

2. CHANGES TO MECHANICS

This edition of the *Manual of Football Officiating* has been updated to add new material and to better organise what we already had. [This edition is an update on the 17th edition that sets out to clarify and enhance existing mechanics and to introduce new ideas about football officiating.](#)

Major changes or new sections are marked by a box like this. [New or modified text is marked in blue \(grey when printed in monochrome\).](#)

The changes embodied in this edition have come from a number of sources, including:

- issues discussed at international clinics and tournaments in recent years;
- annual NCAA/CFO announcements on rule interpretations and philosophies;
- the views of an international advisory group (see the foreword for a list of those involved).

2.1 – Major changes

The following is a list of the most important additions and changes:

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| Announce first UNS against individual | 19.3.8.g.iii |
| Bad kick mechanics | 11.7.d.2.e, 11.8.d.3.e.ii, 13.7.d.1.e, 13.8.d.1.d |
| B position on goal line plays, crew of 7/8 | 15.5.b.1, 15.5.b.2 |
| Consistency of ceremonies very desirable | 8.3.2 |
| Formal and informal video review | 24.3.1, 24.4.1 |
| Formation codes for free kicks | 1.2.5 |
| Free kick ready for play | 9.1.c.1, 9.1.c.1.b, 10.1.a.7.d, 11.1.a.5.d, 12.1.a.4.d, 13.1.a.4.c, 14.1.a.4.d, 15.1.a.4.d |
| Game clock responsibility | 5.13.1, 5.13.2, 5.13.2.a, 8.2.9.b, 8.2.9.c, 8.2.11.a, 14.9.a.6, 14.9.b.9 |
| Live broadcast games | 20.7 |
| Managing the substitution process | 9.9.d.2.a.iii, 9.9.d.2.a.iv, 9.9.d.2.b, 10.9.d.2.a, 11.9.d.2.b, 11.9.d.2.c, 12.9.c.2.b, 12.9.c.2.c, 13.9.d.2.b, 13.9.d.2.c, 14.9.c.2.b, 14.9.c.2.c, 15.9.c.2.b, 15.9.c.2.c |
| Mandatory uses of radios | 19.1.b.4, 25.3 |
| New/updated points of emphasis | 1.3.1.b, 1.3.1.e, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 1.3.4, 1.3.5 |
| New when in doubt principles | 6.1.12, 6.1.13 |
| Penalty enforcement | 19.3.1.e, 19.3.2, 19.3.3.h.iv, 19.3.7 |
| Pivotal plays | 5.21 |
| Pre-game checklist | 4.1.11, 4.1.12, 4.1.13, 4.1.14, 4.1.15, 4.2.2, 4.3.13 |
| Pre-game responsibilities | 8.2.10.c, 8.2.12.a.iii |
| R/C watch G/T on same side | 9.4.a.3.c |
| Restore T signal for two-minute warning | 20.2.3, 27.45 |
| Revised punt coverage on crew of 6D | 14.7.b.2.a |
| S as double umpire on all field goals | 14.8.a.2.a, 14.8.b.2 |
| Team A goal line on a 6+ crew | 13.5.b.3 |
| 10-second runoff mechanics | 19.3.5 |

In these sections, and elsewhere, the following symbols are used to denote the reason for a change:

- ‡ mechanic changed due to CFO change (or to bring us in line with them)
- † mechanic changed for better coverage
- § fill gap in existing mechanic
- ◇ clarification or enhancement of existing mechanic
- @ change for better communication

- × previous text deleted
 ® change due to rule change
 λ editorial correction/clarification or text moved

The change mark normally *follows* a change, except where there is a completely new list, in which case the change mark will be at the end of the paragraph introducing the list.

2.2 – Editorial changes

Editorial changes (those intended to clarify the presentation of particular points, or resulting from rules changes) are listed below.

| | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1.2.1 | 5.5.4 | 8.4.3.a | 9.9.d.2.a | 11.3.c.4.c |
| 1.2.6 | 5.5.5 | 8.4.3.b | 9.9.d.2.a.i | 11.4.a.4.g |
| 1.3.6 | 5.5.10.a | 8.4.4 | 9.9.d.2.a.ii | 11.4.a.5 |
| 1.3.8.c | 5.5.10.b | 8.4.7 | 9.9.d.2.b.ii | 11.4.b.7 |
| 1.3.10.b | 5.5.10.f | 8.4.10 | 10.1.a.14.i | 11.4.b.8 |
| 3.2.1.b | 5.5.11 | 9.1.a.5.d | 10.1.a.14.j | 11.4.c.3 |
| 3.3.2.c | 5.5.12.h | 9.1.a.5.e | 10.1.c.7.b | 11.4.c.4 |
| 3.3.4.c | 5.6.12 | 9.1.a.12.d | 10.1.d.1 | 11.5.c.6 |
| 3.3.4.d | 5.6.13 | 9.1.a.12.e | 10.1.d.1.b | 11.5.d.4 |
| 3.3.4.e | 5.7.4 | 9.1.b.1.a | 10.1.d.2 | 11.6.a.5.c |
| 3.3.5.c | 5.8.7.d | 9.1.b.1.b | 10.1.d.2.a | 11.7.a.10.e |
| 3.3.5.d | 5.8.9 | 9.1.b.3.a | 10.2.a.9 | 11.7.a.10.f |
| 3.3.7.a | 5.14.1 | 9.1.b.3.b | 10.2.a.10.b | 11.7.b.3.a |
| 3.3.7.c | 5.15.3 | 9.1.c.6.c | 10.2.a.10.c | 11.7.c.7.b |
| 3.3.8.c.vi | 5.15.5 | 9.1.c.7.b | 10.2.a.12 | 11.7.c.7.c |
| 3.3.9.a.iv | 5.18.2 | 9.2.a.10 | 10.2.b.2 | 11.7.c.7.d |
| 3.3.9.b.iv | 5.18.3.a | 9.2.a.11.b | 10.3.a.3.b | 11.7.c.7.j |
| 3.3.9.b.vii | 5.18.3.b | 9.2.a.11.c | 10.3.c.2 | 11.7.d.1 |
| 3.3.15.b | 5.18.4 | 9.2.a.12 | 10.4.a.3.c | 11.8.a.3.c |
| 3.3.15.c | 5.18.6 | 9.2.b.2 | 10.4.a.3.d | 11.8.a.3.d |
| 3.4.1.e | 5.20.4.b | 9.3.a.3 | 10.4.c.1 | 11.8.b.3 |
| 3.4.7 | 6.1.19 | 9.3.a.5.a | 10.4.c.2 | 11.8.c.1.c |
| 3.4.7.f | 6.1.35 | 9.3.a.5.b | 10.4.c.3 | 11.8.c.1.e |
| 3.4.10.b | 6.1.39 | 9.3.c.2 | 10.6.a.4.c | 11.8.c.2 |
| 3.4.10.d | 8.1.1 | 9.4.a.3.d | 10.7.a.2.e | 11.8.d.3.e.i |
| 3.4.11.b | 8.1.4 | 9.4.c.2 | 10.7.a.2.f | 11.9.c.1.a |
| 3.4.14 | 8.1.8.c | 9.5.d.1.c | 10.8.a.1.e | 11.9.c.2 |
| 3.5.2.f.v | 8.1.10 | 9.6.a.4.c | 10.8.a.1.f | 11.9.c.11.c |
| 3.5.3.b | 8.1.11 | 9.6.a.6 | 10.8.d.2 | 11.9.d.2.a |
| 3.5.4.a | 8.2.5 | 9.6.b.2 | 10.9.c.1 | 12.1.a.10.g |
| 3.5.6.a.ii | 8.2.6.a | 9.6.b.3 | 10.9.d.2.c | 12.1.a.10.h |
| 3.6.5.b | 8.2.9 | 9.7.a.2.d | 11.1.a.13.f | 12.2.a.6 |
| 3.7.3 | 8.2.9.a | 9.7.a.4 | 11.1.a.13.g | 12.3.a.4.c |
| 3.7.4 | 8.2.9.c.i | 9.7.c.2 | 11.1.b.5 | 12.3.a.4.d |
| 3.7.4.c | 8.2.10.a | 9.8.a.1.c | 11.1.c.5.c | 12.3.c.2 |
| 3.7.6 | 8.2.11.a.i | 9.8.a.1.d | 11.2.a.13 | 12.4.a.4.f |
| 3.7.7 | 8.2.12.a | 9.8.c.2 | 11.3.a.4.c | 12.4.b.9 |
| 3.8.1.d | 8.2.12.a.i | 9.9.c.1 | 11.3.a.5 | 12.4.b.10 |
| 3.8.3 | 8.2.12.a.ii | 9.9.c.3.g | 11.3.b.3.e | 12.4.c.2 |
| 3.8.6 | 8.3.4.b | 9.9.c.7.c | 11.3.b.5.a | 12.5.b.2 |
| 3.8.9.g | 8.3.4.b.ii | 9.9.c.7.d | 11.3.b.7 | 12.5.c.1 |
| 5.3.8 | 8.3.4.b.iii | 9.9.c.7.f | 11.3.b.8 | 12.6.a.4.c |
| 5.5.1 | 8.3.4.c | 9.9.c.9 | 11.3.c.2 | 12.7.a.8.e |

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| 12.7.a.8.f | 14.2.a.6 | 15.7.c.3.a | 24.5.10 |
| 12.7.b.1 | 14.2.c.4 | 15.7.c.3.b | 25.2.1 |
| 12.7.b.2 | 14.3.a.5.c | 15.7.c.3.c | 25.2.3 |
| 12.7.c.3.a | 14.3.b.6.c | 15.7.d.1 | 25.4.3 |
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| 12.7.d.1 | 14.4.b.8 | 15.8.c.5 | 26.5.D |
| 12.8.c.3 | 14.4.b.9 | 15.8.d.1.a | 26.5.E |
| 12.8.c.5 | 14.4.b.14 | 15.8.d.3 | 27.5 |
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| 12.9.b.10 | 14.7.a.9.f | 19.1.a.7 | |
| 12.9.c.2.a | 14.7.b.2 | 19.1.b.5 | |
| 13.1.a.13.e | 14.7.b.3 | 19.1.b.6 | |
| 13.1.a.13.f | 14.7.c.3.b | 19.1.b.7 | |
| 13.1.b.1 | 14.7.c.3.c | 19.2.a.1 | |
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| 13.1.c.8 | 14.7.c.3.j | 19.3.1.a | |
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| 13.3.b.5.a | 14.8.c.1.c | 19.3.3.g | |
| 13.3.b.7 | 14.8.c.1.e | 19.3.3.h | |
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| 13.4.c.3 | 15.1.a.10.g | 20.3.1 | |
| 13.4.c.4 | 15.1.c.4 | 20.4.1 | |
| 13.5.c.6 | 15.2.a.6 | 20.4.2 | |
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| 14.1.d.2 | 15.7.b.2 | 24.5.4 | |