

# Rules changes

## Major changes

The list below shows rule number, description of the change, and page number in this book.

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

1-2-4-a	Extend team area and coaching box to 20-yard lines	18
1-4-2-a	Player numbering includes 0	23
1-4-5-a-1	Jersey restrictions: additional requirements	25
1-4-5 Penalty	Jersey restrictions: additional penalties	25
1-4-5-c-1	Numerals on jersey must be centred and distinct	25
3-1-1	Pregame warmup procedures specified	51
3-1-3-e	Extra period becomes a try down beginning with the third	52
3-1-3-f	2-point try required from second extra period	52
3-2-3-a-1	Extend period for foul on field goal	55
3-2-3-a-2	Extend period for illegal touching violation	55
3-3-5-b	Feigning injuries: report suspicions to relevant authority	62
3-5-3-b	Team B substitution altered to live-ball foul	71
6-3-14	Defensive restrictions on scrimmage kicks	91
9-1-3	Remove when in question on targeting (forcible contact)	125
9-1-4	Remove when in question on targeting (defenseless player)	125
9-2-1-a-1-l	Feigning injuries is unsportsmanlike conduct	135
9-2-2-f	No more than one player allowed to be assigned same number	137
10-2-5-a-1	Certain fouls can carry over to extra periods	153
10-2-7-a	Penalties for all personal fouls carry over (special enforcement)	155
12-3-4-c-4	Minimum 3 seconds in period after review	160

## New/Revised Approved Rulings

A.R. 1-4-11:I	A.R. 2-8-3:I	A.R. 2-16-6:I	A.R. 2-19-3:I	A.R. 3-1-1:I
A.R. 3-3-5:X	A.R. 3-5-3:II	A.R. 3-5-3:IV	A.R. 3-5-3:VII	A.R. 6-3-14:I
A.R. 6-3-14:II	A.R. 7-1-2:V	A.R. 7-1-4:X	A.R. 7-2-4:III	A.R. 8-5-1:XI
A.R. 9-1-2:IV	A.R. 9-1-4:II	A.R. 9-2-2:VII	A.R. 9-2-3:IV	

## Editorial changes

The following list shows those rules that have been subject to editorial change, i.e. deletions, corrected errors, clarifications due to interpretation and items rewritten for readability. The list also includes those Approved Rulings altered to conform with rule changes. [New or modified text is marked in blue \(grey when printed in monochrome\).](#)

1-1-6-b	1-2-4-b	1-2-4-c
1-2-6-d	1-2-9-a	1-4-2-b
1-4-2-d	A.R. 1-4-4:I	A.R. 1-4-5:I
1-4-6-f	A.R. 1-4-7:III	1-4-10
1-4-11-b	1-4-11-c	1-4-11-d
1-4-13	2-3-5	2-4-1-a
2-6	2-15-1-a	2-16-4-b
2-19-2-c	2-27-6-b	2-27-8
2-27-16-a	2-27-16-c	A.R. 3-1-3:XI
A.R. 3-1-3:XII	A.R. 3-1-3:XIII	3-2-2-f
A.R. 3-2-2:I	A.R. 3-2-3:V	A.R. 3-2-3:VIII
3-2-4-a	A.R. 3-2-4:III	3-3-2-f
3-3-2-g-1	3-3-2-g-2	A.R. 3-3-2:V
A.R. 3-3-2:XII	3-3-5-f-2	3-3-8
3-4-1-b	3-4-3	3-4-5
3-5-3 Penalty	A.R. 3-5-3:VI	5-1-3-a-2
A.R. 5-2-7:VI	6-1-2-a	6-1-2 Penalty
6-1-2-d	A.R. 6-1-2:VIII	6-1-9
6-1-10-d	6-1-11	A.R. 6-3-2:II
6-3-12	A.R. 6-3-13:IV	6-5-1-b
6-5-1-d	7-1-1	7-1-1-a
7-1-3 Penalty	7-1-4 Penalty	7-1-6-a
7-3-2-a	7-3-8 Penalty	7-3-9-j
A.R. 8-3-4:III	A.R. 8-3-4:IV	8-4-2-b-1
8-5-1-a	8-5-1-a Exception c	9-1
9-1 Penalty	9-1-1	A.R. 9-1-4:III
A.R. 9-1-4:V	A.R. 9-1-6:VI	A.R. 9-1-6:IX
9-1-9-a-4	A.R. 9-1-9:III	9-1-11-c
9-1-11-d	9-1-12-a	A.R. 9-1-14:III
9-1-15	9-1-16-b	9-1-16-c
9-2-1-a-1-e	9-2-1-b-1	9-2-1-b-5
A.R. 9-2-1:I	A.R. 9-2-1:IV	A.R. 9-2-1:VIII
A.R. 9-2-1:IX	9-2-2-b	9-2-3-c
9-3-2-b	9-3-2-c	9-4-1 Penalty
9-4-4	A.R. 10-1-5:III	10-2-5-b
10-2-5-c	A.R. 10-2-5:I	A.R. 10-2-5:II
A.R. 10-2-5:III	A.R. 10-2-5:IV	A.R. 10-2-5:V
A.R. 10-2-5:IX	12-1-2-f	12-2-2-a-5
12-2-2-a-6	12-2-2-a-7	12-2-3-b
12-2-3-c	12-2-3-g	

