

## April 2017 Study Guide (Part II)

This guide has an emphasis on the passing game, enforcement of penalties during the legal forward pass, mechanics of coverage and fundamentals of interference and catch-no catch. Like the kicking game reviewed in March there is moving contact. “Rules of Engagement” are essential to know.

### ITEMS FOR CREW DISCUSSION

**A. MECHANICS CHALLENGE:** The passing game has become increasingly more sophisticated in formation, arm strength of the passer and routes. As a response, defenses are more aggressive with nearly immediate contact at the snap and “press coverage”. Being in position to cover assigned receivers coming out of motion, multiple sets and to monitor contact is essential. Additionally, correctly counting and communicating the number on the line of scrimmage, observing pass blocking by tackles and identifying assigned receivers is a stressful load even to experienced officials. Goal line situations intensify the burden.

**RESPONSE:** Review in depth the mechanics for motion, multiple sets, sideline and goal line coverage for each position. Who is responsible for motion? Who is responsible for forward or backward pass determination and in which formations? Discuss how the Umpire can assist.

**B. RULES CHALLENGE:** Understanding the rules of contact on a player as a blocker or as a receiver is key. There are differences that must be understood and observed. Pic plays and press coverage are contact that is purposeful, initiated and may not be legal.

**RESPONSE:** Clear understanding of rules pertaining to restriction of contact on receiver after he ceases to be a blocker is essential. How do we identify pic plays?

### **ABBREVIATIONS USED:**

**OPI:** Offensive pass interference

**DPI:** Defensive pass interference

**EZ:** End zone

**DOWN AND DISTANCE:** As an example, Team A has the ball third down and six. This will be 3/6 in the guide

**LOS:** Line of scrimmage

26. 2/18 for Team A on B39 yard line. A legal forward pass is completed to A23 who runs to the B25 where legal contact forces his helmet off. A23 falls forward to the ground at the B22 yard line. Which statement is TRUE:
- A. The clock starts on the snap for the next play.
  - B. A23 must be removed for one play.
  - C. The next snap will be for Team A 3/1 from the B22 yard line
27. 2/7 for Team A from the A24 yard line. A pass is complete to A86 who is downed at the A45 yard line. While the pass is in flight a rushing B33 grabbed and twisted the face mask of offensive lineman A78 and a flag is thrown. Which statement is TRUE:
- A. Team A ball 1/10 at the A45. The penalty would be from the previous spot and not produce the yardage gained by the completed pass.
  - B. Team A ball 1/10 at the B40 yard line as the accepted penalty will be added to the end of the run.
  - C. The clock will start on the snap for the next play
28. Team A 4/5 from the A9 yard line. While a legal forward pass is in flight toward A83, B21 pulls the receiver to the ground. The covering official reacts with an inadvertent whistle. The ball falls to the ground well past the receiver incomplete. Which statement is TRUE:
- A. The down must be replayed. There are no alternatives.
  - B. If the penalty for DPI is accepted the inadvertent whistle is ignored.
  - C. Team A declines the penalty and the inadvertent whistle is enforced. The down is replayed. Because of the incomplete pass the clock will start on the snap.
29. Team A 2/7 from the B35 yard line. A13 throws a pass into the EZ where it is intercepted by B33 and returned to the B40 yard line where B33 is tackled by the face mask. During the return B67 blocks A88 below the waist at the B12 yard line. Time expires for the second quarter during the play. Which statement is FALSE:
- A. To keep possession Team B must decline the facemask foul.

