

# Index of Rules and Interpretations

- 10-second Runoff from Game Clock — Common Procedures (Delays/Clock Tactics) 64
- 10-second Runoff from Game Clock — Foul (Delays/Clock Tactics) 63
- Administration and Enforcement (The Ball) 20
- After the Ball is Snapped (Backward Pass and Fumble) 99
- All Become Eligible (Scrimmage Kicks) 84
- Approved Rulings and Official's Signals 29
- At Rest (Backward Pass and Fumble) 99
- Ball Dead in End Zone (Free Kicks) 81
- Ball Declared Dead (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 70
- Ball Ready for Play (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 72
- Basic Spot (Spots) 42
- Batting a Backward Pass in Flight (Batting and Kicking) 139
- Batting a Loose Ball (Batting and Kicking) 138
- Batting Ball in Possession (Batting and Kicking) 139
- Batting (Fumble, Muff, Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 34
- Behind the Neutral Zone (Scrimmage Kicks) 83
- Belongs To (Catch, Recovery, Possession) 31
- Below Waist (Blocking) 30
- Between Downs (Down, Between Downs and Loss of Down) 32
- Beyond the Neutral Zone (Scrimmage Kicks) 83
- Blind-side block (Blocking) 30
- Blind-side block (Personal Fouls) 129
- Blocking a Scrimmage Kick (Fumble, Muff, Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 35
- Blocking Below the Waist (Personal Fouls) 122
- Blocking (Blocking) 30
- Blocking in the Back (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 137
- Block in the Back (Blocking) 30
- Boundary Lines (Lines) 35
- Catchable Forward Pass (Passes) 39
- Catch, Interception, Recovery (Catch, Recovery, Possession) 31
- Catch or Recovery by Kicking Team (Scrimmage Kicks) 85
- Catch or Recovery by Receiving Team (Scrimmage Kicks) 85
- Caught or Recovered (Backward Pass and Fumble) 98
- Charged Team Timeouts (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 58
- Chop Block (Blocking) 30
- Chop Blocking (Personal Fouls) 125
- Clipping 32
- Clipping (Personal Fouls) 121
- Coaches' Certification (Players and Playing Equipment) 26
- Coaches' Phones (Players and Playing Equipment) 28
- Complete Pass (Forward Pass) 102
- Contact Against an Opponent Out of the Play (Personal Fouls) 126
- Contact Against the Snapper (Personal Fouls) 127
- Contacting an Official (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 134
- Continued Participation Without Helmet (Personal Fouls) 129

- Continuity of Downs Broken (A Series: Started, Broken, Renewed) 75
- Criteria for reversing an on-field ruling (Procedures) 153
- Crosses Neutral Zone (Passes) 39
- Dead Ball Becomes Alive (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 68
- Dead-Ball Fouls (Penalties Completed) 142
- Dead-Ball Spot (Spots) 41
- Dead Ball (The Ball: Live, Dead, Loose, Ready For Play) 29
- Dead Where Caught (Fair Catch) 90
- Defenseless player (Team and Player Designations) 44
- Defensive Linemen on Place Kicks (Scrimmage Kicks) 87
- Defensive Team Requirements (The Scrimmage) 97
- Definition of coach (Team and Player Designations) 45
- Delaying the Start of a Half (Delays/Clock Tactics) 61
- Determining the Enforcement Spot and the Basic Spot (Enforcement Procedures) 144
- Dimensions and Markings (The Field) 15
- Disqualified players and coaches (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 134
- Disqualified Player (Team and Player Designations) 44
- Down (Down, Between Downs and Loss of Down) 32
- Drop Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 36
- During Live Ball (Backward Pass and Fumble) 98
- Eligibility Gained or Regained (Forward Pass) 102
- Eligibility Lost by Going Out of Bounds (Forward Pass) 102
- Eligibility to Block (Free Kicks) 82
- Eligibility to Touch Legal Forward Pass (Forward Pass) 101
- Encroachment (Encroachment and Offside) 38
- End Lines (Lines) 35
- End Zones (Field Areas) 46
- Enforcement Spots (Enforcement Procedures) 143
- Enforcement Spot (Spots) 41
- Equipment and personnel (Procedures) 153
- Explicitly reviewable fouls (Scope of the video judge) 152
- Extension of Periods (Playing Time and Intermissions) 52
- Extra Periods (Start of Each Period) 48
- Fair Catch (Fair Catch) 33
- Field Goal Attempt (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 37
- Field of Play (Field Areas) 46
- Field Surface (The Field) 19
- Fighting 140, 46
- First and Third Periods (Start of Each Period) 48
- Flagrant Personal Foul (Foul and Violation) 34
- Flagrant Personal Fouls (Personal Fouls) 119
- Forced Touching Disregarded (Free Kicks) 80
- Forced Touching Disregarded (Scrimmage Kicks) 84
- Forfeited Games (Value of Scores) 110
- Forward and Backward Pass (Passes) 39
- Forward, Beyond (Forward, Beyond and Forward Progress) 33
- Forward Passer (Team and Player Designations) 43
- Forward Pass Play (Play Classification) 45
- Forward Progress (A Series: Started, Broken, Renewed) 74
- Forward Progress (Forward, Beyond and Forward Progress) 33

