



2013 CFO/NCAA National Rules Test – Most Missed Questions and Supporting Clarifications

Compiled by NCAA Secretary-Rules Editor Rogers Redding (November 6, 2013)

Listed below are the results of the 2013 CFO/NCAA National Rules Test identifying the most commonly missed questions with some additional clarifications. We hope these interpretations and clarifications will assist officials with an understanding of the corresponding rules.

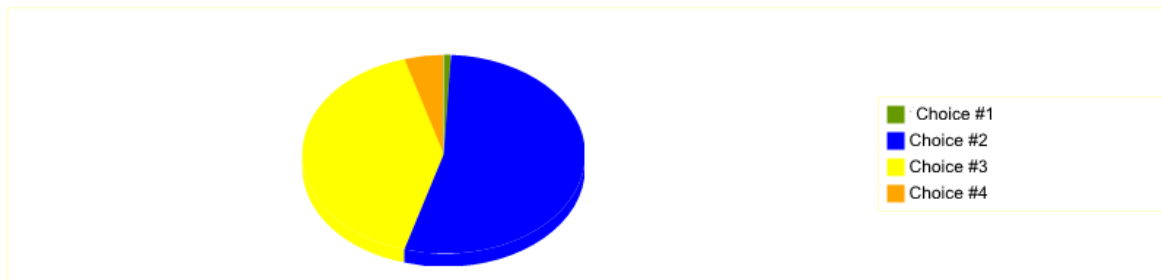
Most Missed Question 1:

Applicable Rules: 6-1-3, 6-1-12, 6-4-1-f

Guidance: Because the ball travels two yards in the air before hitting the ground, rather than appearing to come directly off the tee, the Team B player at the A-47 does not have the kick-catch protection cited in 6-4-1-f. The block by Team A is legal because the ball has traveled 10 yards, making Team A eligible to touch the ball.

Team A makes an on-side kick from the A-35 that goes up in the air (touching the ground at the A-37). A Team B player is in position to receive the kick at the A-47 when he is blocked by a Team A player, such that another Team A player can recover the ball at the A-47.

1. ❌ (22, 0.84%) First touching by Team A; B, 1/10 @ A-47
2. ❌ (1410, 53.59%) Interference with Opportunity foul; penalty at spot of foul; B, 1/10 @ A-32
3. ✅ (1080, 41.05%) Legal play; A, 1/10 @ A-47
4. ❌ (119, 4.52%) Interference with Opportunity foul on Team A – Re-kick from the A-20



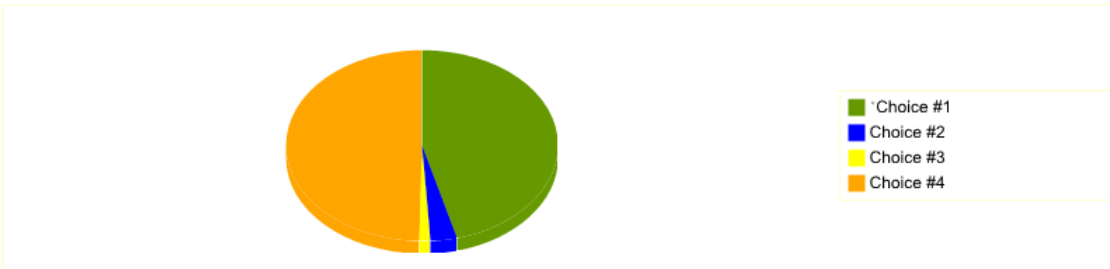
Most Missed Question 2:

Applicable Rule: 7-3-2-d, 12-3

Guidance: The wording of the question implies that the pass batted by the defensive tackle is forward, making the second pass an illegal forward pass. A second forward pass is not reviewable. However, whether a pass is forward or backward is reviewable, which may have led to some people missing this question.

2/8 @ B-38. The QB pass to the back who is split out to the right side is batted up in the air by the Defensive Tackle and comes directly back to the QB. He now rolls to his right and from the B-42 completes a pass to the Wide Receiver at the B-20 for a first down.

