

Summary of penalties

Officials' signals (see pages 173 - 175), 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
LOSS OF A DOWN						
1	Illegal scrimmage kick	31*	6	3	10	91
2	Illegally handing ball forward	35*	7	1	6	104
3	Planned loose ball play	19*	7	1	7	104
4	Intentionally throwing backward pass out of bounds	35*	7	2	1	105
5	Illegal forward pass by Team A	35*	7	3	2	106
6	Intentionally grounding forward pass	36*	7	3	2	107
7	Forward pass illegally touched by player out of bounds	16*	7	3	4	108
8	Forward pass illegally touched	16*	7	3	11	115
9	Illegally batting loose ball	31*	9	4	1	146
10	Illegally kicking ball	31*	9	4	4	148
LOSS OF FIVE YARDS						
1	Alteration of playing surface for an advantage	19	1	2	9	19
2	Improper numbering	23	1	4	2	22
3	Coin toss infractions	19	3	1	1	50
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 (live-ball)	22	3	5	2	69
8	Substitution rules infraction (dead-ball)	22	3	5	2	70
9	Delay of game (substitutions)	21	3	5	2	70
10	More than 11 players in the formation or during the play (Team A)	22	3	5	3	71
11	More than 11 players in the formation or during the play (Team B)	22	3	5	3	71
12	More than 11 players when the play clock expires	22	3	5	3	71
13	Putting ball in play before it is ready	19	4	1	4	77
14	Exceeding play clock count	21	4	1	5	77
15	Infraction of free kick formation	18, 19	6	1	2	83
16	Player out of bounds when ball free-kicked	19	6	1	2	84
17	Team A player illegally goes out of bounds (free kick)	19	6	1	11	87
18	Team A blocking during a free kick	19	6	1	12	87
19	Free kick out of bounds	19	6	2	1	87
20	Return kick	31	6	3	10	91
21	Illegal scrimmage kick (also loss of down)	31*	6	3	10	91
22	Marking spot of place kick	19	6	3	10	91
23	Team A player illegally goes out of bounds (scrimmage kick)	19	6	3	12	92
24	Defensive linemen in field goal formation	19	6	3	14	93

Index	O	R	S	A	P
25 Taking more than two steps after a fair catch	21	6	5	2	96
26 Illegal snap	19	7	1	1	99
27 Snapper's position and ball adjustment	19	7	1	3	100
28 Team A not within nine-yard marks after ready for play	19	7	1	3	100
29 Encroachment (offense) at snap	19	7	1	3	100
30 False start or simulating start of a play	19	7	1	3	100
31 Player out of bounds when ball is snapped	19	7	1	4	102
32 Offensive player illegally in motion at the snap	20	7	1	4	102
33 Illegal formation	19	7	1	4	102
34 Illegal formation due to numbering exception	19	7	1	4	102
35 Illegal shift	20	7	1	4	102
36 Interference with opponent or ball	18	7	1	5	103
37 Defensive player charging unabated toward a back	18	7	1	5	103
38 Abrupt defensive actions	21	7	1	5	103
39 Offside (defense)	18	7	1	5	103
40 Defensive player out of bounds at snap	19	7	1	5	103
41 Illegally handing ball forward (also loss of down)	35*	7	1	6	104
42 Planned loose ball play (also loss of down)	19*	7	1	7	104
43 Intentionally throwing backward pass out of bounds (also loss of down)	35*	7	2	1	105
44 Player on scrimmage line receiving snap	19	7	2	3	105
45 Illegal forward pass by Team A (also loss of down)	35*	7	3	2	106
46 Ineligible receiver downfield	37	7	3	10	114
47 Forward pass illegally touched (also loss of down)	16*	7	3	11	115
48 Running into the kicker or holder	30	9	1	16	135
49 Game administration interference (also 15 yards)	21,29	9	2	5	142
50 Interlocked interference or helping ball carrier	44	9	3	2	143
LOSS OF 10 YARDS					
1 Home team delay	21	3	4	1	66
2 Illegal block by fair catch signaller	40	6	5	4	97
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	145
7 Holding or obstruction (defense) (first down)	42	9	3	4	145
8 Illegal block in the back	43	9	3	5	146
9 Illegally batting loose ball (also loss of down)	31*	9	4	1	146
10 Illegally batting a backward pass	31	9	4	2	147
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
LOSS OF 15 YARDS					
1 Marking ball	27	1	3	3	21
2 Numbers changed (also disqualification)	27	1	4	2	22
3 Improper colours	27	1	4	5	24

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4	Illegal signal devices (also disqualification)	27, 47	1	4	10	27
5	Eavesdropping (also disqualification)	27, 47	1	4	13	29
6	Team not ready to play at start of either half	21	3	4	1	66
7	Rapid substitution to opponent's disadvantage	27	3	5	2	70
8	Blocking a free kicker	40	6	1	9	86
9	Illegal wedge	27	6	1	10	86
10	Interference with opportunity to catch kick	33	6	4	1	94
11	Tackling or blocking fair catcher	38	6	5	5	98
12	Offensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	111
13	Defensive pass interference (first down)	33	7	3	8	111
14	Personal foul (first down)	38	9	1	0	126
15	Striking an opponent (first down)	38	9	1	2	126
16	Tripping (first down)	46	9	1	2	126
17	Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet (first down) (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	3	127
18	Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player (first down) (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	4	127
19	Clipping (first down)	39	9	1	5	129
20	Blocking below the waist (first down)	40	9	1	6	129
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	131
24	Roughing the passer (first down)	34	9	1	9	132
25	Chop blocking (first down)	41	9	1	10	132
26	Leverage/Leaping (first down)	38	9	1	11	133
27	Defensive restrictions	27	9	1	11	133
28	Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play (first down)	38	9	1	12	133
29	Hurdling (first down)	38	9	1	13	133
30	Illegal contact against the snapper (first down)	38	9	1	14	134
31	Horse-collar tackle (first down)	25, 38	9	1	15	134
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	135
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	137
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	139
45	Simulated replacements or substitutions	27	9	2	2	139
46	Equipment to confuse opponents	27	9	2	2	139

