

## Rule 7-2

### **Formation/Position, Numbering and Action at the Snap**

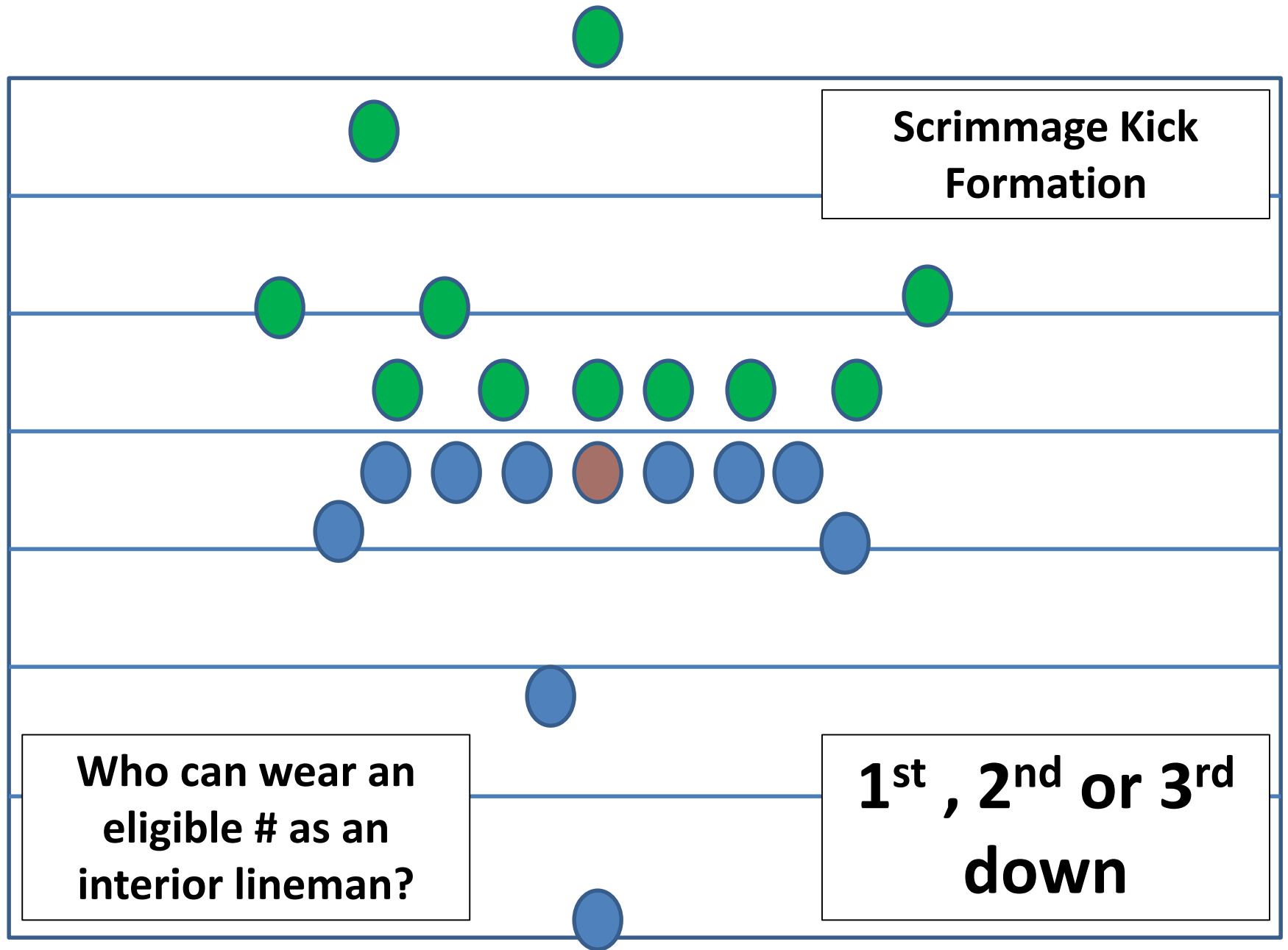
**Art. 5:** Player formation and numbering requirements include:

- a. At the snap, at least seven A players shall be on their line of scrimmage

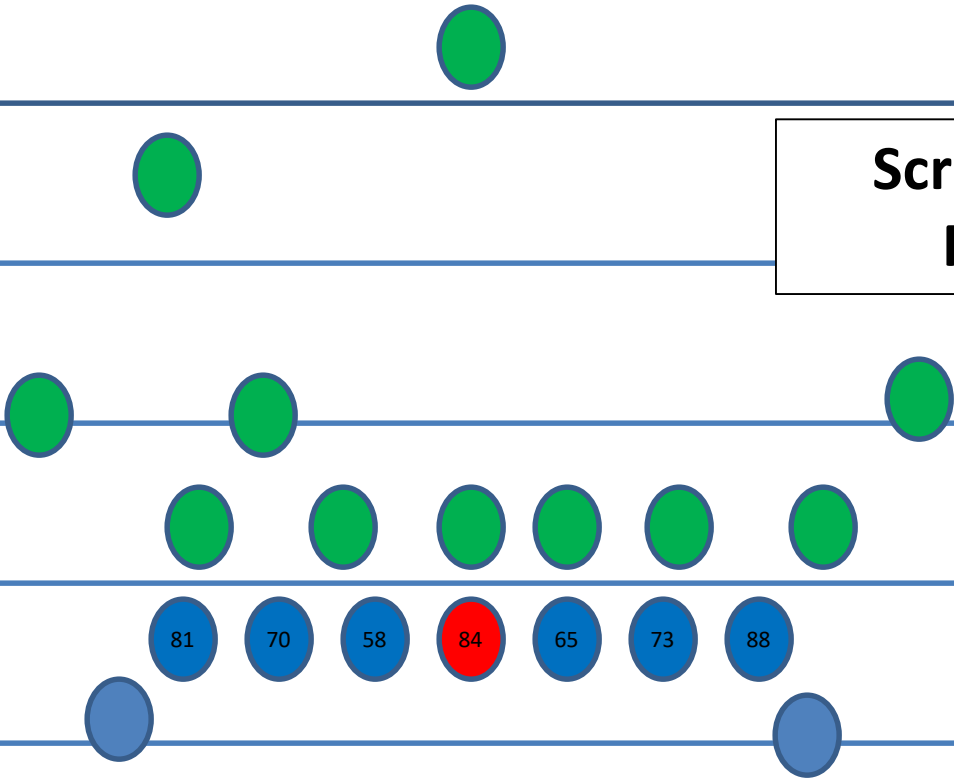
b. At the snap, at least five Team A players on their line of scrimmage must be numbered 50-79