- Foul After Change of Team Possession (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 76
- Foul Against Kicker (Free Kicks) 81
- Foul Before Change of Team Possession (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 76
- Foul Between Downs (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 76
- Foul Between Series (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 77
- Foul During Free Kick Down (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 76
- Foul (Foul and Violation) 34
- Foul Not Called (Flagrant Fouls) 140
- Fouls After a Try (Try Down) 114
- Fouls by Both Teams (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 77
- Fouls By Kicking Team (Free Kicks) 81
- Fouls By Kicking Team (Scrimmage Kicks) 87
- Fouls by Team A During Kicks (Enforcement Procedures) 147
- Fouls During a Try After a Change of Team Possession (Try Down) 114
- Fouls During a Try Before a Change of Team Possession (Try Down) 113
- Fouls During or After a Touchdown, Field Goal or Try (Enforcement Procedures) 147
- Frame (of the Body) (Blocking) 30
- Free-blocking zone (Blocking) 30
- Free Kick at Rest (Free Kicks) 81
- Free Kick Caught or Recovered (Free Kicks) 81
- Free Kick Formation (Free Kicks) 78
- Free Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 37
- Free Kick Play (Play Classification) 45
- Fumble (Fumble, Muff, Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 34
- Game Administration and Sideline Interference (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 134
- Game Clock (Timing Devices) 45
- Game Officials (General Provisions) 14
- Goal Lines and Pylons (Lines) 35
- Goal Lines (General Provisions) 14
- Goals (The Field) 17
- Half-Distance Enforcement Procedures (Enforcement Procedures) 149
- Handing the Ball 36
- Handing the Ball Forward (The Scrimmage) 98
- Hash Marks (Lines) 35
- Held Ball Out of Bounds (Out of Bounds) 72
- Helmet and Face Mask Fouls (Personal Fouls) 124
- Helmet Comes Off — Timeout (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 60
- Holding and Use of Hands or Arms: Defense (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 137
- Holding and Use of Hands or Arms: Offense (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 135
- Horse Collar Tackle (Personal Fouls) 127
- How and When Completed (Penalties Completed) 141
- How Scored (Field Goal) 115
- How Scored (Safety) 116
- How Scored (Touchdown) 110
- How Scored (Try Down) 111
- Huddle 36
- Hurdling 36
- Hurdling (Personal Fouls) 126
- Illegal Block or Contact (Fair Catch) 92
- Illegal Contact and Pass Interference (Forward Pass) 104

