

2017-18 Football Officials Exam For Postseason Tournament Consideration

1. R1 is running downfield with the ball on a punt return when teammate R2 executes a blindside block against K1 who is pursuing the runner. This blindside block is made with forcible contact and the first contact was made by R2 with his shoulder pad into K1's side (not in the back). The covering official should....
 - a. Legal play as the block was not in the back; this is a legal football play.
 - b. Foul for an illegal blindside block as the forcible contact was not initiated with open hands.
 - c. It is entirely up to the covering official's judgment whether or not this is a foul for excessive contact.
2. Runner A5 takes the ball and makes a nice cut, clearing nearly all the defenders at the line of scrimmage. As A5 breaks into the open field, defender B7 comes out of nowhere and tackles A5 from the side. It's a huge hit with both players first meeting shoulder-to-shoulder and it takes unsuspecting runner A5 to the ground immediately as the defender was outside of his field of vision. The play is a....
 - a. Legal play as you cannot have illegal blindside contact against the runner.
 - b. Foul for illegal blindside contact as the forcible contact was not initiated with open hands.
 - c. It is entirely up to the covering official's judgment whether or not this is a foul for excessive blindside contact.
3. K executes a "pop-up" free kick in which kicker K1 drives the ball immediately into the ground at the K40 yard line and the ball strikes the ground once and goes high into the air, coming down near several Team R players near midfield. The correct call is...
 - a. Legal play. Team K can execute this type of free kick.
 - b. Foul on Team K. The play is immediately blown dead, K is penalized 5-yards for the free kick infraction and if the distance penalty is accepted, must re-kick from the K35 yard line.
 - c. Foul on Team K. Live ball foul where K is penalized 5-yards for the free kick infraction and if the distance penalty is accepted, must re-kick from the K35 yard line.
4. Team A calls a timeout early in the 4th quarter. While both teams are huddled in front of their bench, the head coach from Team A approaches the line judge with an Ipad. The coach shows the LJ a video clip of the previous play before the timeout that a pass ruled complete for Team B clearly hit the ground and should have been ruled incomplete. The crew should...
 - a. Eject the head coach because the use of technology is prohibited by rule during games.
 - b. Get the crew together and look at the video; if the crew agrees an obvious mistake has been made, change the call because the most important thing is getting the play right.
 - c. Inform the coach that while video can be used on the sideline for coaching purposes, it cannot be used to review or dispute any call or decision by a game official. If the coach handles this situation in an unsportsmanlike way, he should be penalized.
5. During the first half, player B75 is flagged for roughing the quarterback. With two minutes to play in the fourth quarter, B75 is flagged for a late hit. Which of the following is correct?
 - a. B75 is ejected by virtue of his second personal foul but he may remain within the team area.
 - b. B75 is ejected by virtue of his second personal foul and he must leave the stadium area immediately.
 - c. B75 may continue participating in the game because ejection results only after two unsportsmanlike conduct fouls, not two personal fouls if they are not flagrant.
 - d. None of the answers are correct.

6. Team A is in shotgun formation. At the snap, left tackle A77 sets up to pass block, taking two steps back to block the edge rush end, B50. As B50 tries to rush outside of the blocker, A77 drops and blocks B50 just below the knees, taking both players to the ground. What statement is true?
 - a. Legal play as the contact took place within the free blocking zone.
 - b. Foul for illegal block below the waist. While the contact took place within the zone, the ball had long left the zone (shotgun snap) and this contact is illegal.
 - c. Neither answer is correct.

7. Team A has the ball deep inside their own territory with: 20 left in the 2nd quarter and they have no timeouts remaining. A7 runs up the middle and is brought to the ground by B32's facemask foul inbounds. The play ended with: 04 seconds left in the 2nd quarter. After the penalty for Team B's facemask foul is enforced, what is the status of the clock?
 - a. The quarter ended on a play with an accepted penalty. Team A is entitled to one untimed down.
 - b. The quarter is not extended with an untimed down as time did not expire during the down; halftime now begins.
 - c. Team A now has the option of the game clock starting on the ready-for-play signal or on the snap as the foul occurred with less than 2 minutes left in the half.

