)	19	6	3	12	94
23	Defensive linemen in field goal formation	19	6	3	14	94
24	Taking more than two steps after a fair catch	21	6	5	2	98

Index	O	R	S	A	P
25 Illegal snap	19	7	1	1	100
26 Snapper's position and ball adjustment	19	7	1	3	101
27 Team A not within nine-yard marks after ready for play	19	7	1	3	101
28 Encroachment (offense) at snap	19	7	1	3	101
29 False start or simulating start of a play	19	7	1	3	101
30 Player out of bounds when ball is snapped	19	7	1	4	103
31 Offensive player illegally in motion at the snap	20	7	1	4	103
32 Illegal formation	19	7	1	4	103
33 Illegal formation due to numbering exception	19	7	1	4	103
34 Illegal shift	20	7	1	4	103
35 Interference with opponent or ball	18	7	1	5	104
36 Defensive player charging unabated toward a back	18	7	1	5	104
37 Abrupt defensive actions	21	7	1	5	104
38 Offside (defense)	18	7	1	5	105
39 Defensive player out of bounds at snap	19	7	1	5	105
40 Illegally handing ball forward (also loss of down)	35*	7	1	6	105
41 Planned loose ball play (also loss of down)	19*	7	1	7	105
42 Intentionally throwing backward pass out of bounds (also loss of down)	35*	7	2	1	106
43 Player on scrimmage line receiving snap	19	7	2	3	106
44 Illegal forward pass by Team A (also loss of down)	35*	7	3	2	107
45 Ineligible receiver downfield	37	7	3	10	115
46 Forward pass illegally touched (also loss of down)	16*	7	3	11	115
47 Running into the kicker or holder	30	9	1	16	135
48 Game administration interference (also 15 yards)	21,29	9	2	5	142
49 Interlocked interference or helping ball carrier	44	9	3	2	144
<b>LOSS OF 10 YARDS</b>					
1 Home team delay	21	3	4	1	68
2 Illegal block by fair catch signaller	40	6	5	4	99
3 Illegal use of hands or arms (offense)	42	9	3	3	144
4 Holding or obstruction (offense)	42	9	3	3	144
5 Locked hands	42	9	3	3	144
6 Illegal use of hands (defense) (first down)	42	9	3	4	146
7 Holding or obstruction (defense) (first down)	42	9	3	4	146
8 Illegal block in the back	43	9	3	5	146
9 Illegally batting loose ball (also loss of down)	31*	9	4	1	147
10 Illegally batting a backward pass	31	9	4	2	148
11 Batting a ball in possession by player in possession	31	9	4	3	148
12 Illegally kicking ball (also loss of down)	31*	9	4	4	148
<b>LOSS OF 15 YARDS</b>					
1 Marking ball	27	1	3	3	24
2 Numbers changed (also disqualification)	27	1	4	2	25
3 Improper colours	27	1	4	5	27