- Illegal Delay of the Game (Delays/Clock Tactics) 62
- Illegal equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 25
- Illegal Forward Pass (Forward Pass) 100
- Illegally Kicking a Ball (Batting and Kicking) 139
- Illegal Touching (Forward Pass) 108
- Illegal Wedge Formation (Free Kicks) 81
- Inbounds Spot (Spots) 41
- Incomplete Pass (Forward Pass) 104
- Ineligible Receiver Downfield (Forward Pass) 108
- Information provision (Procedures) 154
- Initial Impetus (Responsibility and Impetus) 118
- Initiating review (Procedures) 153
- Injured players (Scope of the video judge) 153
- Injury Timeout (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 58
- Interference with Opportunity (Opportunity to Catch a Kick) 88
- Interfering for or Helping the Ball Carrier or Passer (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 135
- Interval Fouls (Penalties Completed) 143
- Invalid Signal (Fair Catch) 33
- Invalid Signals: Catch or Recovery (Fair Catch) 91
- Jersey Design, Colour and Numerals (Players and Playing Equipment) 23
- Jurisdiction 150
- Kick After Safety (Safety) 117
- Kicker and Holder (Team and Player Designations) 42
- Kicking Team (Free Kick Out of Bounds) 82
- Kicking the Ball; Legal and Illegal Kicks (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 36
- Kickoff (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 37
- Late Hit, Action Out of Bounds (Personal Fouls) 124
- Legal and Illegal Kicks (Scrimmage Kicks) 86
- Legal Forward Pass (Forward Pass) 100
- Legal Substitutions (Substitutions) 65
- Length of Periods and Intermissions (Playing Time and Intermissions) 50
- Length of Timeouts (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 60
- Leverage and Leaping (Personal Fouls) 126
- Limit Lines (The Field) 16
- Lineman and Back (Team and Player Designations) 42
- Line-to-Gain and Down Indicators (The Field) 18
- Line to Gain (A Series: Started, Broken, Renewed) 74
- Live Ball Becomes Dead (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 68
- Live-Ball – Dead-Ball Fouls (Penalties Completed) 142
- Live-Ball Fouls by the Same Team (Penalties Completed) 141
- Live Ball (The Ball: Live, Dead, Loose, Ready For Play) 29
- Loose Ball Out of Bounds (Out of Bounds) 73
- Loose Ball (The Ball: Live, Dead, Loose, Ready For Play) 29
- Loose Behind the Goal Line (Scrimmage Kicks) 86
- Loss of down (Down, Between Downs and Loss of Down) 33
- Mandatory and Illegal Equipment Enforcement (Players and Playing Equipment) 26
- Mandatory equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 22
- Markers or Obstructions (The Field) 19
- Marking Balls (The Ball) 21
- Marking Boundary Areas (The Field) 16

- More than eleven players on the field (Substitutions) 66
- Muff (Fumble, Muff, Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 34
- Next Play (Field Goal) 115
- Next Play (Try Down) 114
- Nine-Yard Marks (Lines) 36
- No Advance (Fair Catch) 90
- No Tackling (Fair Catch) 92
- Offensive and Defensive Teams (Team and Player Designations) 42
- Offensive Team Requirements — At the Snap (The Scrimmage) 95
- Offensive Team Requirements — Prior to the Snap (The Scrimmage) 94
- Offsetting Fouls (Penalties Completed) 141
- Offside on a free kick play (Encroachment and Offside) 38
- Offside on a scrimmage play (Encroachment and Offside) 38
- Opportunity to Score (Try Down) 112
- Optional equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 24
- Out of Bounds at Forward Point (Out of Bounds) 73
- Out of Bounds (Backward Pass and Fumble) 99
- Out of Bounds Behind Goal Line (Scrimmage Kicks) 85
- Out of Bounds Between Goal Lines or at Rest Inbounds (Scrimmage Kicks) 85
- Out of Bounds Player (Scrimmage Kicks) 87
- Out-of-Bounds Spot (Spots) 41
- Passing (Passes) 38
- Pass Interference: Summary (Forward Pass) 107
- Penalty Declined (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 76
- Penalty Resulting in New Series (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 76
- Personal Foul (Foul and Violation) 34
- Persons Subject to the Rules (General Provisions) 14
- Philosophy (Philosophy and rationale) 151
- Place Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 36
- Planned Loose Ball (The Scrimmage) 98
- Play-Clock Count (Ball in Play – Dead Ball) 72
- Play Clock (Timing Devices) 45
- Player Ejection (Flagrant Fouls) 140
- Player Out of Bounds and In Bounds (Team and Player Designations) 44
- Player Out of Bounds (Free Kicks) 82
- Player Out of Bounds (Out of Bounds) 72
- Players' Numbering (Players and Playing Equipment) 21
- Player (Team and Player Designations) 43
- Player Vacancy (Team and Player Designations) 44
- Playing Enclosure (Field Areas) 46
- Playing Surface (Field Areas) 46
- Possession (Catch, Recovery, Possession) 31
- Possession Series (Series and Possession Series) 40
- Postscrimmage Kick Enforcement (Enforcement Procedures) 146
- Postscrimmage Kick Spot (Spots) 42
- Previous Spot (Spots) 41
- Prohibited Field Equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 27
- Prohibited Signal Devices (Players and Playing Equipment) 26
- Punt (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 36
- Pylons (The Field) 18