8. Team A has the ball 4th and 10 from the B43 yard line. Team A is attempting a field goal from the 50 yard line. A2 kicks the ball and it comes up well short of the goal line, rolling out of bounds at the B5 yard line. Where will Team B next put the ball into play?
 - a. 50 yard line
 - b. 43 yard line
 - c. 20 yard line
 - d. 5 yard line

9. After regulation time, the score is tied at 14. In the first overtime, Team A fails to score on its opening four downs. On Team B's first play, a screen pass is intercepted by A-21 who returns the ball 92 yards for a score.
 - a. Game over, Team A wins 20-14.
 - b. The game is not over as Team A is required to attempt the PAT after the legal score.
 - c. The ball became dead as soon as Team A gained possession; no score, move on to the second overtime.
 - d. Team A gets an option; they may take the score, or decline the score and move on to the second overtime period.

10. On the last play of regulation, Team B scores a touchdown to tie the game at 28-28. Team B has no kicker so they will attempt a 2-point play. Team B runs a screen pass that is intercepted by A-21 who returns the ball 92 yards for a score.
 - a. Game over, Team A wins 30-28.
 - b. The game is not over as Team A is required to attempt the PAT after the legal score.
 - c. The ball became dead as soon as Team A gained possession on the try; no score, move on to overtime.

11. Which of the following statements regarding choice of footballs is/are true?
- The offensive team may request any ball of its choosing for any offensive play as long as the ball was approved by the officials before the game.
 - The offensive team may request a ball of its choosing before a free kick or to start a series as long as the ball was approved by the officials before the game.
 - The offensive team may request a special leather "kicking ball" before any free kick, punt, field goal and extra point as long as the ball was approved by the officials before the game.
 - None of the answers are correct.
12. Which statement about targeting is correct?
- Under NFHS rules, a targeting foul always results in an ejection.
 - Under NFHS rules, a targeting foul only results in an ejection if the crew deems the foul to be flagrant. Targeting does not require an ejection; it is treated like any other personal foul as the crew can eject if deemed flagrant.
 - Under NFHS rules, a targeting foul always results in an ejection but that team may show the referee video at halftime (if foul in the 1st half) or after the game (if foul in the 2nd half) to have the ejection overturned.
13. The game is tied 35-35 with: 05 remaining in the 4th quarter. On 2nd and 10, Team A snaps the ball from the 50-yard line and QB A8 scrambles around looking for a receiver. A8 advances past the 50-yard line, gains 8 yards to the 42-yard line and then throws a pass that is caught by A88 in the end zone. The correct call is...
- Foul for an illegal forward pass. Team B's only two options are to accept the penalty which would give Team A one untimed down as the period must be extended because of the accepted penalty on a play when time expired. The other option is to decline the penalty, which would result in a TD for Team A.
 - Foul for an illegal forward pass. Team B would smartly accept the penalty which would negate the TD as the period would not be extended a Team A's foul contained a loss-of-down provision. We would head to OT with the score tied at 35-35.
 - Neither answer is correct.
14. B54's helmet comes completely off while trying to legally tackle runner A32, who continues running after breaking free from B54's grasp. After disengaging, B54 resumes his pursuit of runner A32 without a helmet. Helmetless B54 is then contacted (blocked) by A76 as the runner continues down the field.
- No foul by either team since the ball carrier's helmet did not come off; play stands.
 - Foul for illegal participation by B54 and foul for illegal personal contact by A76; fouls offset, replay the down. B54 must leave the game for one play.
 - Foul for illegal participation by B54; there is no foul against A76. B54 must leave the game for one play.
 - None of the answers are correct.
15. On the first drive of the game, Team A has a coach in the restricted area during live ball action. The line judge must go around this coach to cover the play along the sideline. What should the crew do?
- Ignore the situation as "that's how our crew rolls".
 - Since this is the first time during the game, there is a flag and a warning is issued to Team A. No yardage is assessed but the foul is noted and a signal is given by the referee.
 - This is sideline interference. 5-yard penalty is enforced from the previous spot.