- B. Team A has the option to accept or decline the block below the waist foul on B67.
  - C. If both fouls are accepted Team A will have an untimed down from the previous spot.
  - D. If Team B declines the facemask foul Team A has no options but to accept the illegal block below the waist foul and Team B will have an untimed down after enforcement from the B6 yard line.
30. Team A snaps the ball 3/8 from the A8 yard line. A13 is tackled in the EZ by the facemask. The ball is fumbled during the tackle out of the end zone and bounces out of bounds at the A4 yard line. Which statement is TRUE:
- A. Team A ball 4/12 from the A4.
  - B. Team A ball 1/10 from the A19.
  - C. Team A ball 1/10 from the A23.
  - D. The clock will start for the next play on the ready.
31. Team A, 4/19, snaps the ball from the A10 yard line in scrimmage kick formation. Punter A6 in his own EZ. A6 fumbles the snap, recovers and rolls out throwing a pass downfield 25 yards with no eligible receivers in the area. A flag is thrown for intentional grounding. Which statement is TRUE:
- A. One option available to Team B is their ball 1/goal from the A5 yard line.
  - B. Team B is awarded two points for a safety regardless of their acceptance or declining of the penalty.
  - C. One option available to Team B is their ball 1/goal from the A10 yard line.
32. Team A 3/6 from B24 yard line. With the clock running, A snaps with two seconds remaining in the first half. Quarterback A12 fumbles the snap but recovers. Time expires and the horn sounds ending the period THEN A12 spikes the ball forward to the ground. B54 then spears A13 in the chest with the crown of his helmet. Which statement is TRUE:
- A. A12 is called for intentional grounding, regardless if he was in the spread formation or under center. B50 is called for roughing the passer. The penalties offset and the down is

replayed.

- B. B50 is penalized for spearing. The penalty is enforced half the distance to the goal. Team A will have an untimed down from the B12 yard line.
  - C. A12 is flagged for intentional grounding, B50 is flagged for a dead ball personal foul for spearing. Since intentional grounding involves loss of down, the period is over. The dead ball personal foul on B50 will be assessed to start the second half.
  - D. There is no foul on A12. B50 is flagged for spearing which is also a roughing the passer penalty. This foul is enforced half the distance to the goal with an automatic first down. Team A will have an untimed down from the B12 yard line.
33. 1/10 for Team A from the A40 yard line. A12 hands the ball to A35 who carries to the A42 where he fumbles. The ball bounds back to A38 where it is picked up by lineman A60 who throws a forward pass to A12 near the sideline. This is a legal forward pass.
- A. True
  - B. False
34. Team A 3/13 from the A30 yard line. A12 takes the snap, scrambles then throws a completed forward pass to A5 who is downed at the A26 yard line. B65 is flagged for roughing the passer at the A21 yard line. The penalty is accepted. Which statement is TRUE:
- A. 1/10 for Team A from the A41 yard line
  - B. 3/2 for Team A from the A41 yard line
  - C. 1/10 for Team A from the A45 yard line
  - D. 1/10 for Team A from the A36 yard line
35. Team A 1/10 on the A30 yard line. A88 runs a route downfield. Before the pass is released, A88 nears B22 then cuts away sharply. B22 pushes A88 with both hands on A88's side as A88 is moving away altering his route. The forward pass in the direction of A88 falls incomplete. Which statement is TRUE:
- A. The play is legal since the contact occurred before release of the ball.
  - B. B22 is guilty of DPI.

- C. B22 is guilty of illegal use of the hands
- D. This contact is legal since it was from the side.

36. Team A 1/10 from the A40 yard line. A88 and A99 are wide outs in the formation with A88 the widest and on the LOS. At the snap, A88 is covering up A99 who is the inside receiver also on LOS. A99 at the snap turns and faces the passer without leaving his position on the LOS. A forward pass is thrown which tips off the hands of A99 and then goes out of bounds. Which statement is FALSE:

- A. A99 is guilty of being ineligible downfield.
- B. A99 is guilty of illegal touching.
- C. If B accepts the penalty for illegal touching, Team A will have 2/10 from the A35 yard line
- D. If B accepts the penalty for illegal touching, Team A will have 2/15 from the A35 yard line

37. Team A 3/8 from the B35 yard line. Five seconds remain on the clock. A10 takes the snap, scrambles under pressure near the sideline and throws a forward pass into the band in the stands from the B37 yard line as time expires in the fourth quarter. No receiver was near the area.

Which statement is TRUE:

- A. Intentional grounding. Penalized from the spot of the foul and the period will be extended for an untimed down. 3/15 from B32 yard line.
- B. Intentional grounding. Penalized from the spot of the foul with loss of down. The period will be extended for an untimed down, 4/15 from the B42 yard line.
- C. Since the intentional grounding carries a loss of down the period is not extended. Game over.
- D. There is no foul as the passer was out of the tackle box. Game over.

38. Team A 3/7 from the B22 yard line. A12 has his forward pass tipped by rushing B65. Offensive lineman right guard A73 catches the tipped pass beyond the neutral zone and advances for a touchdown. Which statement is TRUE:

- A. Touchdown for Team A.
- B. Illegal touching, penalized from the previous spot, leaving

3/12 from the B27 yard line.

