

Vincent J. Reilly-New Haven Football Officials Association

2019 Pre-Season Exam

On the answer sheet or another sheet of paper, answer the following 'T' or 'F' followed by the reference(s) for each answer.

I. New Rules

1. 2/11 on the A-30. Team A has only 10 players on the field. It has six on the line and four in the backfield. Five linemen are number 50-79. A43 runs to the right for eight yards. Ruling: 2/16 on A-25.
2. 3/7 on the B-45. The last play ended inbounds. The 40-second clock begins. With 35 seconds on the play clock, A89 comes in as a substitute and positions himself five yards inbounds. The U puts the ball down (RFP) at 32 on the clock. A43 runs for a first down. Ruling: 3/12 on 50.
3. With 1:30 remaining in the game a fight breaks out with both benches clearing. Following restoration of order, players are ejected. Team A has 11 players, Team B nine. Ruling: A forfeit is declared in favor of A as B did not have enough players.
4. 1/10 at the A-40. A11 completes a pass to A88 at the B-40, and runs to the B-35, where he is tripped by B93. Ruling: 1/10 at B-35.
5. When the ball is dead after a running play (the game clock running) that ends in bounds the play clock reads "25" before the ball is placed down and the umpire goes to his position. Ruling: The game clock is stopped, the play clock set to "25" and both begin on the R's signal.
6. 3/7 on A-35. With 35 seconds, the U is ready to put the ball down, and discovers it's the wrong one. He places a correct ball down before the play clock goes under "25. Ruling: Legal.

7. 3/2 on B-17. A45 runs to the B-14, where he fumbles. The officials cannot determine who has the ball. The LJ signals to stop the game clock. It is determined A67 had possession. Ruling: The play clock starts once the ball is declared dead (in possession).
8. Following an injury to Team A, the play clock is set at "25." Following an injury to Team B, the play clock is set at "40."
9. 1/10 on A-40. A43 runs and is tackled by B67 at the B-45. B67 grabbed the area below the collar in the nameplate area and is brought down. Ruling: 1/10 at B-45.
10. 4/7 at K-35. K3 is in scrimmage kick formation. He whiffs on the kick after seeing a rush, and the ball hits the ground. He then kicks the loose ball, which goes out of bounds at the K-43. Ruling: 4/22 at K-20, or R 1/10 at K-43.

II. 2018 Rules

11. K3 free kicks from the K-40. While the kick is in flight, K-78 blocks below the waist at the R-35. The ball is caught by R7 and returned to the R-35. Ruling: R 1/10 from the 50 if R so elects.
12. 4/7 from the K-46. K3 punts the ball to the R-17, which is caught by R58 and run back for a TD. Following the snap and before the kick ended, K67 was called for holding at the K-45. Ruling: R has the option of taking the holding penalty on the Try or on the succeeding kick.
13. On an onside kick attempt from the A-40, the ball is muffed by K22 at the K-48, and goes out of bounds at the K-49. Ruling: Re-kick after penalty or R/10 at R-49, only options.
14. 4/7 from the K-46. K3 punts the ball to the R-17, which is caught by R58 and run back for a TD. Following the snap and before the kicks ended, K67 was called for holding at the K-45. Ruling: R has the option of taking the holding penalty on the Try or on the succeeding kick.

III. The Game, Field, Players, Equipment

15. Team A has an I-pad at the game site, and is using it to chart offensive plays, formations and defensive tendencies. The use is for between periods, at halftime and following the game, also for timeouts outside the nine-yard marks. Ruling: Legal.
16. During the pre-game walk, the U sees A11 with a bicep pad, partially exposed hip pad, and an ankle support. In all three cases they are hard plastic and not covered, but there are no sharp edges. Ruling: Legal.
17. During the pregame walk, the coach of Team of Team B complains to the Referee that the goalposts are 18'6" rather than 23'4". Ruling: Legal.
18. Prior to the game, the Team A coach informs the officials his players are wearing gloves that have the NOCSAE label, but no the SIFA label. Ruling: The gloves may not be worn.
19. In the pre-game conference with the coaches, the umpire notices the visiting team's players have towels on their belts that are the correct size, and are of the same color, but they each have a Nike "swish" on them. He rules they are illegal.
20. QB A-11 is seen prior to the game to have his play card attached to his belt. The umpire or other official inspects all play cards and sees they are all attached to the belts of the visiting team. Ruling: Illegal.
21. Prior the game, the home team provides three balls to the R for testing and marking. On all three, they see "The Acme Firecracker Company, Wile E. Coyote, President" stamped on the ball. The balls also have the school mascot stamped on the opposite panel. Ruling: The balls are legal.

