**2024 New Case Book Plays**

**LEGAL EQUIPMENT**

**1.5.1 SITUATION C**: During the down, A4 is noticed to (a) have a clear tooth and mouth protector; or (b) have a tooth and mouth protector that is only covering the upper, front teeth; or (c) have a second tooth and mouth protector hanging down as the snap is imminent. **RULING**: In (a), there is no foul. In (b) and (c), an official's time-out is declared, and the player must be replaced for at least one down unless the halftime intermission or an overtime intermission occurs. **COMMENT**: Any time the play clock is interrupted for improperly worn or missing equipment by a player, and this was not due to game action, the player is to be removed from the game for at least one play. All tooth and mouth protectors shall cover the posterior teeth but have no color requirement. The game officials should, through normal observations, attempt to verify that each player is legally equipped prior to the ball becoming live. [1-5-1-d (5), 1-5-5, 1-5-6, 3-5-10e]

**MISSING OR IMPROPERLY WORN EQUIPMENT**

**3.5.10 SITUATION J**: During a play during the first period, B1 is detected wearing: (a) an earring; or (b) a necklace; or (c) a ring; or (d) a medical alert indicator; or (e) a religious medal or other religious items. **RULING**: In (a), (b) and (c), an official's time-out is declared, and the player must be replaced for at least one down unless the halftime intermission or an overtime intermission occurs. B1 must comply with the rules before further participation. **COMMENT**: Any time the play clock is interrupted for improperly worn or missing equipment by a player, the player is to be removed from the game for at least one play. In (d), legal if securely attached to the body and visible, if necessary, and judged by the game official not to present a hazard to the wearer or other players. In (e), the religious medal or other religious items must be taped to the body and worn under the uniform. [1-5-3c (6)]

**INTERLOCKED BLOCKING**

**9.2.1 SITUATION J**: On a successful try for point by kick, the interior linemen of K all reached across and grasped the teammate immediately to their inside after the snap. **RULING**: Interlocked blocking, 10-yard penalty from the basic spot defined in rule 10-4 (10-4)

**ILLEGAL BLOCKING**

**9.3.6 SITUATION B**: Linebacker B1 is lined up three yards from the line of scrimmage and in the free-blocking zone. A2, who is on the line of scrimmage and in the free-blocking zone, when the ball is snapped, blocks (a) B1 below the waist, from behind or (b) B1 in the back, above the waist. In both situations, the contact is in the zone and the ball is in the zone when the contact occurs. **RULING**: In (a), it is clipping, and a 15-yard penalty would be assessed from the basic spot defined in Rule 10-4. In (b), legal. (10-4)

**ILLEGAL PARTICIPATION**

**9.6.1 SITUATION E**: Between second and third downs, Team A's head coach sends several substitutes into the game. A11, believing that he has been replaced, leaves the field and goes directly to his team's box. Realizing that his position has not been substituted tor, A11 enters the field as the ball is being snapped, runs a pass pattern, and catches the ball for a first down. **RULING**: This is illegal participation and is marked off 15 yards from the basic spot defined in Rule 10-4. (10-4)

**ILLEGAL BATTING, KICKING AND EXCEPTION**

**9.7.3 SITUATION**: A is in punt formation and the ball is snapped to A1, who turns his back to the line of scrimmage and throws a backward pass into the air. A2 comes forward and bats the ball 20 yards downfield where: (a) A3 recovers it 5 yards beyond the line to gain; or (b) it is caught by A4 who advances for an additional 5 yards; or (c} it goes out of bounds in advance of the line to gain; or (d) B1 intercepts and returns it for an apparent touchdown. **RULING**: In (a). (b), (c) and (d), the batting by A2 is illegal. In (a), (b) and (c), it will be to B's advantage to accept the distance penalty which will be administered from the spot of the foul because the batting occurred during the loose-ball play and behind the basic spot defined in Rule 4. In (d), because the foul was during a loose-ball play, before a change of possession, B may keep the touchdown by declining the penalty for A’s foul. Otherwise, the penalty will be enforced from the spot of the foul and A will retain possession of the ball if B accepts the penalty. (10-5-3)

**COACHES CONDUCT AND EQUIPMENT VERIFICATION**

**9.8.1 SITUATION H**: During the pregame inspection, the game officials note that one of the teams is wearing jerseys that do not comply with the NFHS football jersey rule by: (a) having color on sections of the white (visitor) jersey where color is restricted; (b) having white on sections of the non-white (home) jersey where white is not permitted; or (c) other illegal markings or violations of the rule; or (d) the jerseys of the home team are not all the same dark color(s) that clearly contrast with white. The team is unable to change jerseys prior to the start of the game. **RULING**: In (a), (b) and (c), the team not in compliance is assessed an unsportsmanlike conduct foul against the head coach on the opening free kick for the team failing to wear legal equipment following verification. This is one of the two allowable unsportsmanlike fouls prior to ejection. The game officials should then report the incident to the state association for review as the state associations must ensure that this procedure is not used to circumvent the NFHS football rules. (1-5-1b)