1. ❌ (1209, 45.78%) A, 3/17 @ B-47; reviewable
2. ❌ (85, 3.22%) A, 3/13 @ B-43; reviewable
3. ❌ (37, 1.40%) A, 3/8 @ B-38; reviewable
4. ✅ (1310, 49.60%) A, 1/10 @ B-20; not reviewable



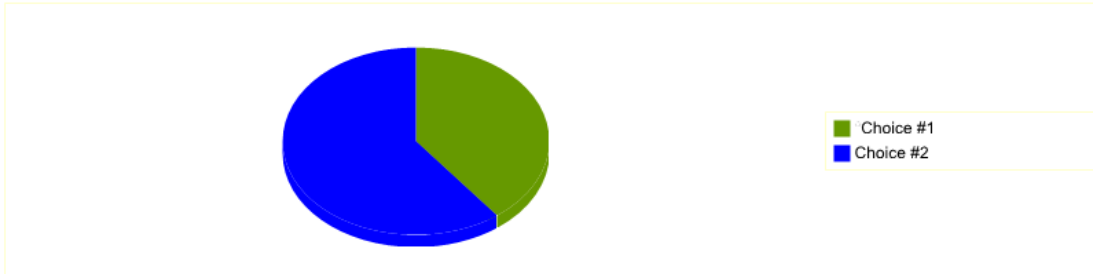
Most Missed Question 3:

Applicable Rule: 7-3-8

Guidance: The pass being intercepted four yards in front of the intended receiver means that the pass is uncatchable. This would be analogous to a pass that goes 10 feet over the receiver's head—no pass interference would be called in that case since the pass is uncatchable.

3/10 @ A-40... The QB pass intended for the wide receiver at the B-43 is intercepted by a defender at the B-47. Just prior to the interception by the defender the receiver is hit by another defensive back. Team B returns the interception for a touchdown.

1. ❌ (1041, 39.64%) A, 1/10 @ B-45; foul for defensive pass interference
2. ✅ (1585, 60.36%) Team B touchdown



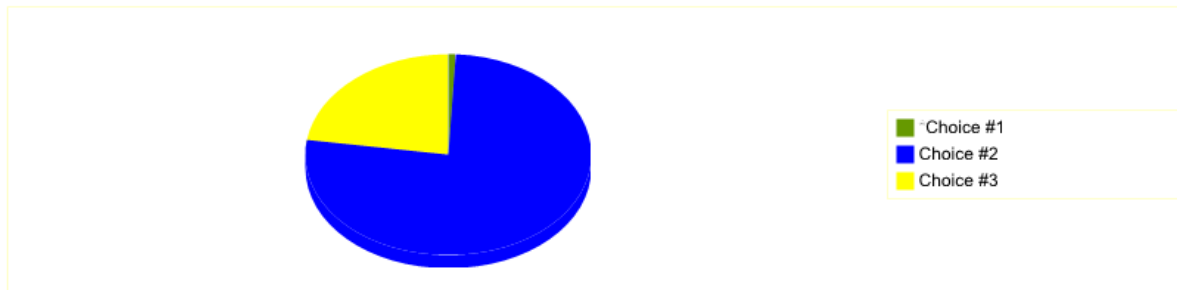
Most Missed Question 4:

Applicable Rule: 9-3-4-e, 2-19-3

Guidance: The issue is whether the penalty for defensive holding includes an automatic first down. An automatic first down is part of the penalty only if the ball crosses the neutral zone. And since the defensive lineman touches the ball two yards behind the neutral zone, then by definition the pass has not crossed the neutral zone; so the penalty does not include an automatic first down.

2/12 @ B-35. As the wide receiver moves downfield he is held by the defensive back. The pass is tipped by a defensive lineman at the B-37 and falls short of the Team A receiver at the B-29.

1. ❌ (22, 0.84%) A, 1/10 @ B-20
2. ✅ (2009, 76.48%) A, 2/2 @ B-25
3. ❌ (596, 22.69%) A, 1/10 @ B-25



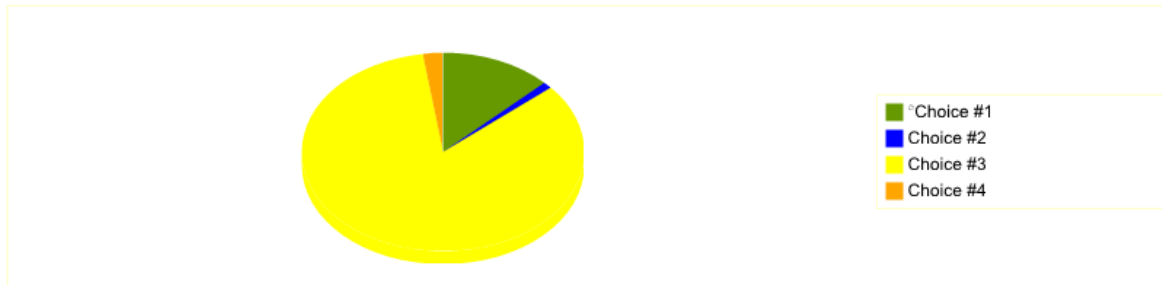
Most Missed Question 5:

Applicable Rule: 3-3-2-e-17, 3-4-4, 5-2-6-b

Guidance: When the referee winds the clock this makes the ball ready for play and establishes the goal line as the line to gain. The Team A striking foul causes the clock to stop, which satisfies the requirement for the 10-second runoff. Because the line to gain is established, Team A still has first and goal after the 15-yard penalty.

Late in the half Team A completes the pass to the B-9 for a first down. The ball is spotted at the right hash with Team A hustling to the line to get a snap off. After the referee winds the clock and before the ball is snapped, a Team A player pushes/strikes his opponent who is heading back to the Team B side of the ball. When the clock is stopped for the dead-ball foul it reads 0:25. Team A is out of timeouts. Following the penalty it will be ??

1. ❌ (336, 12.69%) A, 1/10 @ B-24; 0:15 seconds; clock on the ready for play
2. ❌ (31, 1.17%) A, 1/10 @ B-24; 0:25 remains; clock on the ready for play
3. ✅ (2217, 83.76%) A, 1/goal @ B-24; 0:15 seconds; clock on the ready for play
4. ❌ (63, 2.38%) A, 1/goal @ B-24; 0:25 remains; clock on the ready for play



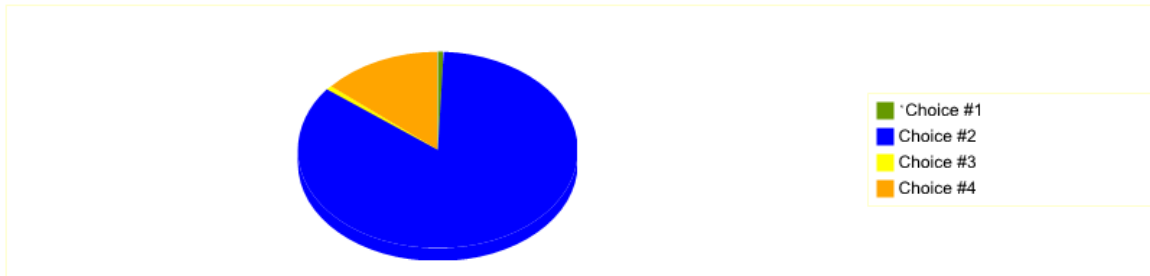
Most Missed Question 6:

Applicable Rule: 2-30-1, 10-2-2

Guidance: The foul takes place during a pass play and the penalty is subject to Three-and-One enforcement. The previous spot is the basic spot on pass plays, and penalties for defensive fouls are enforced at the basic spot.

2/27 @ B-47. As the wide receiver moves downfield the defensive back grabs and twists him by the facemask at the B-42. The QB subsequently throws a pass to the tight end who is tackled at the B-39.

1. ❌ (18, 0.69%) A, 1/10 B-42
2. ✅ (2225, 84.76%) A, 1/10 B-32
3. ❌ (20, 0.76%) A, 1/10 B-39
4. ❌ (362, 13.79%) A, 1/10 B-24



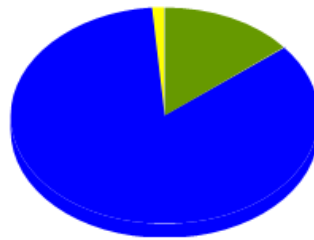
Most Missed Question 7:

Applicable Rule: 9-2-1, 10-2-2, 8-5-1-b

Guidance: This is a live-ball foul for unsportsmanlike conduct. Since the play ends in a touchback the basic spot is the 20, and the foul is behind the basic spot—a spot foul.

2/20 @ B-30. Team B intercepts a pass in their end zone and while running, prior to taking a knee for a touchback, taunts a Team A opponent.