<b>Index</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
4 Illegal signal devices (also disqualification)	27, 47	1	4	10	30
5 Illegal signal devices (also disqualification)	27, 47	1	4	13	32
6 Team not ready to play at start of either half	21	3	4	1	68
7 Rapid substitution to opponent's disadvantage	27	3	5	2	72
8 Blocking a free kicker	40	6	1	9	88
9 Illegal wedge	27	6	1	10	88
10 Interference with opportunity to catch kick	33	6	4	1	96
11 Tackling or blocking fair catcher	38	6	5	5	99
12 Offensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	112
13 Defensive pass interference (first down)	33	7	3	8	112
14 Personal foul (first down)	38	9	1	0	127
15 Striking an opponent (first down)	38	9	1	2	127
16 Tripping (first down)	46	9	1	2	127
17 Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet (first down) (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	3	128
18 Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player (first down) (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	4	128
19 Clipping (first down)	39	9	1	5	130
20 Blocking below the waist (first down)	40	9	1	6	130
21 Late hit (first down)	38	9	1	7	131
22 Action out of bounds (first down)	38	9	1	7	131
23 Helmet/face mask fouls (first down)	38, 45	9	1	8	132
24 Roughing the passer (first down)	34	9	1	9	132
25 Chop blocking (first down)	41	9	1	10	133
26 Leverage/Leaping (first down)	38	9	1	11	134
27 Defensive restrictions	27	9	1	11	134
28 Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play (first down)	38	9	1	12	134
29 Hurdling (first down)	38	9	1	13	134
30 Illegal contact against the snapper (first down)	38	9	1	14	134
31 Horse-collar tackle (first down)	25, 38	9	1	15	135
32 Roughing the kicker or holder (first down)	30, 38	9	1	16	135
33 Simulating roughed or run into	27	9	1	16	135
34 Blocking a free kicker	40	9	1	16	136
35 Continued participation without a helmet (first down)	38	9	1	17	136
36 Blind-side block (first down)	38	9	1	18	136
37 Unsportsmanlike conduct (first down)	27	9	2	1	137
38 Obscene or vulgar language	27	9	2	1	137
39 Persons illegally on the field	27	9	2	1	137
40 Provoking ill will	27	9	2	1	137
41 Player not returning ball to official	27	9	2	1	138
42 Persons leaving team area	27	9	2	1	138
43 Noise by persons subject to the rules	27	9	2	1	138
44 Concealing the ball	27	9	2	2	140
45 Simulated replacements or substitutions	27	9	2	2	140
46 Equipment to confuse opponents	27	9	2	2	140

Index	<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
47 Unusual action or verbiage to confuse opponents	27	9	2	2	140
48 Simulating injury to confuse opponents or officials	27	9	2	2	140
49 More than one player with same number	27	9	2	2	140
50 Intentionally contacting an official (also disqualification)	27, 47	9	2	4	142
51 Game administration interference (also 5 yards)	27,29	9	2	5	142
52 Physical interference with an official	27	9	2	5	143
53 Fighting (first down) (also disqualification)	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	148
 <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	158
 <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	112
 <b>CHARGED TIMEOUT FOR A VIOLATION</b>					
1 Illegal jersey numbers	27	1	4	5	27
2 Head coach's conference	21	3	3	4	64
3 Head coach's review	21	12	2	1	160
 <b>VIOLATION</b>					
1 Illegal touching of free kick by kicking team	16	6	1	3	87
2 Illegal touching of scrimmage kick by kicking team	16	6	3	2	90
3 Scrimmage-kick-batting exception	16	6	3	11	93
 <b>DISQUALIFICATION</b>					
1 Prohibited signal devices	47	1	4	10	30
2 Prohibited signal devices	47	1	4	13	32
3 Flagrant fouls	47	9	1	1	127
4 Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet	38	9	1	3	128
5 Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player	38	9	1	4	128
6 Intentionally contacting an official	47	9	2	4	142
7 Two unsportsmanlike fouls	47	9	2	6	143
8 Fighting	47	9	5	1	148
 <b>AUTOMATIC FIRST DOWNS (DEFENSIVE FOULS)</b>					
1 Defensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	112
2 Defensive pass interference (if less than a 15-yard penalty)	33	7	3	8	112
3 Personal foul	38	9	1	0	127
4 Striking an opponent	38	9	1	2	127
5 Tripping	46	9	1	2	127
6 Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	3	128
7 Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	4	128

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10 Late hit	38	9	1	7	131
11 Action out of bounds	38	9	1	7	131
12 Helmet/face mask fouls	38, 45	9	1	8	132
13 Roughing the passer	34	9	1	9	132
14 Chop blocking	41	9	1	10	133
15 Leverage/Leaping	38	9	1	11	134
16 Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play	38	9	1	12	134
17 Hurdling	38	9	1	13	134
18 Illegal contact against the snapper	38	9	1	14	134
19 Horse-collar tackle	25, 38	9	1	15	135
20 Roughing the kicker or holder	30, 38	9	1	16	135
21 Continued participation without a helmet	38	9	1	17	136
22 Blind-side block	38	9	1	18	136
23 Unsportsmanlike conduct	27	9	2	1	137
24 Illegal use of hands (defense)	42	9	3	4	146
25 Holding or obstruction (defense)	42	9	3	4	146
26 Fighting (also disqualification)	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	148