**LIVE AND DEAD-BALL FOUL ADMINISTRATION**

**10.1.1 SITUATION A**: Where is the ball spotted following penalty acceptance when it is snapped from the right-side hash mark and the run ends in the left-side zone and the foul is: (a) illegal motion by A1; or (b) holding by A1 in the middle of the field behind the end of the run; or (c) grasping the face mask/helmet opening by B1 in making the tackle? **RULING**: In (a) or (B) it is spotted at the right-side hash mark. In (b), it is spotted in the middle of the field since the enforcement spot was the spot of the foul. In (c) if the end of the play is beyond the line of scrimmage, the ball is spotted at the spot after the penalty is enforced from the end of the run.

If the end of the play is behind the line of scrimmage, the ball is spotted on the right-side hash mark.

**BASIC SPOTS FOR PENALTY ENFORCEMENT**

**10.3.1 SITUATION A**: With third and 10 from B's 40, A1 takes the snap and runs wide and pitches back to A2. A2 catches the ball behind the neutral zone and runs to B's 10 where he is downed. (a) During the pitch, there is holding by B1; or (b) B2 grasps A2 by the face mask/helmet opening during the tackle. **RULING**: In (a), The basic spot is the previous spot. If A accepts the penalty it will be A's ball first and 10 at B's 30-yard line. In (b), the facemask/helmet opening penalty occurred during a running play. The basic spot is the end of the run. If A accepts the penalty, it will be A's ball first and goal at B's 5. (10-4-2b, 10-4-3)

**10.3.1 SITUATION B**: A1 receives the snap and begins a run behind the neutral zone: (a) A1 fumbles the ball and then kicks it while it is rolling on the ground; or (b) A1 advances beyond the neutral zone and either kicks or passes the ball forward. **RULING**: In (a), the penalty is assessed from the spot of the illegal kick per 10-4-4a. In (b), it is a foul during a running play, and it will be penalized from the spot of the illegal kick or illegal pass per 10-4-4f.

(10-3-3b, 10-4-4a, 10-4-4f)

**10.3.3 SITUATION C**:

A first and 10 on A’s 40.The runner runs to B’s 40 , where he fumbles the ball forward and out of bounds at B’s 30. During the run, (a) before the fumble, A11 commits a holding foul at B’s 38; or (b) B18 commits a face mask foul anywhere on the field. RULING: In (a), the holding penalty is enforced from the end of the run (where A lost possession), giving A first and 10 at the 50. In (b), the penalty for an illegal face mask is enforced from the end of the run (where A lost possession). Giving A first and 10 on B’s 25. (10-4)

**10.4.2 SITUATION A**: During a scrimmage down, quarterback A1 throws a backward pass to A2 who runs about 30 yards behind the neutral zone and toward the sideline before throwing a forward pass downfield. There is holding by A3: (a) during the backward pass; or (b) during the run which preceded the forward pass; or (c) during the forward pass at the line of scrimmage. **RULING**: It is a loose-ball play in (a), (b) and (c). The basic spot in all three cases is the previous spot.

**10.4.2 SITUATION B:** On third and 20 from his own 35-yard line, A1 throws a forward pass to A2. Prior to the catch, B1 is detected holding. A2 advances to B's 45 following the catch. **RULING:** B1's foul occurred during a loose-ball play and if the penalty is accepted it will be enforced from the previous spot. A obviously will decline the penalty since it has gained 10 yards more and has a first down. The holding penalty cannot be added to the end of the run because the foul was committed during the loose-ball play. (10-3-1b, 10-4-2b)

**10.4.2 SITUATION C:** A1 behind the neutral zone has the ball batted from his possession by B1. While the ball is loose: (a) A2 holds B1, or (b) B2 grasps A2's face mask/helmet opening. **RULING:** Since A1 lost possession, the status of the ball is the same as if it had been fumbled by A1, therefore fouls during this interval are fouls during a loose-ball play. In (a), the penalty is enforced from the previous spot if A1's foul was beyond the previous spot. In (b), the penalty is enforced from the previous spot, regardless of where B1's foul occurred or where the down ends.

**10.4.2 SITUATION D:** K1 uses an illegal tee that is not detected until the ball is kicked. **RULING:** This is a foul under 9-9-4 as an unfair act. If the penalty is accepted by R, the foul is enforced from the previous spot. (9-9-4, 10-4-2a).