# **NUMBERING EXCEPTIONS**

## **Scrimmage Kicks**



**Scrimmage Kick Formation**



**Who can wear an eligible # as an interior lineman?**

**1<sup>st</sup> , 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> down**

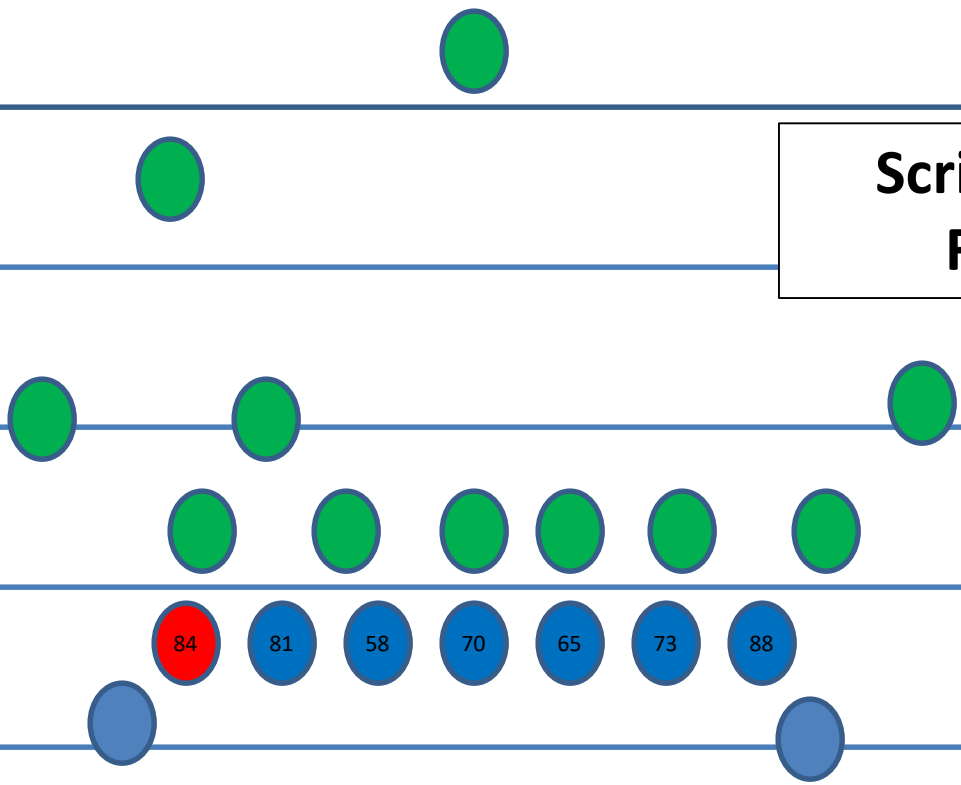
## **EXCEPTIONS (Scrimmage Kicks)**

1. **On first, second or third down**, when Team A sets or shifts into a scrimmage-kick formation, **the snapper** may be a player numbered 1 to 49 or 80 to 99.

If Team A has the snapper in the game under this exception, Team A shall have at least four players wearing numbers 50-79 on its line of scrimmage.

The snapper in the game under this exception **must be between the ends** and is an ineligible forward-pass receiver during that down.

# Scrimmage Kick Formation



#84 shifts from the center position to the end position prior to touching the ball  
Is this a Legal Formation?