In addition, there have been multiple changes throughout the rulebook to remove gender-specific language. These are not marked unless other aspects of the rule have been edited.

## Summary of differences between NCAA and IFAF rules

NCAA Rule	IFAF difference
1-2-5-f	Procedure for dealing with missing goals.
1-4-11	Drones prohibited.
2-11-3	Definition of batting includes the head.
2-16-10-a	Punter needs only be 7 yards deep; kicker/holder need only be 5 yards deep to count as a scrimmage kick formation.
2-27-12	Whether a disqualified player is suspended for the next game is matter for the disciplinary authority. <a href="#">There is no distinction between disqualified and ejected - all such players must leave the playing enclosure.</a>
2-34-1-a	The tackle box is centred on the middle lineman, not the snapper.
3-1-1	× During coin toss, teams must remain in the team area.
3-2-3	<a href="#">Period can be extended for foul on field goal or illegal touching violation.</a>
3-2-4	Play clock reset only if it drops below 20 seconds before ball ready.
3-2-5	No minimum time for a play after spiking.
3-3-2	Running clock.
3-3-7	No short timeouts.
3-3-8	Two-minute warning cannot happen before 2'00.
4-1-2-b	Ball may belong to recovering team after inadvertent whistle. Ball may belong to Team B after inadvertent whistle on scrimmage kick. Ignore inadvertent whistle if ball would have become dead anyway in the immediate continuing action.
4-1-3	Ball is dead if players in vicinity believe it is.
6-1-7-b/8-6-2	All touchbacks are from the 20-yard line.
7-2-5	Fumble/backward pass at rest awarded according to forward fumble principles.
9-1-3&4/9-5-1	No half-game suspensions.
9-1-6-a	Larger area for unrestricted blocking below the waist.
9-1-7-c	Spot of foul for blocking out of bounds is spot on nearest sideline.
9-2-2	Additional unfair tactics. ×
9-2-2-e	No disqualification for illegal cleats.
9-2-2-f	<a href="#">No more than ONE player allowed to be assigned the same number in a competitive game.</a>
9-2-7	Referee may require persons to be removed from the playing enclosure.
9-6	Flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct fouls can be reviewed for additional sanctions.
10-2-7-a	<a href="#">Non-flagrant personal foul enforcement can carry forward.</a>
12	Video judge rule.

This list ignores differences that address field limitations, NCAA competition structures (e.g. conferences) or equipment restrictions. It also ignores minor wording changes that do not have significant effect on the way the game is played.