



2014

Quiz 12

1. K is attempting a FG. The holder receives the snap and then, with his knee on the ground, (a) passes the ball over his head to K7 who throws a forward pass to A87 for a TD, or (b) passes the ball forward to up back A26 who runs for a first down. **Ruling: The ball becomes dead immediately in (a) and (b) when the holder passes the ball with his knee on the ground. Rule 4-2-2a exceptions. A place kick holder, who at the snap has his knee on the ground while there is a teammate in kicking position, must rise before he may advance, hand the ball to another player, kick, or pass.**
2. A, 3/7 at B's 37 YL. QB A10 rolls out and throws the ball forward from B's 32 YL. The pass is incomplete. The **LJ** has a flag for an ineligible down field. The **R** has a flag for an illegal FP. **Ruling: A, 4/7 at B's 37 YL. Rule 7-5-12 says, "...Ineligible A players may not advance beyond the expanded NZ on a legal FP before a legal FP that crosses the NZ is in flight." Since we don't have a legal FP the flag for an ineligible down field is not a foul. We do have a flag for an illegal FP – Rule 7-5-2b. This is a spot foul and includes a LOD. The wing official should explain to the HC of the defensive team that the ineligible receiver down field was not a foul and that the IFP was the only foul.**
3. If the runner is hit and his helmet comes off and the ball becomes loose **simultaneously**, what is the ruling? Is the ball dead for a runner's helmet coming off or live because the player ceases to be a runner when the ball becomes loose? **Ruling: If the runner's helmet comes off and he loses possession of the ball at the same time, the ball becomes dead and the down ends. Rule 4-2-2k (Bob Colgate NFHS Editor Ruling). There are a couple of philosophical**

statements that everyone should consider in plays such as this one. One of the “If in Doubts” is, “If in doubt, the runner did not fumble”. Gold Book, page 9, item 10. Another one is a football axiom that says, “Never give up a cheap turnover”. “If in Doubt” and football “axioms” are helpful reminders in tough calls.

4. With the Point Differential Rule in effect and with two minutes left in the game, (a) the HC of the winning team says he is not going to snap the ball again and take multiple delay of game penalties or, (b) with A behind on their own 35 YL the B’s HC yells out “special”, and one of his players walks across the LOS and contacts an A player. The HC continues to call “special” hoping to run out the clock. **Ruling: After the first foul invoke Rule 3-4-6 so the clock would not start until the snap. Bulletin 2015-5, item 4. If he HC continues, then go to an UNS foul. The R has authority to rule promptly, and in the spirit of good sportsmanship, on any situation not specifically covered in the rules. Rule 1-1-6.**

5. A, 2/8 at A’s 40 YL. QB A7 takes the snap, drops back and throws a screen pass to eligible A24 who is at A’s 38 YL. A24 muffs the ball into the air and lineman A75 catches the ball behind the LOS at A’s 37 YL and (a), carries the ball forward to the 50 YL, or (b), carries the ball forward, is hit and fumbles the ball at B’s 45 YL. **Ruling: A75, who was ineligible by position and number, has committed a foul for illegal touching by catching a legal FP before it was touched by a B player. Rule 7-5-13. This is a loose ball play; therefore, in (a), the basic spot is the PS. The foul occurred behind the BS, therefore, the foul will be enforced from A’s 37 YL, 5 yards and LOD. A, 3/16 at A’s 32 YL. In (b), B has the same option as in (a), but they also can decline the penalty and keep the ball, in which case it will be B, 1/10 at B’s 45 YL.**

6. A, 2/15 at A’s 5 YL. A10 drops back to pass, and is sacked five yards deep in the EZ by B99 who makes the tackle by twisting A10’s face mask. **Ruling: A, 2/5 from A’s 15 YL. The 15 yard penalty is enforced from the GL. This would not be considered RTP as there was no legal forward pass. Rule 10-5-2.**

7. A, 3/18 at A’s 8 YL. The clock is running with about a minute remaining in the first half. A66 commits a false start. **Ruling: The clock starts on the snap. The clock normally starts on the RFP since the foul was the only reason for stopping. If the R judges the FS was intentional in an attempt to get a new 25 second count with the clock running and thus consume time for the purpose of avoiding a punt, the clock could be started on the snap. The R has wide latitude in controlling the clock if he feels a team is attempting to illegally conserve or consume time. You**

should also consider other factors as it affects the other team; time left for a possible return, windy conditions at the end of a quarter, etc. Rule 3-4-6.

Mechanics

8. Coin toss. The **R** signals the team receiving, and then taps the shoulder of the team who won the toss, and signals deferring to the second half. **Ruling: Incorrect. If the team that wins the toss elects to defer, tap that team's captain on the shoulder, step clear of the players and signal defer. Then get the option of the losing team and position the teams with their backs to their GL and signal the option. Gold Book, Page 11, item 5F.**

9. On a FK return, the **LJ** is even with the ball carrier when he is tackled. **Ruling: Incorrect. The LJ should be trailing the runner by a minimum of 5 yards, and watching blocks ahead of the runner. Gold Book, page 16, item D3.**

Regulations

10. Week 11 (playoffs). One of the teams submits their Nike game balls they have used all year for approval. **Ruling: Incorrect. For weeks 11-15 only Wilson footballs can be used. The official football is the Wilson GST. Gold Book, page 35, 8C.**

This is the last Black and White Quiz for 2014. I hope the quizzes helped make you a better official. Thanks for all your plays and comments. Good luck to those working the playoffs.