**1<sup>st</sup> , 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>  
down**

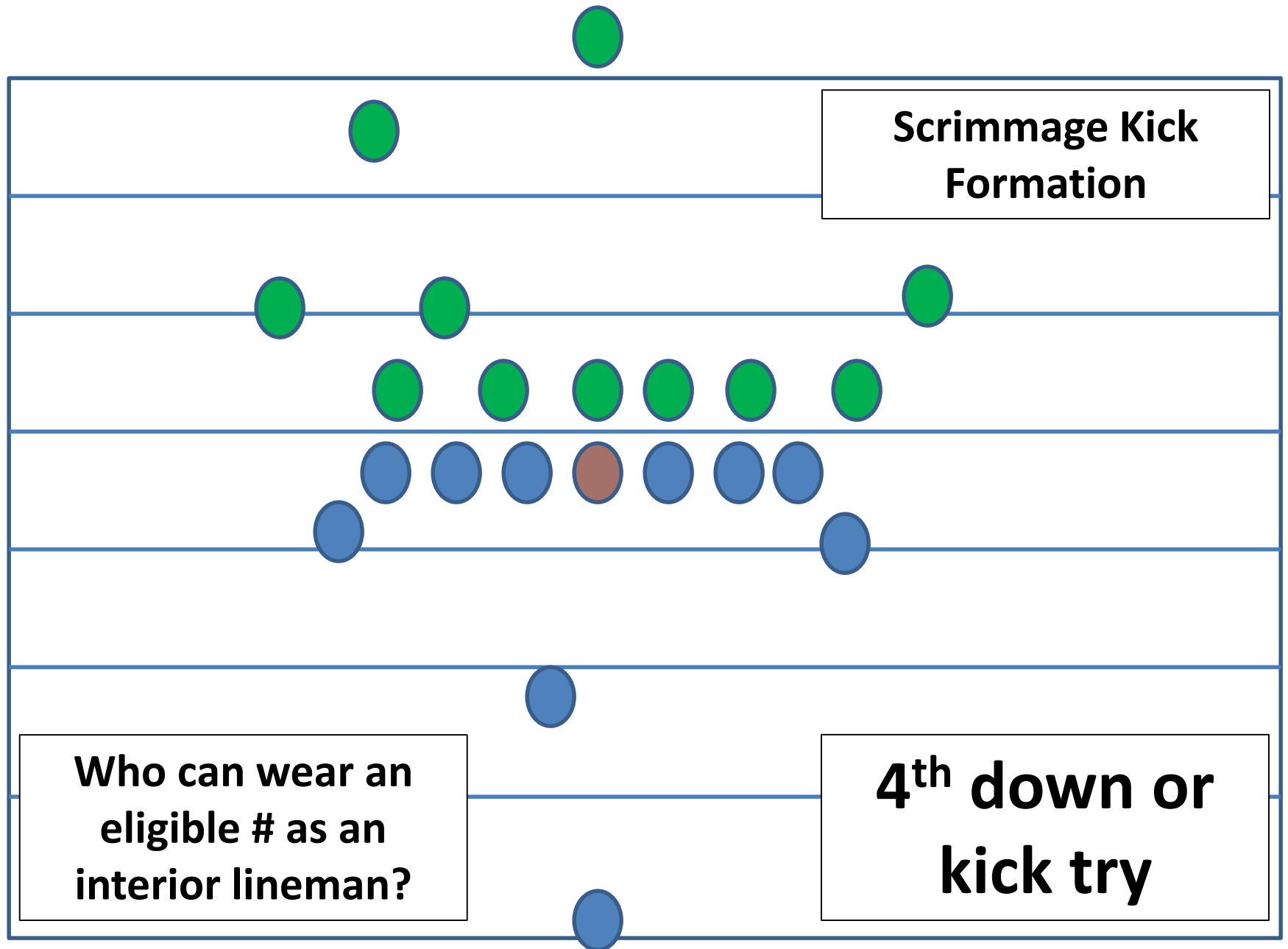




**Scrimmage Kick  
Formation**

**NO - #81 is wearing an eligible number, and he is not on the end of the line, nor is he the snapper. Also, there are now only 4 players wearing #'s 50-79.  
Illegal Formation**

