

2021

Southern California Collegiate Football Officials Association Summer Study Guide

1. A second jersey meeting all requirements of Rule 1-4-5 worn concurrently is allowed. Vests and/or altered jerseys with zippers, Velcro, clasps or other fasteners are also allowed.
2. A player disqualified for Targeting will be declared ineligible for further participation in the game, and the player may now remain in the team area.
3. "Targeting" means that a player takes aim at an opponent and makes forcible contact either with the crown (top) of his helmet; or to the head or neck area of a defenseless opponent". The crown of the helmet is the portion of the helmet above the level of the top of the facemask. When in question it is a foul for targeting.
4. Second and five at the A-15 A45 runs a sweep to his right and is hit at the A-12 where he fumbles the ball as he is tackled by the collar. The fumble is picked up by teammate A30 who carries the ball to the A-35. B55 is flagged for the horse collar tackle against A45 prior to his fumble. RULING: A 1/10 at the A-35.
5. The game officials shall test and be sole judge of not more than ten balls offered for play by each team before and during the game. The game officials may approve additional balls if warranted by conditions.
6. A sliding ball carrier, who has obviously given himself up and is sliding feet-first, is considered down and the ball is dead at the forward-most point at which he begins his slide. This sliding ball carrier is also protected under the defenseless-player portion of the targeting rules.
7. Team A, first and goal at the B-9 yard line, right hash mark. Quarterback A10 throws a pass to wide out A85 in the deep left corner of the end zone. Defender B27 contacts A85 in the end zone while the catchable pass is in the air. The Back Judge has a flag down for DPI. RULING: Team A, first and goal at the B-2 yard line, left hash.
8. Defensive team substitution infractions fouls can be either live ball or dead ball fouls.
9. When any Squad Member enters the playing enclosure prior to the officials escorting the captains out for the coin toss, the head coach or an assistant coach from that team must be present on the field. Any squad member present within the playing enclosure subsequent to the officials' jurisdiction, must be wearing their jersey or have their numeral readily visible. Players without their numeral readily visible must leave the playing enclosure.
10. Team A ball 2nd and eight and the B-38 yard line. During the play, the ball carrier fumbles at the B-35 and several players dive for the ball. B55 grabs A33 and slings him off the pile. RULING: B55 is charged with a foul for unsportsmanlike conduct. 15 yards and automatic first down.
11. If the offense is in a scrimmage kick formation at the snap, any defensive player within one yard of the line of scrimmage must be aligned completely outside the frame of the body of the snapper at the snap.
12. For free-kicks only: After the ball has been kicked, it is illegal for two or more members of the receiving team to intentionally align shoulder to shoulder within two yards of each other for the purpose of blocking for the ball carrier. This is a live-ball foul, whether or not there is contact between opponents. There is no foul if the play results in a Touchback, Free Kick Out of Bounds or Fair Catch.

