

2011 SCFOA
Football Rules & Mechanics Examination

Use a #2 pencil to **COMPLETELY** fill in the correct answer.
To change your answer **ERASE COMPLETELY & CLEANLY** and mark again. Make no extra marks on the answer sheet; they may be picked up as incorrect answers.

Answers are either TRUE or False = A or B (on the answer sheet)

Example: [] [B] [C] [D]

**** INCORRECT MARKINGS: [] [] ****

Follow the instructions and properly mark your answer sheet!

1. Game officials maintain administrative responsibility for their football game through the completion of any required report or correspondence in response to any action occurring while the officials have jurisdiction.
2. If eye shade is worn, (*grease, no-glare strips, stickers etc.*) it must be a solid stroke with no words, numbers, logos, symbols, etc. within the eye shade.
3. A combination block by two players against an opponent, where one block is high and the other block is low, is a chop block when it is in the free blocking zone. (*if outside the free blocking zone, this is an illegal block below the waist*)
4. The provisions for removing a player from a game for an injury, bleeding or exhibiting signs or symptoms of a concussion have been standardized. All require the player to be replaced for at least one down, unless halftime or overtime intermission occurs.
5. Horse collar fouls shall be enforced as live ball fouls.
6. Penalties for roughing the passer are enforced from the dead ball spot when there is no change of team possession and the dead ball spot is beyond the line of scrimmage provided Team A maintains possession.
7. The field of play is the area within the boundary lines and the goal lines.
8. Decisions involving penalties shall be made before any charged time-out is granted to either team.
9. Rib pads, tailbone protectors and knee pads are optional player equipment.

10. Knee and ankle braces which are altered from the manufacturer's original design or production are legal.
11. Prior to the start of the game, the Head Coach shall be responsible for verifying to the Referee and Umpire that all of his players are legally equipped and in compliance with the rules.
12. A ball becomes live when the ball has been legally snapped or free kicked and a down is in progress.
13. A blocker may not initiate contact with his arm or hand against an opponent above the opponent's shoulder.
14. An illegal fair catch signal can only be given by a runner.
15. The term "force" is used only in connection with the goal line and in only one direction; from the field of play into the end zone.
16. The muffing or batting of a pass, kick or fumble in flight could be considered a new force.
17. On kicks going into R's end zone, force is not a factor, since these kicks are always a touchback regardless of who supplied the force.
18. Following the ready-for-play signal for a free-kick down and until the ball is kicked, all R players and all K players, other than the kicker and holder, must be behind their free-kick line.
19. Unsportsmanlike conduct fouls are non-contact fouls.
20. Blocking below the waist, clipping and blocking in the back are permitted within the free-blocking zone when certain conditions are met.
21. The free-blocking zone disintegrates after the ball has left the zone.
22. In order for a fumble to occur, a player must have had possession of the ball. (a muff is not a fumble.)
23. Loss of player possession by unsuccessful execution of attempted handing is a muff.
24. Illegal helmet contact is an act of initiating contact with the helmet against an opponent.

25. Hurdling is an illegal personal contact foul.
26. When the ball is loose following an illegal kick, it is treated as a muff.
27. The neutral zone may expand up to a maximum of 2-yards behind the defensive line of scrimmage and into the end zone.
28. A passer is a player who throws a legal or illegal forward or backward pass.
29. A change of possession occurs when the opponent gains player possession during the down.
30. The post scrimmage kick spot is the spot where the kick ends.
31. When weather conditions are construed to be hazardous to life or limb of the participants, the Referee is authorized to delay or suspend the game.
32. The Head Coach is responsible for his team being on the field for the mandatory warm-up time at the end of the scheduled halftime intermission.
33. A double foul is called during the last timed down of the 1st half of a game. The period must be extended by an untimed down.
34. If a period begins with a snap, the clock shall start when the ball is legally snapped.
35. The clock does not start on first touching by K.
36. Failure to properly wear legal or required player equipment when the ball is about to become live is delay of game.
37. A replaced player shall begin to leave the field within 3 seconds.
38. An inadvertent whistle ends the down.
39. If during a down, a live ball foul occurs prior to an inadvertent whistle and the penalty is accepted, the penalty takes precedence over the inadvertent whistle.
40. If the Referee determines that a team has been given a 5th down, play will revert to where it was before the 5th down was run, unless a change of possession occurs or a new series has been awarded.
41. The official down is determined by the Linesman.