IV. Definitions

22. 3/7 on the A-40. In a shotgun formation, A11 takes the snap. A77 in a three-point stance blocks B42 below the waist. Both are in the free-blocking zone at the snap and stationary. A11 throws a legal forward pass to A88 at the 50, where he is downed. Ruling: 1/10 at the 50.
23. 1/10 on the A-35, Lineman A65 in a four-point stance initially contacts B87 with his facemask as point of initial contact. A16 catches a pass at the B-45 and runs for a score. Ruling: 1/25 on A-20.
24. 2/G from the B-5. Runner A45 runs to the left side and is carrying the ball on his outside hand toward the goal line. He advances to the goal and is hit by B45, which causes him to land out of bounds. The ball crossed the goal line-extended. Ruling: TD.
25. 1/10 on B-25, A44 advances for a touchdown when B67 commits a block with open hands on a player obviously out of the play (blindside). The covering official rules it unnecessary and flagrant. Ruling: Penalty for the block is assessed on the Try or succeeding kickoff. Player B67 is disqualified from the game.
26. 1/10 on B-25, A44 is in possession of the ball at the B-28 (in the free-blocking zone) and runs parallel to the LOS with B44 attempting to make the tackle. A67 attempts a blindside block with his forearms and shoulder at the B-27 (in the FBZ). A44 runs for 11 yards, to the B-14. Ruling: A 1/27 at the B-42.
27. Following a TD, K lines up for the subsequent kickoff from the K-40. It's a windy day and K uses a holder. As they line up for the kickoff, K14 has his body beyond the free kick line in order to hold the ball. Ruling: encroachment. Kick at K-35.
28. 1/10 from the B-12. A89 runs a buttonhook route, jumps and possesses a forward pass while in the air in the end zone. His momentum carries him out of the end zone where he is downed on the B-1. Ruling: 1/G on B-1

29. 3/8 on the B-40. Airborne receiver A88 catches a legal forward pass near the sideline on the B-25. Defender B54 contacts him from the front, knocking A88 backwards and out of bounds, where he lands at the B-27. Ruling: 1/10 at B-25.

V. Timing, Substitutions

30. 2/G from the B-9. With four seconds left in period 1, and the score B-7, A-6. B85 intercepts a legal forward pass in the end zone and runs to his 30, where he is downed. B78 is called for holding in the end zone after the interception. The clock ran out. Ruling: Two points for A, period is extended for a free kick from the B-20.

31. 3/4 from B-48. B87 is called for a defensive holding penalty during a scramble by A11. A11 runs to the B-45. There are :03 left in the first half. Ruling: 1/10 at the B-35. A can opt to have the clock started on the snap.

32. 3/7 at the 50. B44, thinking he's the 12th player on the field, runs off the field on his opponent's sideline. Ruling: 3/2 from the B-45.

33. A 3/17 at the B-35. A comes up to the line, when an assistant coach requests "Time-Out" from the Line Judge. The head coach is in the press box, and the coach who requested the time-out was designated prior to the game. Ruling: Grant the time-out.

34. K 4/7 at the K-40. K3's punt is blocked and stays behind the line. Personal protector K82 picks up the loose ball and runs to the K-48 where he is downed. Ruling: K 1/10 on the K-48. Clock starts on the Ready.