**1<sup>st</sup> , 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>  
down**

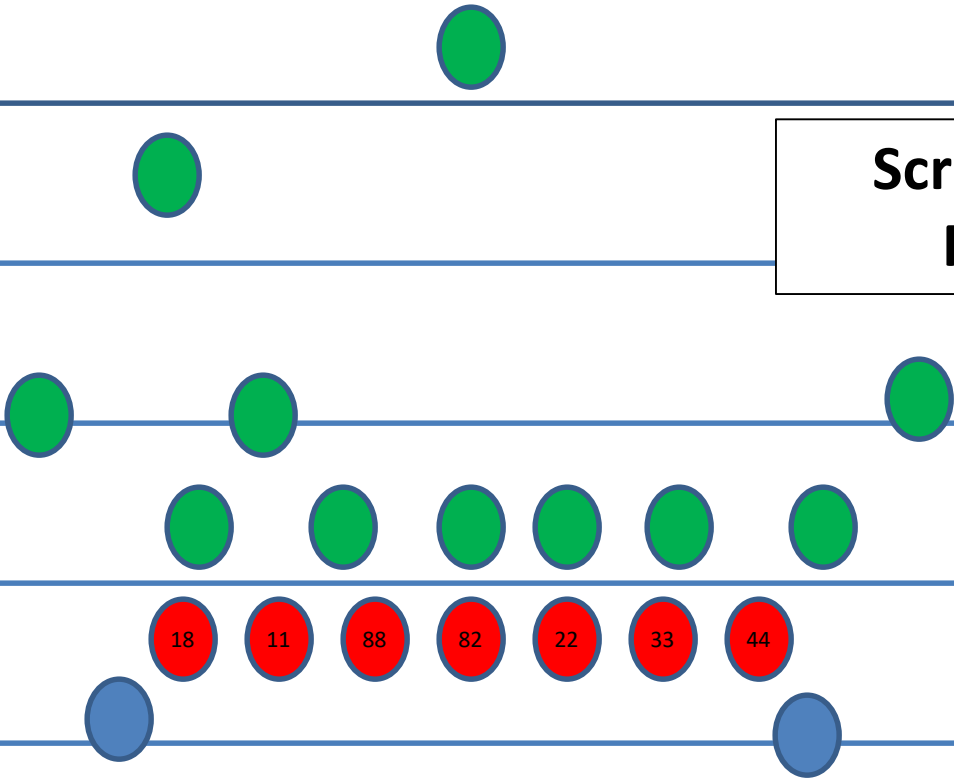


**Scrimmage Kick  
Formation**

**Who can wear an  
eligible # as an  
interior lineman?**

**4<sup>th</sup> down or  
kick try**

**Scrimmage Kick  
Formation**



**Who can wear an  
eligible # as an  
interior lineman?**

**4<sup>th</sup> down or  
kick try**

2. **On fourth down** or during a kick try, when Team A sets or shifts into a scrimmage-kick formation, any Team A player numbered 1 to 49 or 80 to 99 may take the position of any Team A player numbered 50 to 79.

A player in the game under this exception must assume an initial position on his line of scrimmage **between the ends** and he remains an ineligible forward-pass receiver during that down.

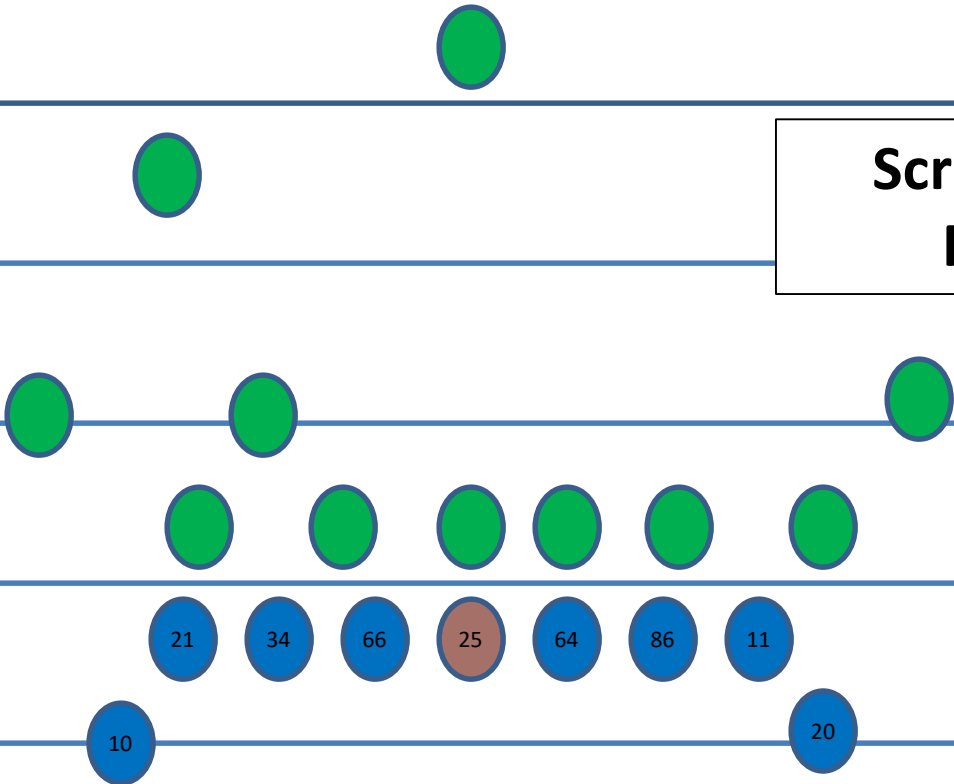
The position of an interior lineman is LOCKED when the snapper touches the ball

## Case Book Plays

### NUMBERING EXCEPTION

**7.2.5 SITUATION D:** With fourth and 6 from the K20, Team K lines up with A21 as the left end; A34, A66, A25, A64 and A86 in the traditional five tackle-guard center-guard-tackle spots; and A11 on the right end. All are on the line of scrimmage. Players A10, A20 and A5 are in the backfield with A79 lined up in the deep position as a potential kicker. A25 places his hand on the ball.

