

**\*1.5.1 SITUATION D:** During the pregame visits with both teams, the referee and another game official note that the players are wearing brand new "throwback" jerseys with undersized and off-set numbers on the front of the jerseys.

**RULING:** The referee may require both teams to change to legal jerseys, and should report the incident to the proper administrative authorities of each school and the state association office. (1-5-1c)

**\*1.5.1 SITUATION F:** During the pregame warm-ups, a game official notices some of the players of Team A wearing (a) sweatbands on their biceps, (b) sweat bands on their calves, or (c) pants which clearly do not cover the knees.

**RULING:** In (a) and (b), the uniform adornments must be removed prior to the individual becoming a player. In (c), the player may not participate without the pants covering the knees. [1-5-1e, 1-5-3a (5)]

**1.5.3 SITUATION D:** During the pregame visit with the head coach of A, the referee or another game official notices that some squad members have eye shields which are: (a) dark, or (b) clear with no tint. The head coach of A has a letter from a physician indicating that the dark shield is a necessity for the player.

**RULING:** In (a), the game officials indicate to the head coach only eye shields which are clear without the presence of any tint may be worn as a physician's statement cannot supersede this rule without expressed written consent of the state association. In (b), the eye shield is legal if, in addition to being clear, it is also molded and rigid, and securely attached to the helmet. [1-5-3c (4)1]

**1.5.3 SITUATION E:** A1, wearing jersey 68 and lined up as an ineligible, and A2, wearing jersey 98 and lined up as an end, desire to switch positions without switching jerseys and attempt to enter the huddle: (a) wearing Velcro replacement numbers; or (b) wearing a pullover dickie/shimmel/practice shirt with the correct number that would permit a position switch.

**RULING:** Illegal in (a), as the jersey must be worn as intended by the manufacturer. Illegal in (b), because unless the new garment meets all of the specifications of the jersey requirements, including the number, it is illegal.

(1-5-1)

**3.3.3 SITUATION G:** K1 punts on fourth and 15 from his own 20-yard line. R1 signals for a fair catch at R's 30. K2 commits kick-catching interference at R's 35 and time for the second period expires during the down. R2 recovers the kick at R's 28.

**RULING:** If R declines the penalty, the period is over. If R accepts an awarded catch or has the penalty otherwise enforced, the period will be extended by an untimed down.  
(6-5-6 PENALTY)

**3.3.4 SITUATION A:** Time expires for the second quarter as A11 runs the ball beyond the line to gain and A11 then throws a forward pass to A9 who scores a touchdown.

**RULING:** Team B will likely accept the penalty, which will negate the touchdown. The period will not be extended as A's foul contained a loss-of-down provision.

**3.7 COMMENT:** A procedure has been adopted to provide an equitable penalty as it relates to illegal substitution. The following are examples of the most common situations and rulings:

1. If a replaced player or substitute attempts to leave the field, but does not get off prior to the snap, the foul is considered as having occurred simultaneously with the snap and the penalty is enforced from the previous spot. (3-7-4, 10-4-2a)

2. If a replaced player does not leave the field within three seconds, it is a dead-ball, illegal-substitution foul. (3-7-1)

3. If a replaced player or substitute goes off the field on the wrong side of the field during the down, it is an illegal substitution (live-ball foul). (10-4-2a)

4. If an entering substitute is not on his team's side of the neutral zone at the snap, illegal substitution is considered to have occurred simultaneously with the snap. If he then participates, it becomes a live-ball foul, illegal participation. (3-7-5, 9-6-4a)

5. When a replaced player or substitute leaves on the wrong side of the field or goes across the end line prior to the snap, it is a dead-ball foul for illegal substitution.

(3-7-2, 10-4-Sb)

6. If a replaced player or substitute enters the field during the down, but does not participate, it is a foul for illegal substitution by a nonplayer, a 5-yard penalty from the succeeding spot. (3-7-5, 9-6-4a)

**7.5 COMMENT:** The following chart should help game officials distinguish between the various possible fouls that can occur when an ineligible receiver touches or is touched by the ball, including accidentally striking, muffing or catching, and with basic fouls regarding ineligibility. ENZ refers to expanded neutral zone.