42. K1's field goal attempt is partially blocked behind the neutral zone, but deflects beyond the neutral zone where it is muffed by R1. The muffed ball is recovered and downed behind the neutral zone by K2. **RULING:** K2 could have advanced the ball. The ball remains K's ball: 1st and 10 at the spot of recovery.
43. 4th and 10 on K's 40 yard line. K1 punts the ball beyond the neutral zone and R1 muffs the ball back behind the neutral zone where K1 recovers and throws a forward pass to K2, which is complete at the 50 yard line and R2 interferes with K2. **RULING:** Legal play. If K accepts the penalty for pass interference, it will be K's ball, 1st and 10 from R's 45-yard line.
44. A measurement may be requested by the captain prior to the ball being marked ready-for-play, but the request may be denied if, in the Referee's opinion, it is obvious the line-to-gain has or has not been reached.
45. A free-kick shall be made from any point between the sidelines and on K's free kick line.
46. Any receiver may catch or recover a free kick anywhere on the field and advance, unless any R player has given a valid or invalid fair catch signal.
47. The right of Team R to take the ball at the spot of first touching is always in effect.
48. If any K player recovers or catches a free-kick, the ball remains live.
49. If a K player catches or recovers any scrimmage kick while it is in or behind the neutral zone he may advance the ball.
50. A kick ends when a player gains possession or when the ball becomes dead by rule.
51. Any receiver who has given a valid or invalid fair catch signal is prohibited from blocking until the kick has ended.
52. Any receiver who gives a valid or invalid fair catch signal is afforded protection.
53. No receiver may advance the ball after a valid or invalid fair catch signal has been given by any R player.

54. During a scrimmage kick, R gives an invalid fair catch signal but blocks an opponent before the kick ends. **RULING:** Multiple foul; K has options of accepting a 5-yard or 15-yard penalty.
55. An illegal snap or other snap infraction causes the ball to remain dead.
56. Any act by Team A players which is clearly intended to cause Team B to encroach is a false start.
57. If a false start causes B to encroach, the penalties offset and the down is replayed.
58. During a scrimmage down, after a change of team possession, no player may hand the ball forward to a teammate.
59. If the penalty for an illegal forward pass is accepted, measurement is from the previous spot.
60. Pass eligibility rules apply only to a legal forward pass.
61. Pass interference restrictions only apply beyond the neutral zone, and only if the legal forward pass, untouched by B in or behind the neutral zone, crosses the neutral zone.
62. Possession of a live ball in the opponents' end zone is always a touchdown.
63. An offensive player is allowed to push, pull or lift the runner to assist his forward progress.
64. A defensive player shall not contact an eligible receiver who is no longer a potential blocker. *(In other words, there is no legal "chucking zone for defensive players.")*
65. Encroachment restrictions apply only to players and not to substitutes or replaced players.
66. Any foul that occurs after an inadvertent whistle is a dead-ball foul.
67. Following a change of possession, if an inadvertent whistle is sounded, the down must be replayed.
68. It is legal for a player to wear sunglasses under a helmet that has a clear eye shield.

69. A8 scores a touchdown after a long pass, catch and run. Before the ready-for-play signal for the try, the captain of Team A requests to use a different ball than was used while scoring the touchdown. **RULING:** The Referee should honor the request.
70. Gloves cannot be ball-colored, but they may be any other color.
71. Preventive officiating is the preferred action of officials, which will prevent some fouls from occurring. The good official, by actions and words, can frequently prevent certain fouls from happening.
72. Each official must have the standard white tapered knickers and the standard black pants with 1 ¼" white stripes.
73. A black shirt worn under the official's game shirt is optional.
74. Assigned ECO's may wear the same uniform as the field officials.
75. At the conclusion of halftime and during the 1st minute of the 3 minute warm-up period, the Referee and Back Judge will obtain 2nd half choices from the Head Coach of each team.
76. The bean bag should be dropped on the appropriate yard line and not thrown to the actual spot of the ball after a fumble.
77. The Referee and Umpire should never be in positions where a snap occurs without their observing it. (quick snap)
78. When time is added to or removed from the game clock, both coaches must be notified.
79. When a Head Coach requests a time out for a coach-referee conference due to a possible misapplication or misinterpretation of a rule by the officials, the request may be made at anytime during the series.
80. The Referee, Umpire and Back Judge shall be in the center of the field at the 50-yard line for team options for overtime.
81. If a team attempts the "water bucket play", the Umpire shall stay over the ball and not allow the snap until the Referee has marked the ball ready-for-play.