**Scrimmage Kick  
Formation**



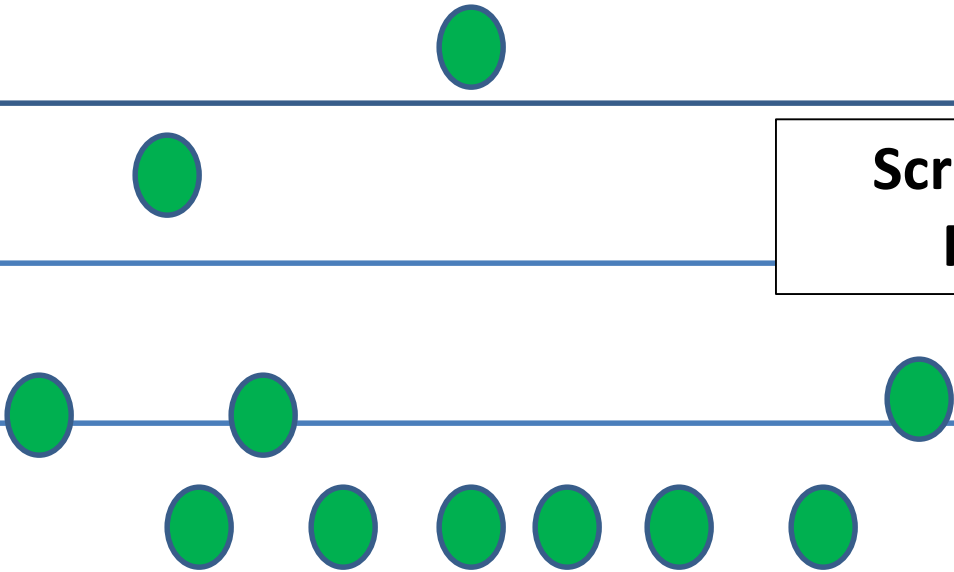
**Numbering Exception**

**4<sup>th</sup> down or  
kick try**

Prior to the snap, A20 shifts to the line of scrimmage on the right of A86 and left of A11 and sets for one second before the ball is snapped.



**Scrimmage Kick  
Formation**

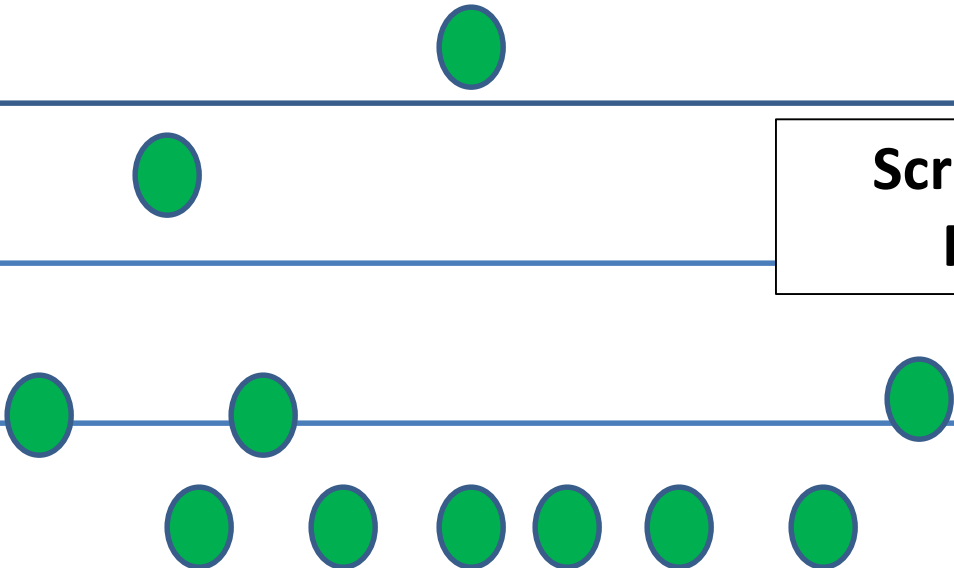


**Numbering Exception**

**4<sup>th</sup> down or  
kick try**

**Who are the eligible receivers?**

**Scrimmage Kick Formation**



21 34 66 25 64 86 20 11

10

5

**Eligible Receivers**

79

**4<sup>th</sup> down or  
kick try**

**RULING**: Once A25 placed his hands on the ball, all players in between the ends (A34, A66, A25, A64 and A86) become ineligible and remain ineligible throughout the down. Once A20 assumed a position on the line of scrimmage, A20 became ineligible as he was covered up by A11.