35. By mutual agreement of the coaches, a halftime period may be reduced 5 minutes.

36. A 1/10 on the B-15 with time running out in the first half and A trying to score. A11 is positioned in a pistol formation 5 yards deep, receives the snap and immediately throws the ball to the ground to stop the clock. Ruling: 2/20 on B-25.

37. K 4/5 on the K-30. R12 enters and takes a position as a punt-returner and the player he replaces leaves the field. K decides to go for it. R12 leaves the field. Ruling: K1/10 on K-35.

VI. Ball in Play, Dead Ball, Out of Bounds

38. On a try from the B-3, A requests the ball be placed on the left hash mark. A44 is called for holding on the pass play attempt, which is successful. Following enforcement of the penalty, A's captain requests the ball be placed on the right hash mark. Ruling: His request is allowed.

39. K-3's fourth down punt from the K-20 is short. R45 gives a legal fair catch signal at the A-40 and muffs the attempt. The ball is loose and rebounds back behind the neutral zone, where it is recovered by R17 at the K-10. He runs into the end zone. Ruling: R 1/G at K-10.

40. 4/3 at the R-15. Placekick holder K24 has his knee on the ground with K-3 (the kicker) in position. After the snap K-3 comes forward. Just as he is about to kick. K24 gets up and passes to K-88 for a TD. Ruling: TD. Try on B-3.

41. 4/2 from K-38. K3's scrimmage kick is muffed at the R-17 by R79 following his Fair Catch signal. The ball goes through his hands. The B sounds his whistle, thinking the ball was caught. Ruling: 4/2 from K-38. Clock starts on the ready.

42. 4/7 from the K-5. K3 is on the end line, and prevents a high snap from going out the end zone. The loose ball is kicked by K3 and goes out of bounds at the K-25. Before the ball goes out of bounds, there is an inadvertent whistle. Ruling: Safety for R; or replay the down.

43. 4/3 at K-17. K3's punt is caught following a legal fair catch signal at the 50. R chooses to snap. Pass interference is called, putting the ball at the 35. R's captain requests a free kick. Ruling: Legal. Clock starts when the ball is legally touched.

44. 1/10 at the 50. On a sweep to the right side A44 runs to the B-40 is hit and fumbles. The ball rolls to the B-36, where A22 and B68 attempt to recover it. B68 recovers while his foot is touching the sideline. Ruling: A 1/10 at the B-36.
45. 4/7 from the R-21. K3 comes in for an apparent FG attempt with K12 as the holder on the R-28. At the snap the ball goes high causing K12 to rise in order to secure it. K3 remains in kicking position. K12 returns with his knee on the ground to hold the attempt. Ruling: Dead ball.
46. 3/7 at the B-27. Runner A33 runs a sweep to the left side and is running along the sideline when he is contacted by Safety B29 who is touching the sideline. A33 runs into the end zone. Ruling: TD, Try on B-3.
47. During a Try from the B-3, K3's kick hits off lineman K67 behind the neutral zone and goes through the uprights above the crossbar. Ruling: Try is good.

VII. Series, Downs & Possession After Penalty

48. K 4/7 on the R-20. K3's field goal attempt is partially blocked behind the neutral zone, but deflects beyond the neutral zone and is then muffed by R33. The muffed ball bounces back behind the neutral zone, where K77 picks it up at the R-22, and runs to the R-15. Ruling: K 1/10 on the R-22.
49. A 3/16 at the A-24. A11 takes the snap and is under duress, when he throws a legal forward pass in the direction of A42 at the A-39. Safety B29 intercepts the pass and runs for an apparent touchdown. It is discovered the down was incorrect and should have been 2/16. Ruling: A 2/16 at the A-24.
50. 4/4 on the R-44. R20 catches a punt at the R-10 runs and is hit and fumbles at the R-12. The ball rolls backwards into the end zone where R33 recovers and is downed. During the kick, K17 committed a block below the waist. Ruling: K 4/19 K-39.