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47 Unusual action or verbiage to confuse opponents	27	9	2	2	139
48 Simulating injury to confuse opponents or officials	27	9	2	2	139
49 More than one player with same number	27	9	2	2	139
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	142
53 Fighting (first down) (also disqualification)	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	148
LOSS OF HALF DISTANCE TO GOAL LINE					
1 If distance penalty exceeds half the distance (except on defensive pass interference)	-	10	2	6	157
OFFENDED TEAM'S BALL AT SPOT OF FOUL					
1 Defensive pass interference (if less than a 15-yard penalty) (first down)	33	7	3	8	111
CHARGED TIMEOUT FOR A VIOLATION					
1 Illegal jersey numbers	27	1	4	5	24
2 Head coach's conference	21	3	3	4	62
3 Head coach's review	21	12	2	1	159
VIOLATION					
1 Illegal touching of free kick by kicking team	16	6	1	3	85
2 Illegal touching of scrimmage kick by kicking team	16	6	3	2	89
3 Scrimmage-kick-batting exception	16	6	3	11	91
DISQUALIFICATION					
1 Prohibited signal devices	47	1	4	10	27
2 Eavesdropping	47	1	4	13	29
3 Flagrant fouls	47	9	1	1	126
4 Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet	38	9	1	3	127
5 Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player	38	9	1	4	127
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
AUTOMATIC FIRST DOWNS (DEFENSIVE FOULS)					
1 Defensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	111
2 Defensive pass interference (if less than a 15-yard penalty)	33	7	3	8	111
3 Personal foul	38	9	1	0	126
4 Striking an opponent	38	9	1	2	126
5 Tripping	46	9	1	2	126
6 Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	3	127
7 Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	4	127
8 Clipping	39	9	1	5	129
9 Blocking below the waist	40	9	1	6	129

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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	131
13 Roughing the passer	34	9	1	9	132
14 Chop blocking	41	9	1	10	132
15 Leverage/Leaping	38	9	1	11	133
16 Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play	38	9	1	12	133
17 Hurdling	38	9	1	13	133
18 Illegal contact against the snapper	38	9	1	14	134
19 Horse-collar tackle	25, 38	9	1	15	134
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	145
25 Holding or obstruction (defense)	42	9	3	4	145
26 Fighting (also disqualification)	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	148
REFEREE'S DISCRETION					
1 Penalty for unfair acts	27	9	2	3	141
WHEN IN QUESTION RULES					
1 Block below waist	-	2	3	2	31
2 Block in the back	-	2	3	4	31
3 Catch, recovery or interception not completed	-	2	4	3	33
4 Ball accidentally touched rather than batted	-	2	11	3	36
5 Ball not touched on kick or forward pass	-	2	11	4	36
6 Ball is accidentally kicked (touched)	-	2	16	1	38
7 Forward pass rather than backward pass	-	2	19	2	40
8 Forward pass and not fumble	-	2	19	2	41
9 It is a catchable forward pass	-	2	19	4	41
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	75
13 Kick-catch interference	-	6	4	1	94
14 It is a catchable forward pass	-	7	3	8	111
15 Touchback rather than safety	-	8	5	1	122
16 Twisting, turning or pulling face mask (helmet opening)	-	9	1	8	131
17 Roughing kicker rather than running into	-	9	1	16	135

Summary of foul codes

Alphabetically by code:

Code	Foul
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
DPI-CO	Pass interference, defense, cut off
DPI-GR	Pass interference, defense, grab and restrict
DPI-HT	Pass interference, defense, hook and turn
DPI-NPB	Pass interference, defense, not playing the ball
DPI-PTO	Pass interference, defense, playing through opponent
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
OFH-HR	Holding, offense, hook and restrict
OFH-TD	Holding, offense, takedown
OFK	Offside, free kick
OPI-BK	Pass interference, offense, blocking

Code	Foul
OPI-DT	Pass interference, offense, driving through
OPI-PK	Pass interference, offense, pick
OPI-PO	Pass interference, offense, pushing off
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)
PF-TGC	Personal foul, targeting (crown of helmet)
PF-TGD	Personal foul, targeting (defenseless player)
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
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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OFH-HR	Holding, offense, hook and restrict
OFH-TD	Holding, offense, takedown
IBP	Illegal backward pass
BAT	Illegal batting
IBK	Illegal block during kick
IBB	Illegal block in the back
ILF	Illegal formation
IFD	Illegal formation, defense (3-on-1)
IFH	Illegal forward handing
IFP	Illegal forward pass
IFK	Illegal free kick formation
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
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