

2026
Southern California Collegiate Football Officials Association
Summer Study Guide

1. Consecutive charged team timeouts by the same team are not allowed in the same dead-ball period.
2. A block below the waist is a block in which the force of the initial contact is below the waist of an opponent who has one or both feet on the ground. When in question, the contact is at or above the waist.
3. 2/4 @ B-15. Wide receiver A8 commits an illegal blind side block with targeting on linebacker B32 with 0:54 remaining in the fourth period. RULING: A8 is disqualified for the remainder of the game and the first half of the next game.
4. 3/5 @ B-10. A12's pass is intercepted by B6 in B's end zone. From there, he fumbles into the field of play where A55 bats the grounded loose ball at the B-5 to prevent B92 from recovering. The loose ball rolls out of bounds in the end zone. RULING: B 1/10 @ B30 - Snap.
5. Any Team B player within one yard of the line of scrimmage (stationary or not) may not make quick and abrupt or exaggerated actions that simulate action at the snap and are not part of normal defensive player movement in an obvious attempt to make the offense foul (false start).
6. A team will not be charged with a timeout if the coach's challenge results in the ruling on the field being overturned.
7. 3/10 @ A-25. A12 completes a pass to A88 at the A-30, and A88 runs to the A-34 where he fumbles. A81 recovers the loose ball at the A-36. During the pass, B54 is flagged for Unsportsmanlike Conduct. RULING: Team A, 1/10, B-49, Ready.
8. *Team A prior to a change of team possession*, 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. A 4/18 @ A-48. With potential punter A4 lined up 12 yards behind the snapper, Team A does not have five linemen numbered 50-79 in the game. They line up with A80, A33, A27, and A8 to the left of snapper A49, and A31, A88 to the right. Ends A80 and A88 are outside the tackle box with the other five players in the tackle box. No other players are on the line of scrimmage. A49 snaps the ball and A4 punts the ball through the end zone for a touchback. RULING: Legal formation B 1/10 @ B-20.

12. A 4/10 @ A-30. Team A has potential punter A94 lined up 12 yards directly behind the snapper and does not have five linemen numbered 50-B9 in the formation. A33 and A27 are to the left of snapper A49, and A8, A31, and A18 to the right. They have gunner A80 on the left and A89 on the right side of the field on the line and three backs (including the punter) in place. Prior to the snap, Team A shifts A89 one yard back off the line of scrimmage. A49 snaps the ball and A94 punts the ball through the end zone for a touchback. RULING: Legal formation B 1/10 @ B-20.
13. A 1/10 @ A-45. A32 runs around the right end tightroping the sideline and is ruled out of bounds by the line judge at the 50 as A32 continues down the sideline into the end zone. There is video evidence that A32 did not step out of bounds. RULING: Reviewable and the head coach can challenge.
14. A 1/Goal @ B-10. A 32 runs around the right end tightroping the sideline and is ruled out of bounds by the line judge at the B-4 as A32 continues down the sideline into the end zone. There is video evidence that A32 did not step out of bounds. RULING: This is reviewable because A32 scored a touchdown in the immediate continuing action. After review, Touchdown A try @ B-3.
15. Spiking the ball is always to be called as an Unsportsmanlike Conduct foul.
16. A 1/10 @ B-35. Tight end A82 runs five yards downfield and blocks the cornerback in the left flat. After A82's blocking action, quarterback A12 completes a deep pass down the right sideline to eligible A24. RULING: Foul for offensive pass interference. A 1/25 @ B-20.
17. 1/10 @ A-25. Defender B70 is lined up with his right hand and helmet in the neutral zone. As the play clock winds down, restricted lineman A77 reaches out and touches B70. RULING: Dead ball foul, offside B70, lining up in the neutral zone, resulting in Team A 1/5 @ A-30.
18. After the Two Minute Timeout, if the game clock is stopped to complete a penalty for a foul by the team ahead in the score (or either team if the score is tied) and the clock would start by rule on the referee's signal, it will start on the snap, at the option of the offended team.
19. Linebacker B56 is stationary within one yard beyond the neutral zone. As the offense is calling its snap signals, B56 feints toward the line in an obvious attempt to induce a false start by the offense. RULING: Dead-ball foul, delay of game. Five-yard penalty at the succeeding spot.
20. A 1/10 @ B-15. Safety B35 realizes he is the 12th player and leaves the field from the back of his end zone just prior to the snap. RULING: Live-ball foul enforced from previous spot or succeeding spot.
21. A Team A player interferes with the opportunity to catch a kick (not a try) during a down in which time expires in the first quarter. RULING: Penalty—15 yards from the spot of the foul. The period is not extended and the penalty will be enforced at the beginning of the second quarter.
22. When a fumble comes to rest inbounds and no player attempts to secure it in advance of the spot of the fumble, the ball belongs to the fumbling team at the dead ball spot.

