

Summary of penalties

Officials' signals (see pages 159 - 161), the numbers refer to numbered illustrations; R, Rule; S, Section; A, Article; P, Page. Where a signal is marked *, the referee shall also give Signal 9.

Index	O	R	S	A	P
LOSS OF A DOWN					
1	31*	6	3	10	83
2	35*	7	1	6	95
3	19*	7	1	7	95
4	35*	7	2	1	95
5	35*	7	3	2	96
6	36*	7	3	2	97
7	16*	7	3	4	98
8	31*	9	4	1	133
9	31*	9	4	4	134
LOSS OF FIVE YARDS					
1	27	1	2	9	20
2	23	1	4	2	22
3	19	3	1	1	48
4	21	3	4	2	61
5	21	3	4	2	61
6	21	3	4	2	61
7	22	3	5	2	64
8	21	3	5	2	64
9	22	3	5	3	66
10	22	3	5	3	66
11	21	4	1	4	69
12	21	4	1	5	70
13	18, 19	6	1	2	76
14	19	6	1	2	76
15	19	6	1	11	79
16	19	6	1	12	79
17	19	6	2	1	79
18	31	6	3	10	83
19	31*	6	3	10	83
20	19	6	3	10	83
21	19	6	3	12	84
22	19	6	3	14	85
23	21	6	5	2	87
24	19	7	1	1	90
25	19	7	1	3	91

Index	O	R	S	A	P
26 Team A not within nine-yard marks after ready for play	19	7	1	3	91
27 Encroachment (offense) at snap	19	7	1	3	91
28 False start or simulating start of a play	19	7	1	3	91
29 Player out of bounds when ball is snapped	19	7	1	4	93
30 Offensive player illegally in motion at the snap	20	7	1	4	93
31 Illegal formation	19	7	1	4	93
32 Illegal formation due to numbering exception	19	7	1	4	93
33 Illegal shift	20	7	1	4	93
34 Interference with opponent or ball	18	7	1	5	94
35 Defensive player charging unabated toward a back	18	7	1	5	94
36 Abrupt defensive actions	21	7	1	5	94
37 Offside (defense)	18	7	1	5	94
38 Defensive player out of bounds at snap	19	7	1	5	94
39 Illegally handing ball forward (also loss of down)	35*	7	1	6	95
40 Planned loose ball play (also loss of down)	19*	7	1	7	95
41 Intentionally throwing backward pass out of bounds (also loss of down)	35*	7	2	1	95
42 Player on scrimmage line receiving snap	19	7	2	3	96
43 Illegal forward pass by Team A (also loss of down)	35*	7	3	2	96
44 Ineligible receiver downfield	37	7	3	10	104
45 Forward pass illegally touched	16	7	3	11	104
46 Running into kicker or holder	30	9	1	16	123
47 Game administration interference (also 15 yards)	29	9	2	5	129
48 Interlocked interference or helping ball carrier	44	9	3	2	130
LOSS OF 10 YARDS					
1 Home team delay	21	3	4	1	61
2 Illegal use of hands or arms (offense)	42	9	3	3	130
3 Holding or obstruction (offense)	42	9	3	3	130
4 Locked hands	42	9	3	3	130
5 Illegal use of hands (defense)	42	9	3	4	132
6 Illegal contact with eligible receiver (first down)	38	9	3	5	132
7 Illegal block in the back (offense)	43	9	3	6	132
8 Holding or obstruction (loose ball)	42	9	3	7	132
9 Illegally batting loose ball (also loss of down)	31*	9	4	1	133
10 Illegally batting a backward pass	31	9	4	2	134
11 Batting a ball in possession by player in possession	31	9	4	3	134
12 Illegally kicking ball (also loss of down)	31*	9	4	4	134
LOSS OF 15 YARDS					
1 Marking ball	27	1	3	3	21
2 Numbers changed	27	1	4	2	22
3 Improper colours	27	1	4	5	24
4 Illegal signal devices (also disqualification)	27, 47	1	4	10	27
5 Team not ready to play at start of either half	21	3	4	1	61