A79 is ineligible by number.

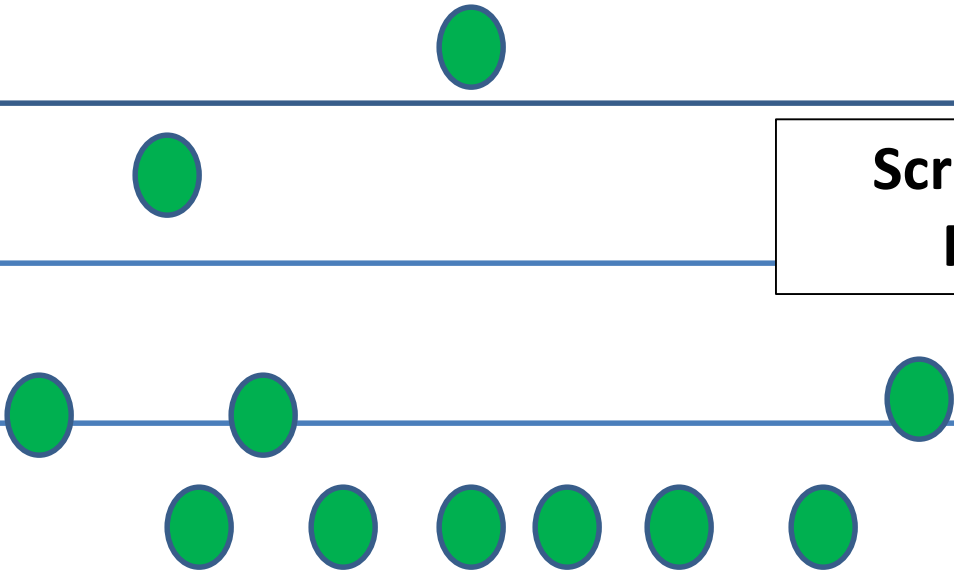
Only A21, A11, A10 and A5 are eligible on the play.

## Case Book Plays

### NUMBERING EXCEPTION

**7.2.5 SITUATION D:** With fourth and 6 from the K20, Team K lines up with A21 as the left end; A34, A66, A25, A64 and A86 in the traditional five tackle-guard center-guard-tackle spots; and A11 on the right end. All are on the line of scrimmage. Players A10, A20 and A5 are in the backfield with A79 lined up in the deep position as a potential kicker. A25 places his hand on the ball.