51. A 3/7 on the B-45. B43 runs around the left end along the visitors sideline and is downed at the B-3. After the play is whistled, A67 hits an opponent at the B-20. Ruling: A 1/10 at the B-18.
52. 2/7 at the B-45. A running play ends close to the B-38, but the Referee determines it is short. Following the Ready for Play, QB A11 asks for a measurement. Ruling: The request should be granted.
53. 4/5 on the B-30. A11 throws a legal forward pass toward A88 at the B-33 (screen play). B29 is in position to intercept, and lineman A67 turns and bats the ball down and incomplete at the B-33. Ruling: Illegal touching. B1/10 at the B-38.
54. 4/10 from K-40. K3's punt is muffed by R23 at the R-30. R17 recovers the ball at the R-10. During the loose ball there was a hold by K56. Ruling: 4/20 at K-30 or R 1/10 from R-20.

VIII. Free Kicks

55. Kickoff at K-40. K3's kick goes high and comes down at the K-45, where it is muffed by K14, and recovered there. Ruling: R 1/10 at K-45; R 1/10 at K-30 or K re-kick at K-25.
56. K3 attempts a pop-up kick at the K-40, which is blown dead by the B for going more than 6 feet high. Ruling: Kickoff at K-35 if R so elects.
57. K3 attempts to bounce a free kick off the tee. It bounces, and on the second bounce goes higher than 6 feet. Ruling: Pop-up kick.
58. On a free kick attempt from the K-40, K3 is positioned on the K-30. K players are within the five-yard zone and legal. After the ready for play, K23 steps back and has one foot in the zone, and one foot behind the K-35. Ruling: Legal.
59. On an on-side attempt at the K-40. Five K players are on either side of the ball. As K-3 moves toward the ball to kick it, Two K players on the left move behind him to

the right. At the time of the kick, three players are on K-3's left, seven on his right. Ruling: Foul. Immediate dead ball and enforcement.

60. K free kick at the K-40. The ball is sliced toward the sideline, where airborne R47 catches the ball, then first lands on the sideline on the R-15. Ruling: K re-kick at K-35.
61. K's free kick is muffed by K22 at the R-5 yard line. Following a scramble for the ball, simultaneous possession is determined on the R-17. Ruling: K 1/10 at the B-17.
62. When a punt is used in a free kick after a safety, the kick must be made within one step behind Team K's restraining line.

IX. Scrimmage Kicks, Fair Catch

63. 4/10 at K-40. K3's punt is caught by R10 at the R-20 and run back for a touchdown. During the runback, K was called for an illegal block. Ruling: R try at 1-1/2 or penalize on kickoff.
64. 4/10 at K-40. K3's punt is caught by R10 at the R-20 and run back for a touchdown. During the kick, K was called for an illegal block. Ruling: R try at 1-1/2 or penalize on kickoff.
65. K 3/7 on the R-15. The score is K 24, R 26. On the last play of the game, K attempts a field goal. Players 48, 24 and 31 line up in the formation between the ends, with 24 as the snapper. K3 kicks the ball through the uprights. Ruling: Illegal Formation. K 3/12 from the R-20. Get a hard hat, you'll need it!
66. K's scrimmage kick is slowly rolling at the R-30, when receiver R4 is blocked by K14 and touches the ball. K10 recovers the ball at the R-31. Ruling: R 1/10 on R-31.
67. R1 muffs a K3 punt from the K-30. As he tried to catch the ball at the R-7. The ball bounces around at the R-3 and is muffed by K13 in an attempt to recover it. The ball goes into the end zone. Ruling: R 1/10 on R-20.