Index		O	R	S	A	P
6	Blocking a free kicker	40	6	1	9	78
7	Illegal wedge	27	6	1	10	79
8	Interference with opportunity to catch kick	33	6	4	1	86
9	Illegal block by fair catch signaller	40	6	5	4	88
10	Tackling or blocking fair catcher	38	6	5	5	89
11	Offensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	101
12	Defensive pass interference (first down)	33	7	3	8	101
13	Personal foul (first down)	38	9	1	0	115
14	Striking an opponent (first down)	38	9	1	2	115
15	Tripping (first down)	46	9	1	2	115
16	Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet (first down) (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	3	116
17	Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player (first down) (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	4	116
18	Clipping (first down)	39	9	1	5	118
19	Blocking below the waist (first down)	40	9	1	6	118
20	Late hit (first down)	38	9	1	7	120
21	Action out of bounds (first down)	38	9	1	7	120
22	Helmet/face mask fouls (first down)	38, 45	9	1	8	120
23	Roughing the passer (first down)	34	9	1	9	120
24	Chop blocking (first down)	41	9	1	10	121
25	Leverage/Leaping (first down)	38	9	1	11	122
26	Defensive restrictions	27	9	1	11	122
27	Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play (first down)	38	9	1	12	122
28	Hurdling (first down)	38	9	1	13	122
29	Illegal contact against the snapper (first down)	38	9	1	14	122
30	Horse collar tackle (first down)	38, 31	9	1	15	123
31	Roughing kicker or holder (first down)	38, 30	9	1	16	123
32	Simulating roughed or run into	27	9	1	16	123
33	Blocking a free kicker	40	9	1	16	123
34	Unsportsmanlike conduct	27	9	2	1	125
35	Obscene or vulgar language	27	9	2	1	125
36	Persons illegally on the field	27	9	2	1	125
37	Engendering ill will	27	9	2	1	125
38	Player not returning ball to official	27	9	2	1	125
39	Persons leaving team area	27	9	2	1	125
40	Noise by persons subject to the rules	27	9	2	1	126
41	Concealing the ball	27	9	2	2	127
42	Simulated replacements or substitutions	27	9	2	2	127
43	Equipment to confuse opponents	27	9	2	2	127
44	Illegal cleats (also disqualification)	23, 47	9	2	2	127
45	Intentionally contacting an official (also disqualification)	27, 47	9	2	4	128
46	Game administration interference (also 5 yards)	29	9	2	5	129
47	Physical interference with an official	27	9	2	5	129
48	Continuous contact to the helmet (first down)	38	9	3	4	132

Index	O	R	S	A	P
49 Defensive restrictions (first down)	38	9	3	5	132
50 Fighting (first down) (also disqualification)	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	134
 LOSS OF HALF DISTANCE TO GOAL LINE					
1 If distance penalty exceeds half the distance (except on defensive pass interference)	-	10	2	6	144
 OFFENDED TEAM'S BALL AT SPOT OF FOUL					
1 Defensive pass interference (if less than a 15-yard penalty) (first down)	33	7	3	8	101
 CHARGED TIMEOUT FOR A VIOLATION					
1 Illegal jersey numbers	23	1	4	5	24
2 Head coach's conference	21	3	3	4	57
3 Head coach's review	21	12	2	1	146
 VIOLATION					
1 Illegal touching of free kick by kicking team	16	6	1	3	77
2 Illegal touching of scrimmage kick by kicking team	16	6	3	2	81
3 Scrimmage-kick-batting exception	16	6	3	11	83
 DISQUALIFICATION					
1 Prohibited signal devices	47	1	4	10	27
2 Flagrant fouls	47	9	1	1	115
3 Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet	38	9	1	3	116
4 Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player	38	9	1	4	116
5 Two unsportsmanlike fouls	47	9	2	1	125
6 Illegal cleats	47	9	2	2	127
7 Intentionally contacting an official	47	9	2	4	128
8 Fighting	47	9	5	1	134
 AUTOMATIC FIRST DOWNS (DEFENSIVE FOULS)					
1 Defensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	101
2 Defensive pass interference (if less than a 15-yard penalty)	33	7	3	8	101
3 Personal foul	38	9	1	0	115
4 Striking an opponent	38	9	1	2	115
5 Tripping	46	9	1	2	115
6 Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	3	116
7 Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player (also disqualification)	24, 38, 47	9	1	4	116
8 Clipping	39	9	1	5	118
9 Blocking below the waist	40	9	1	6	118
10 Late hit	38	9	1	7	120
11 Action out of bounds	38	9	1	7	120
12 Helmet/face mask fouls	38, 45	9	1	8	120