13. A blind side block is defined as an open field block against an opponent that is initiated from outside the opponent's field of vision, or otherwise in such a manner that the opponent cannot reasonably defend himself against the block. (Exceptions: (1) the runner; (2) a receiver in the act of attempting to make a catch.) It is a Personal Foul if a player delivers a blind-side block by attacking an opponent with forcible contact. In addition, if this action meets all the elements of targeting, it is a blind-slide block with targeting.
14. Beyond the neutral zone, receiver A36 is about to receive a legal forward pass. B18 lowers his head and drives his helmet with forcible contact into A36 prior to the pass arriving. The pass falls incomplete. Ruling: A foul for Defensive Pass Interference is the only option.
15. Defensive end B88 blocks below the waist against tackle A75 three yards beyond the line of scrimmage. The initial contact of the block is at A75's side. RULING: Legal block.
16. No undergarment (e.g., T-shirt) shall extend below the waistline at the torso. Players with knee pads that are significantly above the knee or t-shirts that are untucked and hanging down below the top of the pants are to be sent out of the game to correct the issue.
17. Team A players may not block below the waist when the block occurs more than five yards beyond the neutral zone.
18. For 2021 the Rules Committee has made a permanent extension of the Team Area and Coaching Box between the 20-yard lines.
19. No more than two Squad Members may be assigned or wear the same jersey number.
20. Team A punts on fourth and seven at the A-35. At the snap Team A has five players in the backfield. The kick is partially blocked, lands at the A-38 and then goes back behind the neutral zone and rolls out of bounds at the A-32. RULING: Team B may have the ball, first and 10 at the A-27 or have Team A repeat fourth down at the A-30.
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. 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 B43 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: Team B ball first and ten at the B-15 yard line.
23. Indicators of targeting include but are not limited to a launch (player leaving his feet to attack an opponent by an upward and forward thrust of the body to make forcible contact in the head or neck area), a crouch followed by an upward and forward thrust to attack with forcible contact at the head or neck area, even though one or both feet are still on the ground, leading with helmet, shoulder, forearm, fist, hand or elbow to attack with forcible contact at the head or neck area, and lowering the head before attacking by initiating forcible contact with the crown of the helmet.
24. All fouls that have an option to carry over to the succeeding kickoff will also contain an option to carry over to the succeeding spot in extra periods.
25. The penalty for a team not complying with the jersey rule (i.e., legal and contrasting numbers or a colored jersey in violation of the rule) will be a 15-yard penalty after the kickoff of each half and the loss of a timeout in each quarter that illegal jerseys are worn.
26. Team A runs a reverse, and A78 blocks defensive lineman B45 outside of his field of vision at the A-18. The block is forcible with significant thrust and contact is made at the side of B45. RULING: Foul.

27. First and 10 at the A-40. A12 takes the snap and starts on a sweep to his right. Guard A66 pulls and leads the play. As the play develops linebacker B55 blocks A66 from the front at the thigh at the A-44. A12 is driven out of bounds at the A-48. RULING: No foul. B55's block below the waist is legal because it occurs from the front and fewer than 5 yards beyond the neutral zone.
28. Team A, second and eight at the B-45 yard line. After passer A17 releases the ball, B68 takes two strides and charges into A17, showing no attempt to avoid contact. The Referee has a flag down for roughing the passer. Receiver A88 catches the pass and runs to the B-4 yard line where he is tackled from behind and fumbles the ball forward and through the Team B end zone. RULING: Team A, first and 10 at the B-30 yard line.
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. Beginning with the second extra period, teams scoring a touchdown must attempt a two point try. Although not illegal, a one-point try attempt by Team A will not result in a score. Beginning with the third extra period, a team's possession series will be one play for a two-point try from the three-yard line, unless relocated by penalty.
31. Fourth and 10 at the 50-yard line. B17 is at Team B's 20-yard line and in position to catch Team A's high scrimmage kick. During the downward flight of the ball, A37 contacts B17 and the Back Judge throws his flag. B17 catches the kick and advances to the B-30 yard line. RULING: Team B 1 and 10 at the B-45.
32. During a free kick, if a Team B receiver gives a fair catch signal, valid or invalid, and subsequently catches the ball behind the B-25 yard line the ball belongs to Team B at its own 25-yard line.
33. A period shall be extended for an untimed down if a penalty is accepted for a live-ball foul(s) that occurs during a down in which time expires. At the option of the offended team, the period is not extended if the foul is by the team in possession and the statement of the penalty includes loss of down.
34. Both teams come onto the field wearing colored jerseys. The Visiting team has not obtained written agreement from the home team to wear other than white jerseys. The Home team wins the toss, elects to receive and completes a fair catch of the opening kickoff at the B-5. RULING: B 1/10 @ B-25. Charge Team B with a timeout for illegal jerseys.
35. Team A kicks off at its 30-yard line. Receiving team players B67 and B80 drop back to block for the return, with B67 at the A-16 and B-80 at the A-14. Receiver B22 catches the ball at the B-6 and returns it to the B-40 where he is tackled. RULING: Legal play.
36. Second and 5 at the B-40. Quarterback A14 drops back to pass and Tackle A78 holds defensive lineman B65 at the B-45 yard line. A14 scrambles and is tackled at the B-35 yard line. RULING: A 2/20 at the A-45.
37. Team A trails 28 – 21, and throws a desperation pass on the last timed down of the game. The ball is caught by A88 in the end zone for a Touchdown. After the QB released the pass, he was roughed by B55. RULING: A, Try, B-1 ½ is Team A's only option as there will not be a succeeding kickoff.
38. First and 10 @ A-20. Team A runs a reverse and A78 blocks defensive lineman B45 outside of his field of vision at the A-18. The block is made with the hands of A78 who pushes B45 from the side. The run ends at the A-25. Ruling No foul. A 2/5 @ A-25.
39. During the game, coaches, squad members, and authorized attendants in the team area may not be on the field of play or outside the 20-yard lines to protest an officiating decision. Coaches that do so will have committed an automatic Unsportsmanlike Conduct foul.

