

2013

Southern California Collegiate Football Officials Association Summer Study Guide

1. Fourth and eight at the A-45. After the punt is away, defensive lineman B66 holds A88 behind the neutral zone at the A-40. B44 catches the kick at the B-23 and returns to the B-40 where he is tackled. Ruling: Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-13
2. Running back A28, who at the snap is stationary and partially inside both the tackle box and the frame of the body of the second lineman from the snapper may only block below the waist along a north-south line or toward his adjacent sideline.
3. On free kicks the play clock will start when the back judge hands the ball to the kicker.
4. The game clock will start on the referee's ready for play signal after a running play out of bounds for a new first down during the entire game.
5. It is a foul to grab the quarterback by the back of jersey and immediately pull him to the ground while he is still in the tackle box.
6. In the event of an injured player(s) an official will declare a timeout and the player(s) must leave the game. He must remain out of the game for at least one down.
7. Fourth and three at the Team A 40 yard line. B intercepts A's legal forward pass and advances across A's goal line. B was offside. A accepts the penalty. The clock will start on the ready as Team A is awarded a first down after enforcement of the penalty.
8. A period shall be extended for an untimed down if a penalty is accepted for a live-ball foul by either team, unless the statement of the penalty includes loss of down.
9. During the 3rd quarter the Center's helmet comes off during the play. No foul was called causing the helmet to come off the Center's head. The Center may remain in the game if his team is granted a charged timeout.
10. The plane of the goal line includes the two pylons. This plane is extended for an airborne player that leaves the ground with the ball only if he next touches a pylon or the ground in the end zone.
11. B16 muffs the opening kick-off in flight in his end-zone. To prevent Team A from recovering the ball for a TD, B16 bats the rolling ball out the back of the end-zone. Ruling: Safety
12. On a sweep to right, left guard A65, in the blocking zone blocks nose guard B53. The block is from behind and initial contact is below the knee. Ruling: Legal block.
13. The penalty for roughing the kicker is enforced at the previous spot and carries an automatic first down, even though the foul takes place during the kick.
14. Beyond the neutral zone, receiver A36 is about to receive a legal forward pass. B18 drives into his helmet into A36 prior to the pass arriving. Ruling: A foul for Defensive Pass Interference is the only option.
15. When it is obvious that a scrimmage kick will be made, no opponent shall run into or rough the kicker even if the kicker has carried the ball outside the tackle box before kicking.
16. If the game clock is stopped and will start on the referee's signal with two seconds or one second on the game clock there is enough time for only one play.
17. A lineman positioned more than seven yards from the center (middle lineman) of the formation is restricted in regards to blocking below the waist.
18. Unsportsmanlike Conduct fouls (by players) are enforced as either live ball or dead ball fouls depending on when they occur.

19. The receiving team on all kicks (except field-goal attempts) will have the option of enforcing the penalty for all kicking team fouls either at the previous spot or at the spot where the subsequent dead ball belongs to the receiving team.
20. "Targeting" means that a player takes aim at an opponent for purposes of attacking with an apparent intent that goes beyond making a legal tackle or a legal block or playing the ball.
21. It is illegal for a player to go out of bounds to block an opponent who is out of bounds. This is a personal foul and the 15-yard penalty is enforced from the spot of the block.
22. The penalty for targeting fouls in the first half now includes disqualification for the remainder of the game. For targeting fouls in the second half the penalty includes disqualification for the remainder of the game and the first half of the next game.
23. To legally "Ground" the ball the passer, while still in the tackle box, needs only have an eligible receiver in the area where he throws the ball. The receiver no longer needs to have an opportunity to catch the pass.
24. Third and 15 at the A-45. Quarterback A12 drops back to pass and is sacked by tackle B77 for a 10-yard loss. B77 leaps to his feet, beats his chest and stands over A12 taunting him, drawing flags from the referee and the line judge. After enforcement of the penalty it will be Team A's ball, fourth and 10 at the 50 yard line.
25. The low-blocking zone is the rectangle that extends seven yards laterally in each direction from the snapper, five yards beyond the neutral zone and back to Team A's end line. The low-blocking zone disintegrates when the ball leaves the zone.
26. Dead-ball contact fouls such as pushing, shoving, striking, etc. that occur clearly after the ball is dead and that are not part of the game action are now unsportsmanlike conduct fouls.
27. Team A back A22 is in motion directly behind the snapper when the ball is snapped. While the ball is still inside the low-blocking zone, he blocks below the waist against linebacker B55, the block being at B55's side (i.e., at "3 o'clock"). The block is made inside the low-blocking zone behind the neutral zone. RULING: Illegal Block
28. No defensive player who is in or outside the tackle box may try to block a punt by leaving his feet in an attempt to leap directly over an opponent.
29. After the ball is ready for play, Team A comes to the line and fails to get all eleven players set for a full second before snapping the ball. Let the play continue, this is a live-ball foul resulting in a 5-yard penalty.
30. Team A is in its formation to kick off at the A-35. Two players, A33 and A66, are positioned in a four-point stance with their feet on the A-29 and their hands on the A-31. The untouched kick hits the ground in Team B's end zone and is declared dead. RULING: Touchback. Team A foul, illegal formation.
31. Formation of a wedge on free kicks is not a foul when the kick results in a touchback or from an obvious on-side kick.
32. Team B players may not block below the waist against an opponent who is in position to receive a backward pass; or, against an eligible Team A pass receiver beyond the neutral zone unless attempting to get to the ball or ball carrier until a legal forward pass is no longer possible by rule.
33. The Team A runner goes out of bounds with 2:00 remaining in the second quarter. After spotting the ball the game clock will start on the ready for play.
34. Team A completes a pass to the tight end who runs for a touchdown. The left tackle is called for holding. Following the 10-yard previous spot penalty the game clock will start on the ready for play.