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13 Roughing the passer	34	9	1	9	120
14 Chop blocking	41	9	1	10	121
15 Leverage/Leaping	38	9	1	11	122
16 Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play	38	9	1	12	122
17 Hurdling	38	9	1	13	122
18 Illegal contact against the snapper	38	9	1	14	122
19 Horse collar tackle	38, 31	9	1	15	123
20 Roughing kicker or holder	38, 30	9	1	16	123
21 Continuous contact to the helmet	38	9	3	4	132
22 Defensive restrictions	38	9	3	5	132
23 Illegal contact with eligible receiver	38	9	3	5	132
24 Fighting (also disqualification)	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	134
REFEREE'S DISCRETION					
1 Penalty for unfair acts	-	9	2	3	128
WHEN IN QUESTION RULES					
1 Block below waist	-	2	3	2	30
2 Chop block	-	2	3	3	30
3 Block in the back	-	2	3	4	30
4 Catch, recovery or interception not completed	-	2	4	3	31
5 Ball accidentally touched rather than batted	-	2	11	3	34
6 Ball not touched on kick or forward pass	-	2	11	4	34
7 Ball is accidentally kicked (touched)	-	2	16	1	36
8 Forward pass rather than backward pass	-	2	19	2	38
9 Forward pass and not fumble	-	2	19	2	39
10 It is a catchable forward pass	-	2	19	4	39
11 A player is defenseless	-	2	27	14	44
12 Stop clock for injured player	-	3	3	5	58
13 Forward progress stopped	-	4	1	3	68
14 Kick-catch interference	-	6	4	1	86
15 It is a catchable forward pass	-	7	3	8	101
16 Touchback rather than safety	-	8	5	1	112
17 Forcible contact and targeting defenseless opponent at or above the shoulders	-	9	1	3	116
18 Twisting, turning or pulling face mask (helmet opening)	-	9	1	8	120
19 Roughing kicker rather than running into	-	9	1	16	123

Summary of foul codes

By code:

Code	Foul	
APS	Altering playing surface	NEW
ATR	Assisting the runner	
BAT	Illegal batting	

Code	Foul	
DEH	Holding, defense	
DOD	Delay of game, defense	
DOF	Offside, defense	
DOG	Delay of game, offense	
DPI	Pass interference, defense	
DSH	Delay of game, start of half	
DSQ	Disqualification	
ENC	Encroachment (offense)	
EQV	Equipment violation	
FGT	Fighting	
FST	False start	
IBB	Illegal block in the back	
IBK	Illegal block during kick	
IBP	Illegal backward pass	
IDP	Ineligible downfield on pass	
IFD	Illegal formation, defense (3-on-1)	
IFH	Illegal forward handing	
IFK	Illegal free kick formation	
IFP	Illegal forward pass	
IKB	Illegally kicking ball	
ILF	Illegal formation	
ILM	Illegal motion	
ILP	Illegal participation	
ING	Intentional grounding	
IPR	Illegal procedure	NEW
ISH	Illegal shift	
ISP	Illegal snap	
ITP	Illegal touching of a forward pass	
IUH	Illegal use of hands	
IWK	Illegal wedge on kickoff	
KCI	Kick catch interference	
KIK	Illegal kick	
KOB	Free kick out of bounds	
OBK	Out of bounds during kick	NEW
OFH	Holding, offense	
OFK	Offside, free kick	CHANGED
OPI	Pass interference, offense	
PF-BBW	Personal foul, blocking below the waist	
PF-BOB	Personal foul, blocking out of bounds	
PF-BTH	Personal foul, blow to the head	
PF-CHB	Personal foul, chop block	
PF-CLP	Personal foul, clipping	
PF-FMM	Personal foul, face mask	
PF-HCT	Personal foul, horse collar tackle	
PF-HDR	Personal foul, hit on defenseless receiver	
PF-HTF	Personal foul, hands to the face	
PF-HUR	Personal foul, hurdling	
PF-ICS	Personal foul, illegal contact with snapper	

