



Upon Further Review

OHSAA Officiating Quiz Week Eight 2021

Eric Mauk

Rules

1. A3/10 from A32YL - The officials mistakenly rule fourth-down for A, causing them to punt to B. B gets the ball 1/10 and the R blows the RFP. The Crew then realizes the mistake prior to the snap and corrects the mistake, returning the ball to A for its third-down play. **Ruling: Correct. Rule 5-1-1b states that the R shall correct the number of the next down prior to the ball becoming live after a new series of downs is awarded.**
2. A 4/4 from A48YL – K punts to the RT 12YL. RT 48 does not attempt to catch the ball and K players surround the ball as it stops rolling. The ball comes to rest and directly after, RT 48 runs in, picks up the ball and returns it to the RT40. **Ruling: Correct. Rule 4-2-e2 states that a down is ended when any loose ball is on the ground motionless and no player attempts to secure possession. NOTE: covering official should ensure there is no attempt to secure the motionless ball before blowing the play dead. Stay back 8 YDS.**
3. A 4/4 from B14YL – K is preparing to kick a game winning FG with 0:03 left on the GC. The kick is blocked and is rolling loose behind in the K backfield. The officials blow the play dead and seeing 0:00 on the GC, walk off the field. Meanwhile, K33 has recovered the ball and scored. **Ruling: Incorrect. A field goal is a live-ball situation and since K recovered the ball behind their LOS, they were entitled to advance. Since this did not happen, the officials must award a replay of the down due to an inadvertent whistle.**
4. A 4/7 from A41YL – K punts to RT48, who waves one hand laterally across his/her chest prior to catching the kick at the B31YL. K46 & K 23, thinking that the wave signified a fair catch, slows and does not contact RT48. RT48, seeing the kicking team stop, runs downfield for a TD. The BJ rules an Invalid Fair Catch Signal, and calls back the TD. **Ruling: Incorrect. While the call for an Invalid Fair Catch is correct, the play should be blown dead as soon as the punt is possessed and a 5 YD penalty assessed from the spot of the catch. (Rule 4-2-2g)**
5. Free Kick from K40 – The free kick is high and short and bounces untouched OOB at the R36YL. Without asking the HC, the officials put the ball in play 1/10 for A at the A36. **Ruling: Incorrect. The options to the HC are; a) re kick after a 5 YD penalty, b) take the ball at the A35YL (25 yards from the previous spot), c) start from the inbounds spot (A36YL), or d) place the ball five yards from the succeeding spot (A41YL).**
6. A 1/G B2YL – B commits successive dead-ball encroachment fouls, moving the ball to the ½ YL. B73 then commits two more encroachment fouls, moving the ball four inches from the GL. After the fourth one, the R awards a TD to A. **Ruling: Correct. Rule 9-9-2**

states that no team shall repeatedly commit fouls which halve the distance to the GL. As a result, the official may enforce any penalty he/she considers equitable, including the awarding of a score. It is up to the Crew as to how many fouls warrant such a penalty. We do not want this to occur in this situation.

Mechanics

7. A 3/12 on A35 – After changing ends between the 3Q & 4Q, the U became confused and lined up in the offense's backfield. Realizing his/her mistake, the U tries to get to the proper IP but the ball is snapped. Pulling guard A66 runs into the U and A25 is tackled at the A33. **Ruling: Incorrect. The R is expected to ensure that all of the officials are in their proper positions and prepared to officiate before blowing the RFP. If the RFP has already been blown and someone is out of position, the R should sound his/her whistle so all officials can be at their IP. The U can also sound his/her whistle as well.**
8. Free Kick from K40 – The IP for the U is at the 50YL, two yards OOB on the VT SL. The free kick is high and short, coming down near the R40, between the hashmarks and the VT SL. Instead of running in to the hash marks, the U stays still and rules on the play from the SL. **Ruling: Correct. On a short kick in your side zone, it is better to stay at your IP and get a good look at the play, instead of running in, dodging players, and then trying to find the ball to rule on the short kick.**
9. A 2/9 on A35, 0:06 in the 3Q – A27 runs a sweep to the left side and A59 is called for holding. Who is responsible for determining GC status and requirements for an untimed down? **The officials facing the clock (R/CJ/BJ in 5- and 6-person or R/U in 4-person) are responsible for looking at the GC at the end of the play, to see if the GC had run out during the play – necessitating an untimed down. Officials should recognize as a quarter is about to end and make sure they recognize the situation.**

Regulations

10. Both teams prepare to enter the field before the game, stopping at the opposite ends of the field and waiting underneath the goalposts. As the GC approaches 0:00, neither team is showing any indication that they will come out first. **Ruling: Page 5 of the 2021 CB declares that the R should declare that the home team enter the field first invoking Rule 1-1-6, giving officials the ability to rule on any situation not specifically covered in the Rules. Further noncompliance could be subject to Rule 9-8-1.g2 for failure to be ready to start the first half. (15 yards, nonplayer foul charged to the HC) GB P38 17C.**