**TABLE 7-5**

<b>Pass Interference (7-5-7, 7-5-10)</b>	<b>Is it a foul if the act/ touching occurs be- hind neutral zone?</b>	<b>Is it a foul if the act/ touching occurs in neutral zone (includ- ing ENZ)?</b>	<b>Is it a foul if the act/ touching occurs beyond the ENZ?</b>
Accidentally striking ineligible	No	No	If contact is made against an opponent that is deemed to be pass interference, yes, 15 yards. If no interference, no.
Muff by ineligible	No	No	If contact is made against an opponent that is deemed to be pass interference, yes, 15 yards. If no interference, no.
Catch by ineligible	No	No	If contact is made against an opponent that is deemed to be pass interference, yes, 15 yards. If no interference, no.
<b>Ineligible Downfield (7-5-12)</b>	<b>Is it a foul if the act/ touching occurs be- hind neutral zone?</b>	<b>Is it a foul if the act/ touching occurs in neutral zone (includ- ing ENZ)?</b>	<b>Is it a foul if the act/ touching occurs beyond the ENZ?</b>
Accidentally striking ineligible	No	No (see ENZ note)	If not yet touched, yes, 5 yards
Muff by ineligible	No	No (see ENZ note)	If not yet touched, yes, 5 yards
Catch by ineligible	No	No (see ENZ note)	If not yet touched, yes, 5 yards
<b>Illegal Touching (7-5-13)</b>	<b>Is it a foul if the act/ touching occurs be- hind neutral zone?</b>	<b>Is it a foul if the act/ touching occurs in neutral zone (includ- ing ENZ)?</b>	<b>Is it a foul if the act/ touching occurs beyond the ENZ?</b>
Accidentally striking ineligible	No	No	No
Muff by ineligible	Yes, 5 yards, loss of down	Yes, 5 yards, loss of down	Yes, 5 yards, loss of down
Catch by ineligible	Yes, 5 yards, loss of down	Yes, 5 yards, loss of down	Yes, 5 yards, loss of down

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**8.2.2 SITUATION D:** A1 scores a touchdown. After the score, B commits a (a) dead ball, (b) Unsportsmanlike or (c) nonplayer foul prior to the initial ready for play on the try.

**RULING:** In (a), (b) or (c), Team A may elect to enforce the foul at the succeeding spot or on the subsequent kickoff.

**9.3.6 COMMENT:** Clipping is a block against an opponent when the initial contact is from behind, at or below the waist, and not against a player who is a runner or pretending to be a runner. Such cases shall not be ruled clipping and/or blocking in the back unless the game official sees the initial contact. When in doubt, the contact is legal and not from behind. When the contact is ruled to be from behind, and the game official has questions as to the initial point of contact, it shall be ruled clipping.

**10.2.5 SITUATION G:** A1 scores on a long touchdown run. During the down, prior to the score, B1 committed a personal foul. During the down or following the score, A1 commits an unsportsmanlike conduct foul for celebrating.

\***RULING:** 10-2-5 does not apply as B1's personal foul was not dead ball. A can keep the score and will have the option to enforce B's foul on the try or on the succeeding free kick. B will then have the option to accept the penalty for A1's unsportsmanlike conduct foul as these fouls should be enforced separately and in order of occurrence. (8-2-2)

**10.2.5 SITUATION H:** B1 intercepts A1's pass and returns the interception for a touchdown. After the change of possession, A2 commits a personal foul during the return. During the down or following the score, B1 commits an unsportsmanlike foul for celebrating.

**RULING:** 10-2-5 does not apply as A2's personal foul was not dead ball. B can keep the score and will have the option to enforce A's foul on the try or on the succeeding free kick. A will then have the option to accept the penalty for B1's unsportsmanlike conduct as these fouls should be enforced separately and in order of occurrence. (8-2-3)