Code	Foul	
PF-LEA	Personal foul, leaping	
PF-LHP	Personal foul, late hit/piling on	CHANGED
PF-LTO	Personal foul, late hit out of bounds	
PF-OTH	Personal foul, other	
PF-RFK	Personal foul, roughing free kicker	
PF-RTH	Personal foul, roughing the holder	CHANGED
PF-RTK	Personal foul, roughing the kicker	CHANGED
PF-RTP	Personal foul, roughing the passer	CHANGED
PF-SKE	Personal foul, striking/kneeing/elbowing	
PF-TGT	Personal foul, targeting	
PF-TRP	Personal foul, tripping	
PF-UNR	Personal foul, unnecessary roughness	
RNH	Running into the holder	
RNK	Running into the kicker	CHANGED
SLI	Sideline interference, 5 yards	
SLM	Sideline interference, 15 yards	
SUB	Illegal substitution	CHANGED
UC-ABL	Unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language	
UC-BCH	Unsportsmanlike conduct, bench	
UC-DEA	Unsportsmanlike conduct, delayed/excessive act	
UC-FCO	Forcibly contacting an official	
UC-RHT	Unsportsmanlike conduct, removal of helmet	
UC-SBR	Unsportsmanlike conduct, simulating being roughed	NEW
UC-STB	Unsportsmanlike conduct, spiking/throwing ball	
UC-TAU	Unsportsmanlike conduct, taunting/baiting	
UC-UNS	Unsportsmanlike conduct, other	
UFA	Unfair acts	NEW
UFT	Unfair tactics	

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KOB	Free kick out of bounds	
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BAT	Illegal batting	
IBK	Illegal block during kick	

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ILM	Illegal motion	
ILP	Illegal participation	
IPR	Illegal procedure	NEW
ISH	Illegal shift	
ISP	Illegal snap	
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ITP	Illegal touching of a forward pass	
IUH	Illegal use of hands	
IWK	Illegal wedge on kickoff	
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PF-ICS	Personal foul, illegal contact with snapper	
PF-LTO	Personal foul, late hit out of bounds	
PF-LHP	Personal foul, late hit/piling on	CHANGED
PF-LEA	Personal foul, leaping	
PF-OTH	Personal foul, other	
PF-RFK	Personal foul, roughing free kicker	
PF-RTH	Personal foul, roughing the holder	CHANGED
PF-RTK	Personal foul, roughing the kicker	CHANGED
PF-RTP	Personal foul, roughing the passer	CHANGED
PF-SKE	Personal foul, striking/kneeing/elbowing	
PF-TGT	Personal foul, targeting	
PF-TRP	Personal foul, tripping	
PF-UNR	Personal foul, unnecessary roughness	

Code	Foul	
RNH	Running into the holder	
RNK	Running into the kicker	CHANGED
SLI	Sideline interference, 5 yards	
SLM	Sideline interference, 15 yards	
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UC-ABL	Unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language	
UC-BCH	Unsportsmanlike conduct, bench	
UC-DEA	Unsportsmanlike conduct, delayed/excessive act	
UC-UNS	Unsportsmanlike conduct, other	
UC-RHT	Unsportsmanlike conduct, removal of helmet	
UC-SBR	Unsportsmanlike conduct, simulating being roughed	NEW
UC-STB	Unsportsmanlike conduct, spiking/throwing ball	
UC-TAU	Unsportsmanlike conduct, taunting/baiting	