

Scrimmage Kicks

Scoring Scrimmage Kicks

The Gate:

Key: Snapper's number. Snapper's shoulders are square to LOS. Position as if regular formation. Make sure snap is legal. Is snapper afforded protection as if regular SK formation?

Regular FG/PAT

Eligibles:

Key: Notice eligible receiver numbers on interior. Make note of eligibles on LJ side of field, pregame get help from H for his side.

Position: Shaded to LJ sideline to help if fake or break-down.

Snapper Protection:

Remind defense? Check for interlocking of legs from linemen. Be mindful of leaping rule.

While trying to block a scoring kick (field goal or kick try), defensive players positioned more than one yard beyond the neutral zone at the snap will no longer be able to run and jump from beyond the neutral zone and land on either an opponent or teammate. It is not a foul if the leaping player was originally lined up within one yard of the line when the ball was snapped. Rule 9-1-2-q was changed because the rules committee recognized that a player who ran forward and leaped would generate considerable force, which could result in a devastating injury.

Team B players who do not move forward before leaping will not be charged with a foul. Also, there is no foul if a Team A player initiates contact with the leaper. Because it is a personal foul against Team B, the penalty includes an automatic first down. Note that if the Team A player contacted by the leaper is the snapper, the foul is for leaping, not roughing the snapper.

A defensive player who leaps in an effort to block a scoring kick may be guilty of a foul. If the player runs toward the line of scrimmage before leaping and then lands on any player, he must be flagged for a personal foul.

Also: The umpire must also be cognizant of a maneuver that's gaining popularity: the "pull and shoot" (a defensive lineman grabs an offensive lineman and pulls him to one side, creating a teammate may burst through and reach the kicker).

Play situations:

Prior to the try, Team A is in a "swinging gate" formation. Snapper A55 has his hands on the ball and the other six linemen are to his left. Four of these linemen are numbered 50-79. The six

linemen legally shift with A 80 and A82 positioned as ends at the snap. Ruling: Legal formation and A80 and A82 are eligible pass receivers (1-4-2-b, 7-1-3-a, 7-1-3-b-1).

During an extra point try, Team A throws a forward pass which is intercepted by B3 at his own 2 yard line as his momentum is carrying him towards his own goal line. After making the catch, B3 fumbles the ball. The ball hits the ground at Team B's 1 yard line and then bounces into the end zone, where it is downed by a Team B player. What is the ruling and how many points (if any) are scored?

Rules 8-1-1, 8-5-1-a, and 8-7, and Approved Ruling 8-5-1-XI. This is really tricky, but the answer is correct according to the Approved Ruling cited above. Had B3's momentum carried him into the end zone before he fumbled, the ruling would have been a touchback for Team B because Team A would have been responsible for the ball being behind the goal line. However, since the ball was fumbled in front of the goal line, Team B is deemed to be responsible for the ball being behind its goal line when it was downed by a player of its own team. This situation meets the definition of a safety, and a safety scored on an extra point try is worth 1 point.

A21's kick try is good. While the kick was in flight, B72 was flagged for grabbing and twisting the facemask of guard A63.

- a. Team A may replay the try after enforcement of the penalty.
- b. Team A may decline the penalty and keep the point.
- c. Team A may choose to have the penalty enforced from the succeeding spot.
- d. Team A has no choice; the penalty is declined by rule.

Team A is attempting a try from Team B's three-yard line during a try down (a) in the extension of the fourth quarter, or (b) during the second series of an extra period. A31's kick attempt is blocked, and B42 recovers and carries the ball into Team A's end zone. Before crossing Team A's goalline, B42 directs an obscene gesture at pursuing A23.

B42's unsportsmanlike conduct is a live-ball foul penalized as dead-ball foul. In (a), because it occurred during regulation, the score counts and Team B wins the game. In (b), the foul occurred during the try in an extra period while Team B was in possession. The score will be canceled and the penalty is enforced from the succeeding spot to start the next extra period.

Punts

Position:

On a punt, the umpire has the option of being anywhere from five to 10 yards off the line. It is left to the umpire to decide where he is most comfortable, but not so far or so close that he cannot observe the action. The umpire watches the snap and flags any illegal action against the snapper. The umpire must also be cognizant of a maneuver that's gaining popularity: the "pull

and shoot" (a defensive lineman grabs an offensive lineman and pulls him to one side, creating a teammate may burst through and reach the punter). That constitutes defensive holding.

What does it take for you to call holding against B? Enforcement?

Snapper Protection:

Remind defense? Check for interlocking of legs from linemen. Be mindful of leaping rule.

Turn with flow, locate ball and watching blocking leading the ball. Split field w/ R for cleanup purposes?

Play situations:

A41's punt is in flight when it strikes an official, who is standing about two yards deep in Team B's end zone. The ball caroms off the official, hits the ground on Team B's two-yard line and rolls on the ground inbounds between the goallines.

- a. The ball should be ruled dead when it hits the official.
- b. The ball remains live.
- c. That's a touchback.
- d. If Team A recovers, it has downed the ball at that spot.
- e. If Team A recovers, it will take over at that spot for a new series.
- f. If Team B recovers, the ball may be advanced.

Fourth and six on Team A's 26-yard line. Before the ball is kicked, A83 is flagged for holding at Team A's 21-yard line. A11's punt is caught by B45 at Team B's 40-yard line. B45 advances to Team A's 44-yard line. During B45's run, B70 is flagged for holding at Team B's 45-yard line. As a result:

- a. The fouls automatically offset; the down is replayed.
- b. If Team B accepts offsetting fouls, the down will be replayed.
- c. If Team B declines offsetting fouls, Team B will keep the ball.
- d. If Team B declines offsetting fouls, Team A will keep the ball.

Fourth and six from Team A's 10-yard line. A85 is flagged for holding as punter A11 gets off his kick. B33 makes a fair catch at the 50-yard line. After the whistle sounds, B57 is flagged for a personal foul. As a result:

- a.** The fouls offset and the down is replayed.
- b.** Post-scrimmage kick enforcement applies.
- c.** If Team B accepts Team A's penalty, Team A will retain possession.
- d.** If Team B accepts Team A's penalty, Team A has no option.
- e.** Team B can retain possession by declining Team A's penalty.