82. The Back Judge is responsible for the 25-second clock and will give a visible signal to indicate when the 25-second count is about to expire.
83. If a player exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion, the game officials shall ensure that the player is immediately removed from the game.
84. A1 is injured during a play. The game official stops the clock for the injured player. Team B's coach wants to have a conference with his players. **RULING:** The conference must be held outside the nine-yard marks.
85. Prior to the snap, B11 recognizes that he is to be in the game and he enters on A's side of the neutral zone. The ball is snapped before B11 gets to his team's side. **RULING:** Illegal substitution at the snap. If the penalty is accepted it will be enforced from the previous spot.
86. K1 has one knee on the ground to hold for an apparent field goal attempt. K2 is in position to kick. K1 catches the snap and without rising, flips the ball to K2 who runs 10 yards for a first down. **RULING:** The ball remains live and it is first and 10 for Team K.
87. With 4th and 5 on B's 20, QB, A1, throws a legal forward pass which is intercepted by B1. During the pass, a coach of Team A comes onto the field to complain about a perceived holding foul that was not called. B1 returns the ball downfield but must change his direction to avoid running into the coach. B1 is tackled at mid-field. **RULING:** The coach has committed a multiple foul.
88. K2, running toward R's end zone, leaps into the air to catch K1's punt. No player of R is in position to catch the punt. K2 has the ball in his grasp over the 1-yard line, but first touches the ground in R's end zone. **RULING:** R can take the ball at the spot of first touching by K2, R's 1-yard line, or take a touchback and have the ball at R's 20 yard line since K2 has not possessed the ball until he touched the ground in the end zone.

89. During the last timed down of the first period, B1 intercepts a pass at B's 10 yard line and returns the ball to B's 35 yard line, where he throws an incomplete forward pass. Team A accepts the penalty. **RULING:** 1st and 10 for Team B at B's 30 yard line to begin the second period.
90. On 4th and 10 from B's 20 yard line, A1 attempts a field goal. After the snap, B1 breaks through the line, untouched, and catches the low kick. Rather than avoiding the kicker and holder, B1 lowers his shoulder and charges through both of them and falls to the ground at B's 30 yard line. **RULING:** B's ball at B's 15 yard line.
91. The neutral zone is established when the Referee declares the ball ready-for-play.
92. Right tackle, A7, has placed his hand on the ground and assumed a three point stance following the ready-for-play. A7 decides to reposition and lifts his hand from the ground, takes one step backwards and re-sets. **RULING:** False start
93. If an offensive lineman moves when threatened by the action of a defensive player who enters the neutral zone, it is an encroachment foul on the defense.
94. In a scrimmage kick formation on 4th down or a try, Team A is allowed to have any number of linemen with uniform numbers outside the 50 – 79 range.
95. On 1st, 2nd or 3rd down, only the snapper may have a uniform number outside the 50 - 79 range and then only if his team is using a scrimmage kick formation.
96. Defensive players may not use disconcerting acts or words prior to the snap in an attempt to interfere with Team A's signals or movements. If they do so, it is an unsportsmanlike conduct foul.
97. The expanded neutral zone has no relevance on a running play.
98. If the snapper touches the ball before the ready-for-play, encroachment restrictions are in effect.

99. On a short punt from midfield, R1 gives an invalid fair catch signal and begins to run forward to catch the kick. K1 impedes R1's path to the ball and the ball eventually hits the ground and rolls out of bounds at R's 20 yard line. **RULING:** Due to the invalid fair catch signal, R1 is not afforded protection and there is no foul by K1 for kick catching interference. K may accept the PSK foul by R1 and the result will be R's ball 1st and 10 on R's 15 yard line.
100. A1 has the ball at the 50 yard line, 1st down and 10 yards to gain the first down. Prior to the snap running back, A2, goes in motion and turns up field prior to the snap. At the snap the LJ drops his flag for the illegal motion and the down continues. QB, A1, drops back to pass and throws the ball toward receiver A3 who has sprinted downfield, however the ball is under-thrown and A3 has to cut his route short and come back to the ball. The Linesman, who is covering the play outside B's sideline, comes back to cover the play but bumps into an assistant coach, who is in the restricted area. The Linesman drops his flag for the unintentional contact foul. The pass falls incomplete. **RULING:** The penalties offset and the down will be replayed.

1	T	26	F	51	T	76	T		
2	T	27	F	52	F	77	T		
3	T	28	F * F	53	T	78	T		
4	T	29	T	54	T	79	F		
5	T	30	T * T	55	T * F	80	T		
6	T	31	F	56	T	81	T		
7	T * F	32	T	57	F	82	F		
8	T * F	33	T	58	T	83	T		
9	F	34	T	59	F	84	T		
10	F	35	T	60	T	85	T		
11	T * F	36	T	61	T	86	F		
12	T	37	T	62	T * F	87	F		
13	T	38	T	63	F	88	T		
14	T	39	T	64	T	89	T		
15	T * F	40	T	65	T	90	F		
16	F	41	F * F	66	T	91	T		
17	T	42	T	67	F	92	T		
18	T	43	T	68	T	93	T		
19	T	44	T	69	F	94	T		
20	T	45	F	70	T	95	T		
21	T	46	F	71	T	96	T		
22	T	47	F	72	T * F	97	T		
23	F	48	F	73	F	98	F		
24	T	49	F	74	F	99	F		
25	T	50	T * F	75	T	100	F		

RED = FALSE

T * F = answers for original exam and make-up (make-up exam answer is 2nd)