**Scrimmage Kick Formation**



21 34 66 25 64 86 11

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20

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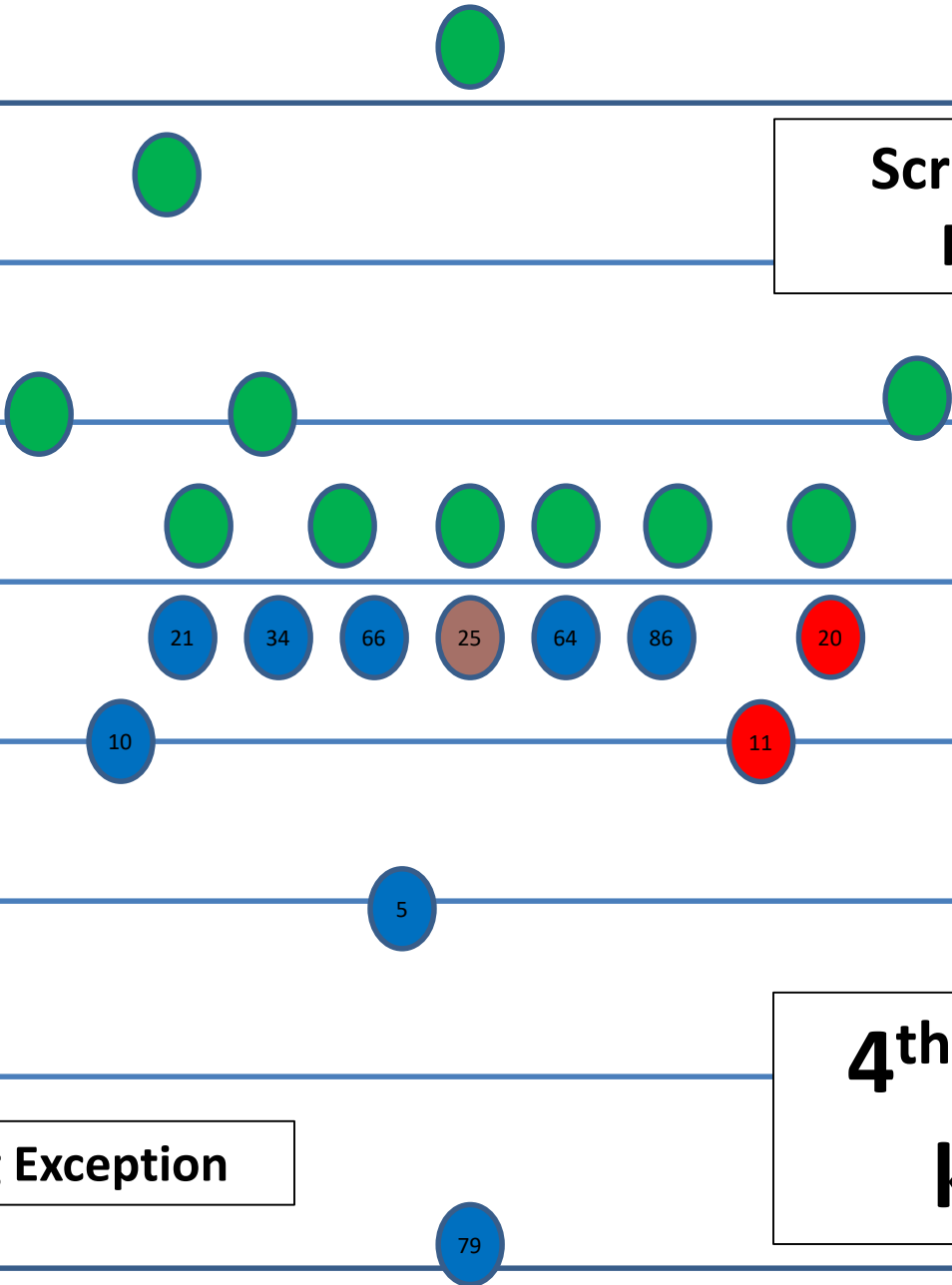
79

**Numbering Exception**

**4<sup>th</sup> down or  
kick try**

Prior to the snap, A11 steps back off of the line and A20 shifts to replace him as the end, where both are set for a second before the ball is snapped.

**Scrimmage Kick  
Formation**



**Numbering Exception**

**4<sup>th</sup> down or  
kick try**



**Who are the eligible receivers?**



RULING: Once A25 placed his hands on the ball, all players in between the ends (A34, A66, A25, A64 and A86) become ineligible and remain ineligible throughout the down. Because A11 stepped back off of the line first, A20 becomes eligible as he would be the end. A21, A20, A 11, A 10 and A5 are eligible. A79 is ineligible by number.

COMMENT: When Team A is in scrimmage-kick formation, it does not have to kick, and may kick when it is not in this formation.

## Case Book Plays

### NUMBERING EXCEPTION

**7.2.5 SITUATION E:** It is fourth and 6 for Team A from its own 40-yard line. Team A initially sets in a scrimmage-kick formation with Number 83 as an interior lineman and four other linemen numbered 50-79. Prior to the snap, 81 encroaches. The penalty is administered leaving Team A only 1 yard to go for a first down. Team A now lines up with Number 83 on the end of the line and through substitution has five interior linemen numbered 50-79. Number 83 goes downfield and catches a touchdown pass.

**RULING:** A legal play. The dead-ball encroachment foul allowed A to cancel the use of the numbering exception and to use Number 83 as an eligible receiver. The numbering exception is canceled, or must be renewed, following a dead ball foul, a charged time-out or TV/radio time-out, the end of a period or an official's time-out.

COMMENT: If a place kick is used for a try, it is a scrimmage kick and the numbering exception may be used.