C. Illegal touching, penalized from the previous spot including loss of down leaving 4/12 from the B27 yard line

39. Team A 3/8 from the B42 yard line. Quarterback A7 scrambles and as he nears the LOS eventually shuttles the ball forward but underhanded with both hands at the B43 yard line to eligible A80. A80 catches and advances to the B33 yard line, fumbles and recovers at the B35 yard line and is downed. B64 is guilty of illegal helmet to helmet contact on A7 after the pass is released. Which statement is TRUE:
- A. 1/10 for Team A from B27 yard line
  - B. 1/10 for Team A from B20 yard line
  - C. 4/1 for Team A from B35 yard line
  - D. 1/10 for Team A from B18 yard line
40. Team A has the ball 3/5 from the A40 yard line. Ball is snapped from the left hash mark. A12 drops back and throws a backwards pass to A22 who catches the ball at the A30 yard line on the right hash mark. A22 then throws a forward pass landing downfield with no eligible receiver in the area. Which answer about the NEXT play is TRUE:
- A. No foul. Team A 4/5 from the A40 yard line.
  - B. Intentional grounding. Team A 4/15 from the A30 yard line with the ball placed at the left hash mark. Clock will start on the snap.
  - C. Intentional grounding. Team a 4/10 from the A35 yard line. Ball will be placed on the left hash mark and clock will start on the snap.
  - D. Intentional grounding. Team A 4/20 from the A25 yard line. Ball will be placed on the right hash mark And the clock will start on the snap.
41. At the snap A75 runs seven yards downfield on a roll out by the quarterback A13. Realizing A13 is under heavy pressure and finding no one to block A75 runs back to the LOS to engage B78 who is nearing A13. A13 then releases a competed forward pass to A90 seven yards downfield near the sideline and then steps out of bounds for a first down. Which statement is FALSE:
- A. Team A will next put the ball in play and the clock will start

on the snap.

B. A75 is guilty of ineligible downfield.

C. Assuming A75's contact on B78 is legal there is no foul.

42. Team A 1/10. Triple receivers to the right side of the formation. A90 is the widest and on the LOS. A88 and A40 are in the slot, both off the LOS. A forward pass is thrown towards A40. B21 came across the LOS at the snap and pushes A40 to the ground with contact above the waist from the front prior to the arrival of the ball. This is legal contact.

A. True

B. False

43. A30 and B20 are running near the sideline. Their feet become entangled and both fall to the ground. When their feet tangled A30 was looking back for the ball. B20 was not. There is no foul.

A. True

B. False

44. A legal forward pass is thrown to A89 near the sideline. While the pass is in flight B45 moves and creates body contact with A35 who is on the opposite sideline. This is DPI.

A. True

B. False

45. A90 and B43 jump together without illegal contact near the sideline. There is simultaneous possession as they come to the ground. A90 lands first with both feet inbounds. B43 lands next with one foot on the sideline. This is an incomplete pass.

A. True

B. False

46. Team A 2/10 from the A40 yard line. Eligible receiver A82 blocks B43 above the waist from the front ten yards downfield in the middle of the field. A trailing receiver behind A82 breaks open downfield. A7 then throws a pass near the right sideline to A10. A82 is guilty of pass interference.

A. True

B. False

47. A backwards pass may be thrown legally but intentionally out of bounds to stop the clock from the spread formation.
- A. True
  - B. False
48. Concerning illegal forward passes which statement is FALSE:
- A. During an illegal forward pass no pass eligibility restrictions apply.
  - B. When an illegal forward pass touches the ground the ball becomes dead.
  - C. If the ball is beyond the neutral zone when it leaves the passer's hand regardless of where his feet are it is an illegal forward pass.
  - D. A second forward pass during the down is an illegal forward pass.
49. B43 leaves the ground at the B2 yard line, possess Team A's forward pass in the air and falls to the ground in the EZ. This is a completed pass and momentum exception applies.
- A. True
  - B. False
50. Concerning roughing the passer which statement is FALSE:
- A. By definition the passer must throw a legal forward pass to be protected.
  - B. All face mask fouls are part of the roughing the passer rule
  - C. A passer can only be protected if the pass is made either in or behind the neutral zone.
  - D. Halfbacks who attempt a legal forward pass after receiving a handoff are not protected as a passer.