16. On the second drive of the game for Team A, another Team A coach is again in the restricted area during live ball action. The line judge must go around this coach again to cover the play. What's the correct call?
- It's another sideline warning as there was no contact between the coach and official.
 - It's a foul on Team A since it was the second offense. 5-yard penalty from the previous spot.
 - It's a foul on Team A since it was the second offense. 5-yard penalty from the succeeding spot.
17. The holder places his knee down on the 10-yard line for the PAT attempt following a touchdown. As he receives the snap, he keeps his knee on ground as the ball is placed on the tee. Just before the kicker reaches the ball, the holder flips the ball forward to an eligible receiver who catches the ball and advances for a score.
- Legal play. Score 2 points on the PAT.
 - Legal play. Score 1 point on the PAT since it was done from a kicking formation.
 - The ball is dead as soon as the holder executed the forward pass while on his knee. The same play would have been legal if the holder had risen off his knee when in possessing, and then passing, the ball.
18. Kick returner B22 is standing in his end zone awaiting a punt. He muffs the ball in flight two yards deep in the end zone. The ball then hits the ground in the end zone and rolls into the field of play. B22 scoops the ball up at the B-2 and returns the ball 98 yards across Team A's goal line.
- Team B touchdown
 - Safety—two points for Team A.
 - Touchback. Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-20.
19. Third and goal at the B-6 with 1:30 left in the half. Receiver A33 catches a pass in the flat and heads toward the goal line. He is hit at the B-3 and fumbles. The ball rolls forward and strikes the pylon after first touching B55 who attempted to recover the fumble at the B-2. The force of A33's fumble is the only force on the fumbled ball (no new force by B55).
- Touchback. Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-20.
 - Fourth and goal for Team A at the B-3. Clock starts on the snap.
 - Fourth and goal for Team A at the B-3. Clock starts on the Referee's signal.
 - Safety; score two points for Team A.
20. Second quarter. Safety B22 intercepts a pass and fumbles on the return. A46 recovers the ball at the B-45 and runs to the B-40 where he fumbles. The ball rolls out of bounds at the B-35.
- First and 10 for Team A at the B-40. The starting of the clock depends on the amount of time left in the second quarter.
 - First and 10 for Team A at the B-35. Clock starts on the snap.
 - First and 10 for Team A at the B-40. Clock starts on the snap.
 - First and 10 for Team A at the B-40. Clock starts on the Referee's signal.
 - First and 10 for Team A at the B-35. Clock starts on the Referee's signal.
21. Second and seven at the A-35. Quarterback A12 is in a shotgun formation. He muffs the backward pass from the snapper. Guard A66 recovers the ball, scrambles and runs outside the pocket. Unable to find an eligible receiver, A66 at the A-30 throws the ball out of bounds so that it lands near eligible receiver A4.
- Foul for intentional grounding when A66 threw the ball. Team A's ball, third and 12 at the A-30.
 - Foul for intentional grounding when A66 threw the ball. Team A's ball, third and 17 at the A-25.
 - Legal play: Team A's ball, third and seven at the A-35.