68. 4/10 from the R-40. Kicker K3 receives the ball and punts. While the ball was in the air, R56 holds K67 at the R-41. The ball goes through receiver R17's hands, and Back Judge inadvertently sounds his whistle. Ruling: R 1/10 on R-31.
69. 4/13 for from the K-45. K3's punt is caught by R77 at the R-20. While the ball is in the air, R17 is flagged for a block in the back. K88, meanwhile, was not on the line of scrimmage, and is called for illegal formation. Ruling: 4/13 from the K-45 or R 1/10 at the R-10 .
70. 4/14 from the K-40. K3's punt goes high into the air. R43 makes a valid fair-catch signal, but runs away from the ball as it comes down, takes a bounce and heads toward the end zone. R43 seeing K92 may ground the ball inside the 5, blocks K92 at the R-6. The ball goes into the end zone. Ruling: Illegal block, R 1/10 at the R-3.
71. 4/10 at the K-40. K3's punt is muffed by R14 at the R-20 after he gives a legal fair catch signal. K16 pushes R14 in an attempt to get to the ball at the R-22. R14 regains possession at that spot. Ruling: R 1/10 at the R-32.
72. 4/14 from the K-40. K3's punt goes high into the air. R43 makes a valid fair-catch signal, but runs away from the ball as it comes down, takes a bounce and heads toward the end zone. R43 sees K92 may ground the ball inside the 5, and blocks K92 at the R-6. The ball goes into the end zone. Ruling: R 1/10 at the R-3.

X. Scrimmage Plays, Blocking

73. 4/5 at the K-40. K sets up in a scrimmage kick formation with 83 as the snapper. R is called for encroachment. No. 83 goes to an end position, and there are five players 50-79 at the snap. A11 calls a QB draw for eight years. Ruling: 2/2 B-47.
74. To be legally on the line of scrimmage an interior lineman must: A. Have his helmet break the plan of a line drawn through the snapper's waist. B. Be in position parallel to the neutral zone. C. May be of any number if on fourth down.

75. 1/10 on the A-40. A's linemen have taken their positions and snapper A69 has made his preliminary adjustment prior to the snap. QB A11 wants to change the play and before going under center, A69 releases the ball and stands to talk to A11. Ruling: Legal play.

76. Third and 7 on the A-45, A86 and A33 come out to the same side with A86 outflanking A33 on the line of scrimmage. A86 is in a 2-point stance, A33 assumes a 3-point stance. On signal both players shift to the other side of the line. Ruling: Legal Shift.

77. A1/10 at the B-25. A11 hands off to A49 on a dive play. Lineman A67 in the FBZ blocks B43, who is also in the zone. They disengage and A67 blocks B77 below the waist in the FBZ. The ball is still in the zone. Ruling: Legal.

XI. Scrimmage Plays, Passing

78. 2/8 from the B-40. A44 and A87 are split to the right side in a spread formation. Both line up on the LOS with A44 covered by A87. At the snap, A44 goes downfield and catches the ball at the B-37 and runs to the B-28. Ruling: A 3/13 at the B-45.

79. 2/2 on the A-37. QB A11 drops back to the A-30 and attempts a forward screen pass toward A24, who is at the A-33. A11's arm is hit as he throws, and the ball goes behind him and lands at the A-28. B77 falls on the ball. Ruling: 3/2 on A-37 .

80. A3/7 at the 50 with :07 remaining and the score tied 20-20. A11 is in a shotgun formation, five yards behind the NZ The snap gets to A1 on one hop and he spikes the ball to stop the clock with :02 seconds remaining. Ruling: Legal.

81. 2/21 at B-30. End A88 is interfered in an attempt to catch A11's legal forward pass at the B-21. Ruling: 1/10 at the B-21.

82. 2/2 on the B-15. With :56 left in the game, A11 is trying to spike the ball to stop the clock. In his haste, A11 snaps and spikes the ball while his linemen are going down into their final sets. Ruling: 2/7 on B-20. Start the clock on the snap.

XII. Scoring, Momentum

83. Team A scores on the last timed down of the game to make the score A20, B21. On the successful kick try, B44 roughs the kicker. Ruling: A may choose to re-play the Try after enforcement or penalize B in the overtime period.

84. 2/10 from the B-20. B24 intercepts a legal forward pass on the B-4 and his momentum carries him into the end zone. Prior to entering the end zone, he fumbles on the B-1. The ball rolls into the end zone, where it is recovered by B56. Ruling: B 1/10 at the B-4.

