



VIA FACSIMILE AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

MEMORANDUM

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TO: Divisions I, II and III Supervisors of Football Officials, Conference
Commissioners and Head Football Coaches.

FROM: Michael Clark, chair
NCAA Football Rules Committee

John Adams, secretary-rules editor
NCAA Football Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: NCAA Football Clarification and Play Situations Bulletin No. 1.

Enclosed with this memorandum are the first set of play situations and several interpretations for the 2007 season. The committee hopes this assists in the understanding of the rules, specifically those relating to starting the clock.

If you have any questions, please contact John Adams, secretary-rules editor of the NCAA Football Rules Committee. Mr. Adams can be reached at 303/799-9221, extension 222.

I hope this information is helpful.

MC/JA:nkb

Enclosure

cc: NCAA Football Rules Committee
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1. Substitute A-17 enters the game with a football that he hands to the Referee with the request that it be used on the succeeding play. **Ruling:** The request is refused along with delay of game. If A-17 is insistent, the penalty is 15 yards from the previous spot (1-3-2-f, g; 1-3-3; 3-4-2-a).
2. QB A-7 is behind the neutral zone when forward motion of his arm starts a forward pass. B-82 contacts the ball immediately after the ball leaves A-7's hand and the ball falls to the ground. **Ruling:** Incomplete forward pass with no possibility of an illegal forward pass unless it is the second forward pass by Team A during the down (2-19-2-b, 7-3-2).
3. As runner A-45 advances beyond the neutral zone, he is tackled by B-17. The line judge raises his hand (signal #7) before A-45's forward motion is stopped and a fumble occurs. **Ruling:** Inadvertent whistle (3-2-2-I, 4-1-2-b).
4. B-3 muffs a free kick on his five yard line and then recovers the ball in the end zone. Assuming he must retrieve the ball from the end zone, he recovers and runs toward the sideline. To allude Team A players, B-3 dives and is airborne as the ball in his possession crosses the sideline and over the pylon on the goal line. **Ruling:** Touchback (4-2-4-e, 4-2-3-b, 6-1-7, 8-6-1-b).
5. Team A's free kick from the 30 yard line is untouched inbounds prior to rolling out of bounds at the Team B 25 yard line. Team B is assessed with a dead ball foul. **Ruling:** Team A to kick again from the 40 yard line. Team B first and 10 at the Team B 20 yard line. Team B first and 10 at the 15 yard line. Team B determines the options (5-2-7, 6-2-1, 10-1-6).
6. A-87 bats Team A's previously untouched scrimmage kick in Team B's end zone and the ball rolls dead on the four yard line. Team A was in an illegal formation at the snap. **Ruling:** Team B's ball at the nine yard line or the 25 yard line following the touchback. Team A may kick again following a five yard penalty from the previous spot (6-3-11, 6-3-2-a,b, 7-1-3-b).
7. Ends A-85 and A-93 are in three point stances when A-93 shifts to the other end outside of A-85. A-73 is now in the end position on the vacated side of the line. Either A-73 or A-85 moves the hand establishing their three point stance prior to the snap. **Ruling:** False start. Five yard penalty succeeding spot (7-1-3-a-4).

8. On a try from the three yard line, B-27 roughs kicker A-3 on the successful kick. **Ruling:** Team A will accept the score and the 15 yard penalty will be enforced on the succeeding kickoff or the succeeding spot in extra periods. Team A may decline the score and repeat the try after enforcement. (8-3-3-b-1, 9-1-3-a).

9. A-4 receives the snap and runs toward the sideline prior to kicking the football as he continues to run. **Ruling:** A running kicker receives the same protection awarded to any other player. If he stops and it becomes obvious that he intends to kick (in a normal punting position) defensive players must avoid him (9-1-3-a-1-8).

10. Fourth and six at the Team A 30 yard line. The snap is over the head of potential kicker A-3 who pursues the rolling ball. At the two yard line, he bats the ball backward and over the end line. **Ruling:** Safety (9-4-1-c, 8-7-2-b-1, 8-5-1-a). Note: kicking a loose ball is a loss of down foul (9-4-4).