



Upon Further Review

OHSAA Officiating Quiz #1 2026

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Rules

1. In a kickoff (free kick formation), K20 is a full step past the K's free kick line (K40YL) when K7 kicks off. The BJ flags the play for encroachment and blows the whistle to stop the play. **Ruling: Incorrect. As per Ohio's new experimental rule, this is a live-ball foul which can be penalized from either the previous spot or the succeeding spot. Therefore, blowing the play dead is an inadvertent whistle. Rule 4-2-3(d) states that if a live-ball foul occurs prior to the IW, the penalty takes precedence. Therefore, R will accept the five-yard penalty for encroachment and K will re kick from the K35YL. NOTE: It is imperative that the BJ is thinking that encroachment is a live ball foul.**
2. In a kickoff (free kick formation), K20 is a full step past the K's free kick line (K40YL) when K7 kicks off. The BJ flags the play for encroachment and continues to officiate. The ball is caught by R39, who is tackled on the R32YL. The crew resets the teams for another kickoff at the K35YL. **Ruling: Partially correct. The BJ was correct in allowing the play to stay live. The enforcement is an 'either-or' situation. R should be given the choice of re kicking from the K35YL, or having the five-yard penalty enforced from the succeeding spot, making it 1/10 for R at the R37YL.**
3. In a kickoff (free kick formation), K20 is a full step past the K's free kick line (K40YL) when K7 kicks off. The BJ flags the play for encroachment and continues to officiate. R39 catches the kick and returns it to the R47YL. Prior to the end of the kick, there is holding on R65 at midfield. The officials signal a double foul and offset the penalties, forcing another kickoff from the K40YL. **Ruling: Correct. K and R each committed live-ball fouls during the play, creating a double foul. The penalties offset and a re kick.**
4. In a kickoff (free kick formation), K20 is a full step past the K's free kick line (K40YL) when K7 kicks off. The BJ flags the play for encroachment and continues to officiate. R39 catches the kick at returns it to the R47YL. After the play is over, R59 shoves K38, drawing a personal foul. The officials signal a double foul and offset the penalties, forcing another kickoff from the K40YL. **Ruling: Incorrect. With Ohio's new experimental rule for infractions on the kickoff, this is a live-ball/dead-ball situation. This is not a double foul. R gets the first choice of either re-kicking from the K35 or marking the penalty from the succeeding spot – putting the ball at the K48YL. In either case, R will then be penalized 15 yards for the personal foul after R's decision is made.**
5. In a kickoff (free kick formation), K20 executes a pop-up kick, driving the ball into the ground with the resulting bounce going well over head height of the players and officials. The BJ blows the whistle and flags K for an illegal pop-up kick. **Ruling:**

Correct. The new rule on live-ball fouls on a kickoff does not apply to pop-up kicks. These are still dead-ball fouls.

6. In a kickoff (free kick formation), K20 executes an onside kick from a free-kick formation. The ball is struck forcefully and bounces twice before popping eight feet into the air, where R46 recovers it at the R45YL. The officials give the ball to R 1/10 on the R45YL. **Ruling: Correct. Rule 2-24-10 states that a pop-up kick is only for a kick driven immediately into the ground, striking the ground once and going into the air in the manner of a ball kicked directly off the tee. An onside kick that happens to take a high bounce is not considered a pop-up kick by rule.**
7. In a kickoff (free kick formation), K20 is a full step past the K's free kick line (K40YL) when K7 kicks off. The BJ flags the play for encroachment and continues to officiate. The kick is short and bounces at the R39YL, where it is touched by K83. The officials throw a bean bag for first touching. The kick is recovered by R at the R29, where the returner is immediately downed. **Ruling: Incorrect. Note: K can only commit first touching on free kicks in the neutral zone (K40YL to the 50YL). Therefore, the options are a previous spot enforcement (K re kicks at the K35YL) or a succeeding spot enforcement at the R34YL.**

Mechanics

8. During a free kick, the BJ is positioned with their right foot on the 40 yard line, thinking that if the player is in front of them on the kick, it makes it a better call for encroachment. **Ruling: Incorrect. The new mechanic asks the officials on the free-kick lines (BJ at K40, U/CJ on the 50YL) to straddle the free-kick line, two yards OOB, giving a better look down the line.**
9. After a long pass play falls incomplete, The CJ, seeing that the wings and U are returning to their positions, secures a ball from their sideline and spots the ball at the previous spot. **Ruling: Correct. Gold Book mechanics (GB Pg. 28, 2c) state that on a long pass (length not specified), the CJ can help the crew by getting a new ball and spotting it.**

Regulations

10. In pre-game activities, the officials notice that players are wearing towels with large advertising logos. The officiating crew tells a member of the coaching staff that the towels are illegal and players cannot wear them once the game starts. **Ruling: Correct. Rules 1-5-3 covers the requirements for towels with one of the restrictions being that the towels have no more than one visible logo/trademark reference that does not exceed 2 ¼ inches in any dimension.**