23. 1/10 @ B-25. Defensive end B88 is lined up on the outside shoulder of tackle of A75. On the initial line charge, B88 blocks tackle A75 below the waist from the side inside the tackle box. A44 gains 4 yards on the play. RULING: Foul.
24. 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: A 1/Goal @ B-2.
25. Time expires during Team A's free kick at the end of the second quarter. A1 is offside on the kick. RULING: Penalty—Five yards from the previous spot, the end of Team B's run, or the touchback spot, and the period is extended. Repeat the free kick or Team B is awarded an untimed down.
26. A 2/10 @ B-40. A34 carries to the B-35 where he is tackled. After the snap, B17 (his team's 11 player) entered the field. RULING: Illegal substitution A 1/10 @ B-30.
27. A 2/10 @ B-40 B-96 is offside at the snap. Wide receiver A80 goes out of bounds on his own and while still out of bounds, QB A10 throws a forward pass in his direction. A80 leaps from out of bounds, catches the pass while airborne and returns to the ground inbounds at the B-25. RULING: Offsetting fouls, Illegal touching A, Offside B. A 2/10 @ B-40.
28. While a free kick is in the air, B21 gives a waving signal that does not meet the requirements of a valid fair catch signal. The ball is caught by B21 at the B-5. Since the signal is invalid it will be B 1/10 @ B-5.
29. Team A, 1/10, B-20. A1's pass is intercepted at the B-3 by B20 and his momentum brings him into his end zone. B20 attempts to advance but fumbles the ball in the end zone and the ball rolls out of bounds at the B-4. RULING: The result of the play is a Safety, Team B will Free Kick from the B-20.
30. F/K @ A-35. B41 muffs to kick at the B-3, and the ball rolls into B's end zone. B41 runs back, struggles to recover the ball, and then bats it over the end line to prevent A from recovering to ball. The result of the play is a safety.
31. A 4/3 @ B-12. After the Two-Minute Timeout in the 4th quarter. From the B-13, A19 pitches the ball to A31 who muffs it at the B-14. The loose ball rolls out of bounds at the B-8. RULING: A 1/G @ B-8 Snap.
32. Free Kick @ A-35. A98 kicks the ball high and B21 gives the "T" signal while the ball is in the air standing one yard in the end zone. B21 muffs the kick while standing in the end zone, the ball bounces forward and then he recovers the ball at the B-5. He runs to the B-20 where he is down. RULING: B 1/10, B-20 Snap.
33. Try @ B-3. First possession series of the 4th extra period. After calling a team timeout during the 3rd extra period, Team A substitutes late in the play clock, and the Team A head coach calls timeout just before the play clock goes to zero. RULING: A, Try, B-3, No Clock. Team A's timeout request is granted as this is his first request of the 4th extra period.

34. 2/8 @ B-25. Late in the 4th quarter, Team A is driving down the field. Before Team A snaps the ball, Team B calls a timeout, their second of the half. Following the timeout and after the Referee blows the Ready for Play, B40 realizes he is the 12th Team B player on the field and drops to the field with an injury. Team B will be assessed a Delay of Game penalty. A, 2/3, B-20. PC: 25, GC: Snap.
35. A 4/14 @ A-35. Punter A86 shanks the ball and the officials mark to ball at the B-40. Team B head coach wants to challenge the spot since the ball sailed right over his head while he was standing at the 50. RULING: The spot is not reviewable.
36. A 3/12 @ A-5. A12, under a heavy rush, escapes and runs to the A-10. A 50 is flagged for holding in Team A's end zone, and B is awarded a safety. The holding actually took place at the A-2. RULING: Reviewable. A 3/16 @ A-1 or A 4/7 @ A-10
37. F/K @ A-35. B3 muffs A's grounded free kick at the B-9 and it bounds into the end zone where B3 falls on the ball. RULING: B 1/10 @ B-20.
38. Team B touches the legal forward pass near a sideline while eligible A1 is out of bounds. A1 comes back inbounds and touches the pass. RULING: Legal play.
39. F/K @ A-35. B3 catches the kick at the B-5 and returns it to the B-20. Team A had two players participate wearing identical numbers. RULING: B 1/10 @ B-25 or A F/K @ A-30.
40. A 4/Goal @ B-6. A18 runs to the B-4 where B23 pulls him down by the facemark. While A18 is going to the ground, he fumbles the ball into B's end zone where A77 recovers while grounded. RULING: A Try B-3 Penalty on Try or Kickoff.
41. A 1/10 @ B-20. A10's pass is intercepted by B55 in B's end zone. B55 attempts to run the ball out of the end zone when he is hit and fumbles the ball. The loose ball is recovered simultaneously by B55 and A80 in the end zone. RULING: B 1/10 @ B-20.
42. Team A scores on the last play of the game to make the score A-19, B-17. Team A must attempt the try.
43. During a two-point try attempt, B1 intercepts Team A's legal forward pass and runs it to midfield. During B1's run, B2 clips in the end zone. RULING: Safety. Award Team A one point.
44. Team A scores a touchdown during a down in which time expires. During Team A's successful try, B32 roughs the kicker. RULING: The period is not extended for the kickoff. Team A may accept the penalty and repeat the try or accept the score and have the roughing the kicker penalty enforced on the subsequent kickoff, or the succeeding spot in extra periods.
45. A forward pass that is first touched behind the neutral zone and then proceeds beyond the neutral zone is deemed to have not crossed the neutral zone.

46. A player simulating possession of a live ball is not considered a runner.
47. Snapper A1 lifts or moves the ball forward before moving it backward to start the snap. B2 bats the ball, causing it to roll loose with B3 recovering. RULING: Team A foul, illegal snap. Ball remains dead.
48. A shift ends when one of the two players in motion has been motionless for one full second.
49. A 1/10 @ A-30. Tackle A77 is penalized for intentionally touching a legal forward pass. Replays show that the ball hit A77 in the shoulder. RULING: Reviewable play, regarding whether A77 touched the ball. Cannot review the intentional aspect of the play. Confirm ruling on the field, A 2/15 @ A-25.
50. When a live ball comes into possession of an official, the ball is dead and inadvertent whistle rules apply.