**REFEREE'S DISCRETION**

1 Penalty for unfair acts	27	9	2	3	141
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**WHEN IN QUESTION RULES**

1 Block below waist	-	2	3	2	34
2 Block in the back	-	2	3	4	34
3 Catch, recovery or interception not completed	-	2	4	3	36
4 Ball accidentally touched rather than batted	-	2	11	3	38
5 Ball not touched on kick or forward pass	-	2	11	4	39
6 Ball is accidentally kicked (touched)	-	2	16	1	41
7 Forward pass rather than backward pass	-	2	19	2	43
8 Forward pass and not fumble	-	2	19	2	43
9 It is a catchable forward pass	-	2	19	4	44
10 A player is defenseless	-	2	27	14	49
11 Stop clock for injured player	-	3	3	5	64
12 Forward progress stopped	-	4	1	3	77
13 Kick-catch interference	-	6	4	1	96
14 It is a catchable forward pass	-	7	3	8	112
15 Touchback rather than safety	-	8	5	1	123
16 Twisting, turning or pulling face mask (helmet opening)	-	9	1	8	132
17 Roughing kicker rather than running into	-	9	1	16	135

**Summary of foul codes**

Alphabetically by code:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>	
APS	Altering playing surface	
ATR	Assisting the runner	
BAT	Illegal batting	
DEH	Holding, defense	
DOD	Delay of game, defense	
DOF	Offside, defense	
DOG	Delay of game, offense	
DPI-AB	Pass interference, defense, arm bar	NEW 2023
DPI-CO	Pass interference, defense, cut off	NEW 2023
DPI-GR	Pass interference, defense, grab and restrict	NEW 2023
DPI-HT	Pass interference, defense, hook and turn	NEW 2023
DPI-NPB	Pass interference, defense, not playing the ball	NEW 2023
DPI-PTO	Pass interference, defense, playing through opponent	NEW 2023
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 (3-on-1)	
IFH	Illegal forward handing	
IFK	Illegal free kick formation	
IFP	Illegal forward pass	
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-GR	Holding, offense, grab and restrict	NEW 2023
OFH-HR	Holding, offense, hook and restrict	NEW 2023
OFH-TD	Holding, offense, takedown	NEW 2023
OFK	Offside, free kick	
OPI-BK	Pass interference, offense, blocking	NEW 2023

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>	
OPI-DT	Pass interference, offense, driving through	NEW 2023
OPI-PK	Pass interference, offense, pick	NEW 2023
OPI-PO	Pass interference, offense, pushing off	NEW 2023
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	
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-TGB	Personal foul, targeting (both Rules 9-1-3 and 4)	NEW 2023
PF-TGC	Personal foul, targeting (crown of helmet)	NEW 2023
PF-TGD	Personal foul, targeting (defenceless player)	NEW 2023
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	
UC-ABL	Unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language	
UC-BCH	Unsportsmanlike conduct, bench	
UC-DBS	Unsportsmanlike conduct, dead ball shoving	NEW 2023
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	

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DEH	Holding, defense	
OFH-GR	Holding, offense, grab and restrict	NEW 2023
OFH-HR	Holding, offense, hook and restrict	NEW 2023
OFH-TD	Holding, offense, takedown	NEW 2023
IBP	Illegal backward pass	
BAT	Illegal batting	
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IFK	Illegal free kick formation	
KIK	Illegal kick	
IKB	Illegally kicking ball	
ILM	Illegal motion	
IPR	Illegal procedure	
ISH	Illegal shift	
ISP	Illegal snap	
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IUH	Illegal use of hands	
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IDP	Ineligible downfield on pass	
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