- Rationale (Philosophy and rationale) 151
- Receiving Team (Free Kick Out of Bounds) 82
- Recommended Numbering (Players and Playing Equipment) 21
- Referee microphone (Players and Playing Equipment) 28
- Referee's Notification (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 60
- Removing persons from the playing enclosure (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 135
- Replaced Player (Team and Player Designations) 43
- Requesting a review (Scope of the video judge) 151
- Responsibilities 150
- Responsibility (Responsibility and Impetus) 118
- Restraining Lines (Free Kicks) 78
- Restraining Lines (Lines) 35
- Result of the Play (Play Classification) 46
- Return Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 37
- Reviewable plays (Scope of the video judge) 152
- Roughing or Running into Kicker or Holder (Personal Fouls) 127
- Roughing the Passer (Personal Fouls) 124
- Rules Decisions Final (Down and Possession After a Penalty) 77
- Runner and Ball Carrier (Team and Player Designations) 43
- Running Play and Run (Play Classification) 45
- Scoring Plays (Value of Scores) 110
- Scrimmage Down (Scrimmage) 39
- Scrimmage Kick Formation (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 37
- Scrimmage Kick (Kicks; Kicking the Ball) 37
- Scrimmage Kick Play (Play Classification) 45
- Scrimmage Line (Scrimmage) 39
- Second and Fourth Periods (Start of Each Period) 48
- Series (Series and Possession Series) 40
- Shift 40
- Shift and False Start (The Scrimmage) 93
- Sidelines (Lines) 35
- Side Zone (Field Areas) 46
- Simultaneous Catch or Recovery (Catch, Recovery, Possession) 32
- Simultaneous with Snap (Penalties Completed) 141
- Snap After a Touchback (Touchback) 118
- Snapper (Team and Player Designations) 43
- Snapping the Ball 40
- Special Enforcement of Post-Possession Fouls (Enforcement Procedures) 149
- Specifications: Mandatory Equipment (Players and Playing Equipment) 22
- Specifications (The Ball) 19
- Spot of the Foul (Spots) 41
- Spot Where Kick Ends (Spots) 41
- Spot Where Run Ends (Spots) 41
- Squad Member (Team and Player Designations) 44
- Starting and Stopping the Clock (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 54
- Starting with a Snap (The Scrimmage) 93
- Striking Fouls and Tripping (Personal Fouls) 119
- Substitute (Team and Player Designations) 43
- Substitution Procedures (Substitutions) 65
- Succeeding Spot (Spots) 41

- Suspending the game (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 57
- Tackle Box 47
- Targeting 47
- Targeting and Making Forcible Contact to Head or Neck Area of a Defenseless Player (Personal Fouls) 120
- Targeting and Making Forcible Contact With the Crown of the Helmet (Personal Fouls) 120
- Team Area and Coaching Box (The Field) 16
- Team B personal foul during legal forward pass play (Forward Pass) 108
- Team Captains (General Provisions) 14
- Teams A and B (Team and Player Designations) 42
- Teams Subject to the Rules (General Provisions) 15
- The Field (Field Areas) 46
- The Game (General Provisions) 14
- The Neutral Zone 38
- Timeout (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 54
- Timing Adjustments (Playing Time and Intermissions) 51
- Timing Devices (Playing Time and Intermissions) 52
- Touching and Recovery of a Free Kick; Illegal Touching (Free Kicks) 80
- Touching (Fumble, Muff, Batting and Touching the Ball; Blocking a Kick) 34
- Touching Ground On or Behind Goal Line (Scrimmage Kicks) 85
- Unfair Acts (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 133
- Unfair Clock Tactics (Delays/Clock Tactics) 62
- Unfair Tactics (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 132
- Unsportsmanlike Acts (Unsportsmanlike Conduct Fouls) 129
- Use of Hands or Arms by Defense: Passing Downs (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 137
- Valid Signal (Fair Catch) 33
- Violation (Foul and Violation) 34
- Violation Timeouts (Timeouts: Starting and Stopping the Clock) 60
- When Ball is Ready for Play (The Ball: Live, Dead, Loose, Ready For Play) 29
- When Declared (Touchback) 117
- When to Award Series (A Series: Started, Broken, Renewed) 74
- Who May Block (Blocking, Use of Hands or Arms) 135
- Winning Team and Final Score (General Provisions) 14
- Yard Lines (Lines) 35