1. ❌ (377, 14.25%) Following the touchback B's ball 1/10 @ B-10
2. ✅ (2236, 84.50%) Spot foul results in a 2-point safety for Team A
3. ❌ (33, 1.25%) A, 1/10 @ B-15, automatic first down



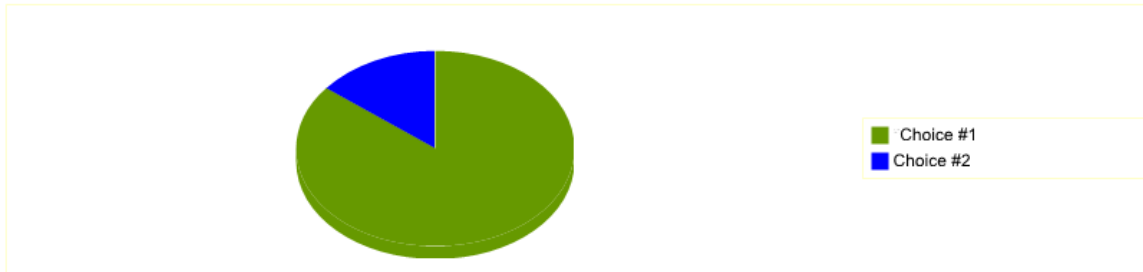
Most Missed Question 8:

Applicable Rule: 12-3-4

Guidance: Instant Replay may review touching of a kick, but not whether the touching was forced. That is a judgment for the on-field officials only.

On a punt the ball is rolling near the 10-yard line and is surrounded by four Kicking Team players. For some reason there is also one receiving team player near the ball. Seeing the opportunity the kickers block the receiver into the ball and subsequently recover it at the 5-yard line. The officials rule that the ball was touched by the receivers and award the ball to the kicking team.

1. ✓ (2260, 85.64%) K's Ball 1/Goal @ B-5 (forced touching is not reviewable)
2. ✗ (379, 14.36%) Replay overturns the call – based on forced touching to B, 1/10 @ B-5



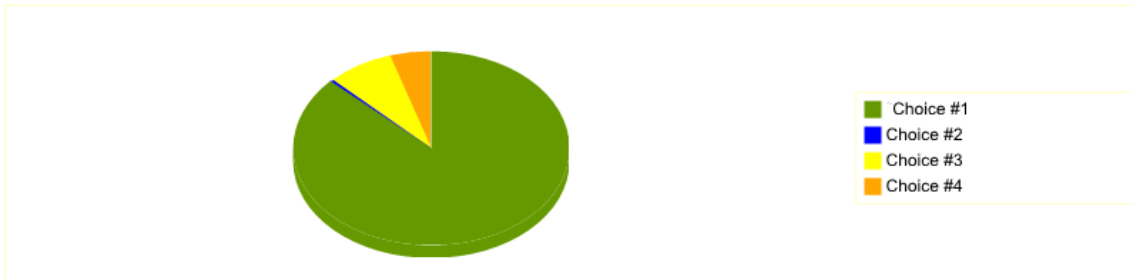
Most Missed Question 9:

Applicable Rule: 9-1-9, 10-2-2, 3-3-2-d, 3-3-2-e

Guidance: The penalty for roughing the passer is enforced at the previous spot because of the change of possession during the down. The clock starts on the referee's signal because Team A gets a first down by penalty. After the change of possession Team B will not next snap the ball.

2/4 @ A-38. QB passes to a Receiver at the A-45. He catches the ball and is hit and fumbles at the 50. The ball is recovered immediately by the defense at the B-48. After the pass, Team B was call for roughing the passer.

1. ✔️ (2284, 87.04%) A, 1/10 B-47; clock on the ready for play
2. ❌ (9, 0.34%) A, 1/10 B-48; clock on the snap
3. ❌ (205, 7.81%) A, 1/10 B-35; clock on the ready for play
4. ❌ (126, 4.80%) A, 1/10 B-47; clock on the snap



Most Missed Question 10:

Applicable Rule: 3-3-5-f

Guidance: The injury to a player on defense means that the play clock is set at 40 seconds. The injury stops the game clock, so there is a 10-second runoff and the clock starts on the referee's signal.

3/8 @ 50. Team A is ahead 17-14 and Team B is out of team timeouts. Immediately after the 3rd down play ends at the B-45 with 45-seconds on the clock and the game clock running, a Team B player is down on the ground injured.

1. ❌ (33, 1.24%) Play clock = 25"; game clock (0:45) on the ready for play
2. ❌ (80, 3.00%) Play clock = 40"; game clock (0:45) on the ready for play
3. ❌ (265, 9.94%) Play clock = 25"; 10" zap; game clock (0:35) ready for play
4. ✅ (2289, 85.83%) Play clock = 40"; 10" zap; game clock (0:35) on the ready