22. Fourth and eight at the B-31. A44 gains five yards and is tackled at the B-26. After the ball is dead B77 is flagged for a late hit when he dives into an opponent in the pile.
- Team A's ball, first and 10 at the B-13.
 - Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-13.
 - Team B's ball, first and 24 at the B-13.
23. Team A is running a sweep with several lead blockers out in front of the ball carrier. Defender B3 comes up from his safety position and "takes out" two of the lead blockers by "submarining" them from in front but below the waist. The correct call is.....
- Legal play as defensive players are allowed to contact offensive players below the waist if it is an attempt to take out the lead blockers.
 - Foul for illegal block below the waist by B3; penalize 15 yards from the previous spot.
 - Foul for illegal block below the waist by B3; penalize 15 yards from the end of the run.
 - None of the above
24. A kickoff goes out of bounds and the receiving team elects to take the ball on the 35 yard line. Where should the officials place the ball on the 35 yard line?
- In the middle of the field
 - The receiving team has the option of where to place the ball within the hash marks.
 - The ball is placed on the closest hash mark to where the kick went out of bounds.
 - None of the above.
25. A pass is thrown to A88 near the corner of the end zone. A88 clearly catches the ball while airborne and beyond the goal line (ball is secured and has broken the plane) near the front pylon. As he returns to the ground, his right foot first contacts the pylon and his left foot then hits next clearly inbounds and in the end zone.
- Incomplete pass. When A88 first contacted the pylon, he was out of bounds.
 - Touchdown. When A88 first contacted the pylon, it is a touchdown because the pylon is in the end zone.
 - Neither answer is correct.
26. Team A punts from their own end zone. Punt returner B11 settles under the high punt at the 50 yard line. Before he has an opportunity to catch the kick, he is knocked to the ground by A4. The back judge properly rules kick catch interference (KCI). What are the allowed options for Team B?
- Penalty for KCI can be enforced 15 yards (or the half the distance) from the previous spot and down is replayed.
 - Penalty for KCI can be enforced 15 yards from the spot of awarded fair catch (spot of the foul). The option to try a scoring free kick after an awarded fair catch remains.
 - Penalty may be declined by Team B, and B takes the play at the spot where the ball became dead.
 - All of the answers are allowed options for Team B.
27. 4th down and 1 on B's 10 yard line. On the last play of the 3rd quarter, A7 rolls out to pass and throws the ball away at the 15 yard line with no receiver in the area. The referee correctly rules intentional grounding, and Team B accepts the penalty. Team B will next put the ball in play.....
- 1st and 10 from the 20 yard line with one untimed down to complete the 3rd quarter.
 - 1st and 10 from the 20 yard line on the other end of the field to start the 4th quarter.
 - 1st and 10 from the 15 yard line with one untimed down to complete the 3rd quarter.

- d. 1st and 10 from the 15 yard line on the other end of the field to start the 4th quarter.
28. It is 4th down and 10 from K's own 30 yard line. K1's punt is short and R1 muffs the ball at K's 36 yard-line and it bounces back toward the NZ. K2 picks up the ball at K's 32-yard line and advances the ball and is downed at K's 42-yard line. What's the correct call?
- 1st and 10 for K at the 42-yard line.
 - The ball is dead when possessed by K2 as the status of the ball was a kick. Since the ball was possessed at the 32-yard line, 1st and 10 for K at the 32.
 - Neither answer is correct.
29. Team A has 2nd and 5 from A's 40-yard line. B1 is standing within 1 yard of the LOS before the snap. B1 stomps his foot abruptly and A1 flinches. The LJ flags A1 for a false start. What is the correct call?
- This is not a foul on A1. B1 has committed a disconcerting act. This is UNS by B1.
 - False start on A1. Legal action by B1.
 - Neither answer is correct.
30. Team A ball, 4th and goal from B's 8-yard line. B1 intercepts A1's pass in B's end zone. B1 attempts to run the ball out of the end zone into the field of play. B1 runs to the opposite side of the endzone where he is downed in the endzone. The correct ruling is....
- Safety. Score two points for Team A.
 - The ball became dead as soon as B1 intercepted the pass. 1st and 10 on the 20-yard line for Team B.
 - This is a touchback as B1 did not advance the ball out of the endzone. The force that put the ball in the endzone was Team A's pass. The ball remained live and Team B could have advanced the ball into the field of play.