35. It is possible to have a foul for roughing the passer even if the passer throws an illegal forward pass.
36. During a down in which there is a free kick, scrimmage kick, or after any changes of possession, blocking below the waist by any player is illegal except against the ball carrier.
37. Third and 10 at the B-20. Team A QB throws a touchdown pass on the last timed down of the fourth quarter, trailing 21-20. The LJ correctly rules the QB/passers over the line of scrimmage when the pass was thrown from the B-18. RULING: Fourth and 13 at the B-23. Untimed down; previous spot foul and loss of down.
38. The definition of a defenseless player includes a receiver attempting to catch a pass, or one who has completed a catch and has not had time to protect himself or has not clearly become a ball carrier.
39. On a conversion try that started at the B 3 yard line, B-47 commits D.P.I. in his own end zone. After the penalty is enforced, the ball will next be snapped from the B 2 yard line.
40. Professional medical personnel must approve the return of any injured or bleeding player for whom the officials have stopped the clock for an injury timeout.
41. When in question it is a foul for situations involving targeting an opponent or initiating contact with the crown of the helmet.
42. When a player enters the game after changing his jersey number, he must report to the referee, who then informs the opposing head coach and announces the change. A player who enters the game after changing his number and does not report commits a foul for unsportsmanlike conduct.
43. If a player goes to the ground in the act of catching a pass (with or without contact by an opponent) he must maintain complete and continuous control of the ball throughout the process of contacting the ground, whether in the field of play or in the end zone.
44. Beginning in 2013, Post Scrimmage Kick enforcement applies to Team B fouls that occur during the scrimmage kick and are no longer limited to fouls that occur three or more yards beyond the neutral zone.
45. On tries for point and in extra periods, fouls by the scoring team after a change of team possession cancel the score and the down is not replayed.
46. It is a foul for roughing or running into the kicker if the defender is blocked (illegally or legally) into the kicker.
47. On a free kick, catch interference occurs at the A-45. The ball subsequently goes out of bounds at the 50-yard line untouched by Team B. Team B may accept or decline either penalty.
48. Team A snaps the ball at the A-35 on fourth and seven. Just after the snap lineman B77 grabs guard A66 and pulls him to one side, allowing linebacker B63 to shoot the gap to try to block the kick. B44 catches the kick at the B-25 and returns to the B-40 where he is tackled. Ruling: The 10-yard penalty is enforced at the post scrimmage kick spot. Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-15.
49. Team A has been set for one second when the fullback moves to a new position. He stops, but before one second elapses the ball is snapped. The HL and LJ correctly throw flags for an illegal shift.
50. Team B player catches a long punt at the B-10 and is tackled at the B-22. During the runback, a Team B player holds on the B-24. Team A was in illegal formation at the snap. RULING: Fouls offset and Team A repeats fourth down, no option.