85. A 3/7 from the B45. A11 rolls out to pass and throws to A44, who is open in the end zone. The ball is short and caught by B22 at the 3. His momentum forces him back into the end zone. An inadvertent whistle sounds while B22 is in the end zone. Ruling: Safety or A 3/7 from the B45.

XIII. Touchback, Safety, Force

86. 4/7 on the K-12, Kicker K3 attempts to punt from his end zone. The ball goes high and short and bounces at the K-6. In his attempt to recover the ball and advance it, K67 muffs the ball back into the end zone, where K11 recovers it. Ruling: Safety.

87. 4/15 from the K-8. Kicker K3 receives the snap deep in his end zone and muffs it. He recovers and makes a legal forward pass to ineligible A67, who is also in the end zone. A67 attempts to catch the pass, muffs it, and it falls incomplete. Ruling: Safety by rule, no other option.

88. 3/G from the B-7. Back A43 takes a handoff and runs toward the pylon on the near side. He is hit at the three-yard line and fumbles. The ball hits the pylon and rolls out of bounds at the 1. Ruling: 4/G at the 1.

XIV. Batting, Kicking, Conduct of Players, Coaches

89. 4/10 at K-15. Punter K3 runs beyond the neutral zone and kicks the ball at the A-20. It goes out of bounds at the 50. Ruling: K 4/17-1/2 from the 7-1/2 or R 1/10 at K-40.
90. 4/10 at the K-15 Punter K3 receives the snap, turns his back to the LOS, and throws a backward pass to K76, who bats the ball forward and goes beyond the line-to-gain, where it is recovered by K44. Ruling: Legal.
91. A 2/7 at the A30. Runner A7 runs to the A40, where he is tackled. Team A has already been given one warning about coaches in the restricted area along the sidelines. A coach is in the area at the snap and the L trips over him during the play. Ruling: A1/10 at the A-25.
92. 4/3 on the K-45. A3's punt lands on the R-2 and is heading toward the goal line when K55 bats the ball backward to prevent it from going into the end zone. It bounces on the R-3, where it is downed by K76. Ruling: Illegal batting. Penalize 15 yards from the previous spot.
93. 2/G on the B-3. A48 gets hit at the line of scrimmage and the ball pops into the air. B76 and A77 try for the loose ball. B76 bats the ball forward and then recovers the ball at the B-10. Ruling: Legal.

XV. Penalty enforcement

94. A 3/9 from the B-34. On a toss sweep, the toss is muffed by A22 at the B-38, but picked up. He runs to the B-23, where he is tackled. A67 was called for holding at the B-36 while the ball was loose. Ruling: A3/21 from the B-46.
95. K4/7 from the K14. K3 kicks a successful FG. At the LOS R21 was called for a rip-and-shoot hold. Ruling: K may accept the penalty and have 1/G at the 7 or enforce the penalty on the kickoff.

96. A 2/G from the B-7. A11's pass is intercepted in the end zone by B44, who attempts to run it out, but is tackled (in the end zone) by the facemask by A87. Ruling: B1/10 from the B-15.
97. A 2/G from the B-7. A11's pass is intercepted in the end zone by B44, who attempts to run it out, but is tackled in the end zone. During the run B99 was called for a block in the back at the B-10. Ruling: Safety.
98. 3/7 at the B-14. A11's legal forward pass is intercepted by B22 at the A-10 and runs for a TD. During the run, before the score, B56 blocks below the waist in the A end zone. Ruling: B 1/10 at the A-15.
99. 3/10 from A-3. During the last timed down, A11 retreats into his end zone to attempt a pass and is downed. During the play, A67 is called for holding in the end zone. Ruling: Safety. Extend the period for a free-kick.
100. 4/10 from K-4. Late in the game, R is trailing by nine points. K3 punts, and K45 is called for holding in the end zone. R33 gets the ball and runs for a TD. Ruling: K can accept the penalty for a safety, accept the score and put the penalty on the Try, or refuse the penalty for the TD.