40. When an offensive player is in a passing posture with one or both feet on the ground, no defensive player rushing unabated shall hit him forcibly at the knee area or below. However, it is not a foul if the defender grabs or wraps this opponent in an attempt to make a conventional tackle without making forcible contact with the head or shoulder.
41. 3/5 @ B-35. Team B has 12 players in the formation, and B44 recognizes that he is the 12th player and is attempting to leave the field. When the ball is snapped, B44 is on the field but his next stride takes him off the field. A44 gains 3 yards and is tackled inbounds. RULING: A, 1/10, B-30, Ready Live ball foul by B44. To not be counted as the 12th player, B44 must be off of the field.
42. Second and seven at the A-25. Team A is ahead in the score late in the second quarter. When ball carrier A22 is tackled in the field of play, the game clock reads 1:47. The umpire reports to the referee that he has a flag for holding by snapper A55. On the play, A22 gained nine yards. RULING: After enforcement of the penalty, the game clock starts on the referee's signal, no option for Team B.
43. On a kickoff at the A-35, Team A executes an on-side kick. A50 blocks B85 before Team B touches the ball or before the ball travels ten yards. A80 recovers at the A-46. RULING: Foul by Team A for blocking before they are eligible to touch the ball on an on-side kick. Team B 1st and 10 @ A-41.
44. It is a foul if a player grabs the nameplate area of a ball carriers jersey and immediately pulls the ball carrier down. It is not 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.
45. First and 10 at the B-30. A14's pass is complete to A82 at the B-20. He carries the ball to the B-10 where he fumbles with A46 recovering there. Prior to the pass, B71 was flagged for hands to the face. RULING: After enforcement of the penalty, it will be A's ball: First and goal at the B-5.
46. With Team A in a scrimmage kick formation, nose tackle B55 is lined up within the frame of the snapper and in the gap between the snapper and the RG. Immediately after the snap he rushes but only makes contact with the RG. RULING: Legal since B55 did not contact the snapper.
47. Persons subject to the rules, including bands, video / audio / lighting systems operators shall not create any noise or distraction that prohibits a team from hearing its signals or obstructs play. The penalty statement will now include that the Referee may take any action he considers equitable, which includes directing that the down be repeated, including assessing a 15-yard penalty, awarding a score, or suspending or forfeiting the game.
48. Team A runs a reverse, and A78 blocks defensive lineman B45 outside of his field of vision at the A-18. The block is forcible with significant thrust and contact is made to the head and neck area of B45. RULING: Foul for blind side block is the only option.
49. On the opening kickoff, B22 catches the kick at his goal line and returns the ball down the sideline on Team B's side of the field. As he moves down the sideline officiating the play, the side judge must run around a Team B coach or squad member in the restricted area ("the white"). B22 is driven out of bounds at the A-20. RULING: First infraction: Warning for sideline interference. No yardage penalty.
50. Team A kicks off at its 30-yard line. During the kick receiving team players B67 and B80 drop back and form a two-man wedge at their 16-yard line to block for the return. Receiver B22 catches the ball at the B-6 and returns it to the B-40 where he is tackled. In an attempt to "break up" the wedge A44 dives and hits B67 at the knees at the B-18. RULING: Offsetting fouls, and Team A re-kicks at the previous spot.