

2025 NCAA FOOTBALL MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES

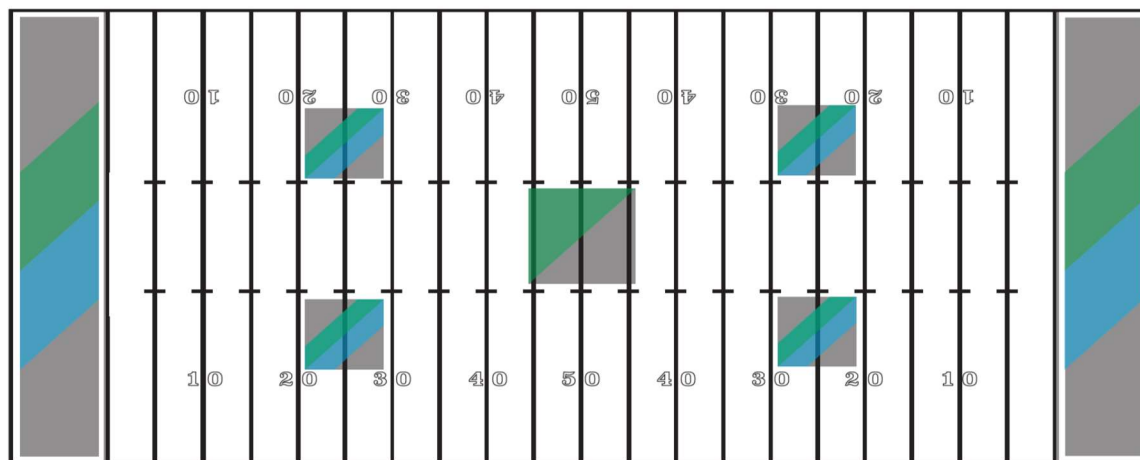
Rule 1-2-1-h

h. Advertising is prohibited on the field except as follows:

1. During the regular season, a commercial entity, commercial sponsor, or individual may advertise on the field in any of the seven locations designated for contrasting decorative markings (i.e. one midfield logo centered on the 50-yard line, four smaller flanking logos, and two end zones). Only one advertisement / logo is allowed per location. These advertisements must adhere to paragraph f above. No other advertisements may be on the field. (See Appendix D for Examples of Permissible Field Markings.)

2. For postseason games and neutral-site games with a title sponsor whose name is associated with the name of that game may also advertise on the field, with the restriction that there be a maximum of three such advertisements: a single advertisement centered on the 50-yard line and no more than two smaller flanking advertisements. Two additional flanking locations are available for these games. These advertisements must adhere to paragraph f above. No other advertisements may be on the field. (See Appendix D for Examples of Permissible Field Markings.)

Football



During the regular season, a commercial entity, commercial sponsor, or individual may advertise on the field in any of the seven locations designated for contrasting decorative markings (i.e. one midfield logo centered on the 50-yard line, four smaller flanking logos, and two end zones). Only one advertisement / logo is allowed per location. The entirety of all yard lines, goal lines, and sidelines must be clearly visible. No portion of any such line may be obscured by decorative markings. No such markings may touch or enclose the hash marks or numbers.

For postseason games and neutral-site games with a title sponsor whose name is associated with the name of that game may also advertise on the field, with the restriction that there be a maximum of three such advertisements: a single advertisement centered on the 50-yard line and no more than two smaller flanking advertisements. Two additional flanking locations are available for these games.

Inventory:

- Team
- Conference
- Commercial

Rule 3-3-6-b

b. Feigning an injury for any reason is unethical. An injured player must be given full protection under the rules, but feigning an injury is dishonest, unsportsmanlike and contrary to the spirit of the rules. For questionable game action, a participating institution or conference has the option to consult the national coordinator of football officials who would then facilitate a video review. After the review, the national coordinator will communicate any findings to the conference office for further action. Attention is directed to the statement in The Football Code (Coaching Ethics, Section g).

Rule 4-1-3-b Exception

b. When any part of the ball carrier's body, except the hand or foot, touches the ground or when the ball carrier is tackled or otherwise falls and loses possession of the ball as they contact the ground with any part of their body, except the hand or foot [**Exception:** The ball remains alive when an offensive player has simulated a kick or at the snap is in position to kick the ball held for a place kick by a teammate .The ball may be kicked, passed, handed or advanced by rule] (A.R.4-1-3-I).

Rule 8-5-1-a Exception

It is not a safety if a player between their own team's five-yard line and goal line:

- (a) intercepts a pass or fumble; or recovers an opponent's fumble or backward pass; or catches or recovers an opponent's kick; and
- (b) the player's original momentum carries that player into their own end zone; and
- (c) the ball remains behind that team's goal line and is declared dead in that team's possession there. This includes a fumble that goes from the end zone into the field of play and out of bounds (Rule 7-2-4-b-1).

If conditions (a)-(c) are satisfied above, the ball belongs to this player's team at the spot where that player gained possession.

Rule 9-1-6-a

ARTICLE 6.a. *Team A prior to a change of team possession:*

1. Linemen with initial position completely inside the tackle box may legally block below the waist inside the tackle box on their initial line charge. A block initiated 1-yard beyond the neutral zone is considered within the tackle box. After the initial line charge, these linemen may block below the waist within the tackle box until the ball leaves the tackle box only if the force of the initial contact is directed from the front.
2. Stationary Backs lined up with any part of their body inside the tackle box may block below the waist within the tackle box until the ball leaves the tackle box only if the force of the initial contact is directed from the front. A block initiated 1-yard beyond the neutral zone is considered within the tackle box.

“Directed from the front” is defined as within the clock face region between “10 o’clock and 2 o’clock” forward of the area of concentration of the player being blocked.

3. All other Team A players are not allowed to block below the waist.

Rule 9-1-9-a

ARTICLE 9.a.No defensive player shall unnecessarily rough a passer, when it is obvious the ball has been thrown. The following actions are illegal, but not limited to:

1. Targeting fouls as noted in Rules 9-1-3 and 9-1-4.
2. Forcible contact to the head or neck area that does not meet the requirements of Rule 9-1-4 (also reference Rule 9-1-2).
3. Forcible contact that is avoidable after it is obvious the ball has left the passer’s hand.
(**Exception:** A defensive player who is blocked by a Team A player[s] with a force so that they have no opportunity to avoid contact with the passer. However, this does not relieve the defensive player of responsibility for personal fouls as described in elsewhere in this section.).
4. Forcibly driving the passer to the ground and landing on the passer with action that punishes the player.
5. Any action that is a personal foul as described elsewhere in this section.

Note: For 1, 2, & 4 above, this includes contact to an offensive player in a passing posture with focus downfield.

Rule 9-2-5-b Penalty

b. Physical interference with an official is a foul charged to the team for unsportsmanlike conduct unless the individual can be readily identified. (A.R.9-2-5-I)

PENALTY—Team unsportsmanlike conduct unless the individual can be readily identified.

Administer as a dead-ball foul. 15 yards from the succeeding spot. Automatic first down for fouls by Team B if not in conflict with other rules. [S27]

Rule 10-2-2-b

b. Fouls by the offensive team behind the neutral zone.

For the following fouls committed by the offensive team behind the neutral zone, the penalty is enforced at the previous spot: illegal use of hands, holding, illegal block, personal fouls and **Unsportsmanlike Conduct**. (**Exception:** If the foul occurs in Team A’s end zone the penalty is a safety.). However, see Rule 6-3-13 for offensive team fouls during scrimmage kick plays.

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