

March 2018 Study Guide

Welcome to the 2018 season. Like last year we are starting with the kicking game. In doing so we recognize rule changes have been implemented in this area related to enforcement. **YOU SHOULD REVIEW THESE PRIOR TO COMPLETING THIS GUIDE.** Likely your training officer has them but they can also be obtained easily from the NFHS web site. New rules and mechanics changes will be covered **in depth** with the last two study guides. We are waiting for mechanics meeting to occur plus we anticipate NFHS written clarification related to fouls by R in kicking situations involving illegal substitution and participation. Stay tuned and as always we will provide updates and remove questions if the NFHS Editorial Committee changes its mind. Which they have been known to do. These often come out in mid-summer after the NFHS Interpreter meeting in July. Equally important, no final decision on seven man crew in the playoffs has been made by GHSA staff. It is highly likely it will pass as a compromise to instant replay. Rule section and number references may change when new rule books come out so bear with us.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CREW STUDY: In your crew or individual study envision your mechanics for each question. Also, emphasis should be on staying with keys on kickoffs. When we look at film we are seeing many illegal blocks that should be seen if keys are being followed. See #3 item below.

ABBREVIATIONS: The usual. EZ= end zone. Yard lines are designated with the team that defends that yard line. Example: B34. Down and distance per the usual designation. Down first then distance. Example: 3/8 would be third down and eight yards to go. Team R- receiving team. Team K-kicking team. Team A-offense. Team B- defense. OL-offensive lineman. DL-defensive lineman. LOS- line of scrimmage.

MORE ITEMS FOR CREW DISCUSSION:

1. How does the definition of illegal participation change with change of possession on kicks?
2. How do we identify pop-up kicks?
3. In film review we see individual keys on free kicks assigned to wings and deeps given up or looked off too quickly. A point of crew emphasis.
4. What conditions must be met for PSK to be part of enforcement?
5. What is an illegal formation on free kicks?
6. What are the numbering exceptions that affect scrimmage kicks on first, second or third down?
7. What are the new rules of enforcement for penalties on K during scrimmage and free kicks?

QUESTIONS

1. 4/8 from K48. Punter K82 muffs the snap but regains possession and begins to scramble. Under pressure K82 punts the ball from the K49 yard line. The ball hits the ground well downfield where R12 picks up and advances to the R30 and tackled. Which statement is **FALSE**:
 - A. K82 committed a foul for an illegal kick.
 - B. While the ball is loose after the kick it is treated as a fumble.
 - C. The fifteen yard penalty for the illegal kick, if accepted, is enforced from the previous spot.
 - D. R may decline the penalty and retain possession at the R30.
2. 4/16 from the K32 yard line. The punt is high but short. R26 is running forward to catch the ball but has to stop and go around K43 at the R49 yard line and never reaches the ball. No fair catch signal is given. The Field Judge determines that kick-catch interference occurred despite no

contact on R26 by K43 and throws his flag. Teammate R12 recovers the grounded kick at the R48 and advances to the K37 where tackled.

Concerning this play which statement is **FALSE**:

- A. R may accept a fifteen yard penalty from the previous spot and replay the down.
 - B. R may accept a fifteen yard penalty from the R48- the spot of recovery-and put the ball in play by either a snap or scoring free kick attempt.
 - C. R may accept a fifteen yard penalty from the R49-the spot of interference and an awarded fair catch- and put the ball in play by either a snap or scoring free kick attempt.
 - D. A free kick after a fair catch- real or awarded- can score three points.
 - E. The Field Judge is correct. Contact is not necessary for kick-catch interference.
3. 4/7 from the K49 yard line. Team K punts and R48 catches the kick at the R22 and advances to the R39. While the kick is airborne, R20 is flagged for holding at the R28. Which statement is **TRUE**:
- A. If accepted, a ten yard penalty is enforced from the R22. 1/10 for Team R at the R12.
 - B. If accepted, a ten yard penalty is enforced from the R28. 1/10 for Team R at the R18.
 - C. If accepted, a ten yard penalty from the K49. Team K will put the ball in play 1/10 from the R41 yard line.
 - D. If accepted, a ten yard penalty from the R39. Team R will put the ball in play 1/10 from the R29.
4. Team K punts on 4/6 from the K20 yard line. While the kick is airborne R33 enters the field believing R only had ten players at the snap-which they did. He does not block or influence the play. R21 catches the punt

at the R40 and returns the kick for a touchdown. Which statement is **TRUE**:

- A. R33 is guilty of illegal participation. Team K accepts the fifteen yard penalty from the previous spot and puts the ball in play 1/10 at the K35.
 - B. R33 is guilty of Illegal participation. A fifteen yard penalty is enforced under post-scrimmage kick enforcement from the R40 and Team R puts the ball in play 1/10 from the R25.
 - C. Illegal substitution. This is enforced from the previous spot with a replay of the down.
 - D. Illegal substitution. This is penalized under PSK enforcement as it was not simultaneous with the snap. 1/10 for Team R at the R35. The touchdown is negated.
 - E. R33 is guilty of illegal substitution. By rule, he remained a non-player. This penalty is enforced from the succeeding spot. Team K has the choice of enforcement on the try or subsequent kickoff.
5. Team K kicks off opening the second half. The kick slices to the sideline sinking quickly. R48 catches the kick while one foot is on the sideline on the R31 yard line. Which statement is **FALSE**:
- A. Since R48 touched the ball prior to the end of the kick it will be Team R ball 1/10 at the R31. No other options are available.
 - B. Since R48 was out of bounds when he touched the ball, the kick went out of bounds untouched by R in the field of play.
 - C. Team R can accept a five yard penalty from the previous spot and replay the down.
 - D. Team R can put the ball in play at the R31 yard line on the hash mark nearest the sideline the ball went out of bounds.
 - E. Team R can accept an add on five yard penalty and start

play from the R36.

6. Team K punts. R15 catches the punt over his head at the R4 yard line and his momentum takes him into the EZ. While R15 is in the EZ and prior to being tackled there, R52 blocks K50 in the back at the B12 yard line.

Which statement is **TRUE**:

- A. Momentum exception applies. 1/10 for Team B on the B4.
- B. Momentum exception does not apply. Safety. Two points for Team A.
- C. 1/10 for Team B on the B2 yard line. The penalty is enforced from the spot of the momentum exception.
- D. 1/10 for Team B on the B6 yard line.

7. Team K legal punt is bouncing on the R2 yard line. The Field Judge is waiting for the ball to stop rolling when K92 blocks R23 into the ball forcing it into the EZ where it is recovered by K92. Which statement is

TRUE:

- A. 1/10 for Team R on the R2 yard line.
- B. The play is a touchback. 1/10 for Team R on the R20.
- C. Touchdown for Team K
- D. A new force was applied by the action of K92 on R23.

8. K's punt is high and short. R21 is in position to catch the punt 12 yards beyond the LOS. K82 is close to R21 but does not make contact. R21 is forced to step around K82 but eventually makes the catch and is downed at the K40. Which statement is **TRUE**:

- A. This is kick catch interference only if R21 gave a valid fair catch signal.
- B. Kick catch interference regardless of a fair catch signal or not.
- C. If kick catch interference is enforced, Team R will have the

option of a scoring free kick.

D. Both B and C are correct.

9. 4/17 from the R43. Team K punts with 1:22 to go in the fourth quarter. The kick lands and bounces at the R8. K82 in full stride catches the bouncing kick at the R2. His first step is in the field of play. His momentum takes him into the EZ where he is tackled by R10. Which statement is **TRUE**:

- A. 1/10 for Team R on the R2 yard line
- B. 1/10 for Team K on the R2 yard line
- C. The result of the play is a touchback
- D. Touchdown for Team K
- E. Momentum exception applies

10. Two arms raised full length above the head and waved is an illegal fair catch signal. **TRUE OR FALSE**:

- A. True
- B. False

11. 4/10 from midfield. R completes a legal fair catch at the R15. R has 12 players participating at the snap. After the fair catch and the ball is dead K58 contacts the receiver and is flagged for a dead ball personal foul. The next play will be:

- A. 1/10 for Team R from the R22.
- B. Fouls offset and the down must be replayed.
- C. 1/10 for Team K at midfield. The clock will start on the snap after a legal kick and fair catch.
- D. 1/10 for Team R from the R15.

12. K kicks off to start the game. The kick is caught and advanced to the R30. While the kick was in flight K90 enters at midfield mistakenly thinking there were only ten players for Team K and participates in the tackle. A flag is thrown and penalty accepted. Which statement concerning possibilities for the next play is **FALSE**:
- A. Team R 1/10 from the R45.
 - B. K will rekick from the K25.
 - C. K will rekick from the K35 as the fifteen yard penalty is administered from the spot of the foul- where the player entered the field of play.
 - D. R could decline the penalty and have 1/10 at the R30.
13. K executes an onside kick to open the second half from the K40, K64 sees R42 is moving towards recovery and possession of the ball at the K49 yard line. K64 blocks R42 above the waist from the front and recovers the ball just as it reaches the fifty yard line. The result of this play:
- A. No foul. Team K players can block Team R players if they are making an attempt to recover the onside kick prior to their touching the ball.
 - B. It is an illegal block by K64. It will be administered fifteen yards from the previous spot.
 - C. It is an illegal block by K64 and is administered ten yards from the spot of the foul.
 - D. It is an illegal block by K64 and is administered ten yards from the previous spot.
 - E. The appropriate signal for this illegal contact is the chop block signal. Signal number 40.
14. An onside kick is executed from the K40. The ball has touched the ground and traveled ten yards when K75 blocks R13 above the waist

and from the front at the K49. Team K recovers the ball at the R49. The result of the play:

- A. No foul. Team K ball 1/10 at the R49.
- B. Foul by K75 as he made contact in the neutral zone which is illegal. The penalty is fifteen yards from the previous spot.
- C. Foul by K75 for illegal contact in the neutral zone which is illegal. Ten yards from the previous spot.
- D. Foul by K75 because he blocked in the neutral zone which is illegal. R can accept an awarded fair catch at the spot of the foul, accept a fifteen yard penalty assessed from the spot of K's recovery and put the ball in play first and ten or can request K rekick from the K25 yard line.

15. An onside kick is executed from the K40. While the ball is rolling on the ground but prior to it traveling ten yards, R88 blocks K60 above the waist from the front at the K47. Immediately after this contact, K15 blocks R27 to the ground by contacting him above the waist from the front. The result of the play:

- A. No foul by either team.
- B. Foul only on R88 as the ball had not gone ten yards.
- C. Foul only on K15 for blocking R27 prior to the ball going ten yards.
- D. Fouls on both K and R that offset.

16. 4/5 for Team K from the K10. Punt by Team K is muffed in flight beyond the neutral zone by R45. The ball rebounds into Team K EZ where it is recovered by K99 and advanced to the K20. K99 was tackled inbounds. Which statement is **TRUE**:

- A. The ball became dead once K99 recovered it in the EZ. This is a touchback.
- B. The ball became dead once K99 recovered it. This is a

safety.

- C. The advance by K99 is legal. 1/10 for Team K at the K20. The clock starts on the snap because new series was awarded after a legal kick.
- D. The advance by K99 is legal. 1/10 for Team K at the K20. Since a new series was awarded as the result of action on fourth down the clock will start on the ready.

17. 4/10 for Team K from the R40. Team K is lined up in a scrimmage kick formation using a holder K30 seven yards behind the LOS with a knee on the ground and K88 three yards behind him to attempt a placekick. Prior to the snap, K88 shifts to a flanker position and K99 stands up remaining seven yards behind the LOS. K99 receives the snap and punts the ball into Team R EZ. At the snap R54 charges directly into the snapper. Which statement is **TRUE**:

- A. R54 is guilty of roughing the snapper.
- B. If K accepts the penalty for roughing the snapper it will be Team R ball 1/10 from the R10 as enforced under PSK.
- C. After enforcement of roughing the snapper K will have the ball 1/10 from the R25.
- D. There is no foul for roughing the snapper. The result of the play is touchback.
- E. A and C

18. Team K punts on 4/10 from the R40. The ball lands at the R25 and is rolling towards the EZ when K20 bats the ball back towards his own goal line at the R1. The ball hits K50 in the leg at the R12, caroms to the R10 where R49 recovers and advances to the R20 and fumbles. The ball is subsequently recovered by K50 at the R25. Which statement is **TRUE**:

- A. R may put the ball in play 1/10 from the R1- a spot of

first touching by K20 or at the R12 also a spot of first touching by K.

- B. Team R lost the right of first touching once they legally advanced the ball.
 - C. K50 did not commit first touching because the ball was batted into his leg.
 - D. K20 is guilty of illegal batting. This penalty will be enforced fifteen yards from the previous spot and the down will be replayed.
19. K punts 4/5 from the R45. While the kick is in flight a fair catch is signaled by R80 at the R10 yard line. The ball hits at the R5 and is rolling towards the EZ. R80 then blocks K28 at the R2 to keep him from downing the ball near the goal line. The ball enters the EZ untouched. Which statement is **TRUE**:
- A. R80 is guilty of blocking after signaling for a fair catch. This penalty will be enforced fifteen yards from the previous spot. It will be 1/10 for Team K from the R30.
 - B. R80 is guilty of blocking after signaling for a fair catch. This is enforced as a post-scrimmage kick foul as half the distance from the succeeding spot. Team R 1/10 from the R10.
 - C. R80 is guilty of blocking after signaling for a fair catch. It will be enforced as a post-scrimmage kick foul. Team R will put the ball in play 1/10 from the R1.
 - D. There is no foul. The play results in a touchback.
20. K punts on 4/10 from the K10. R26 signals for a fair catch. K38 contacts and interferes with R26 while he attempts to make the catch at the K45 on the far hash mark. The ball hits the ground and goes out of bounds untouched at midfield. R chooses to accept the

penalty for kick catch interference by accepting an awarded fair catch. After enforcement R requests to place the ball in the middle of the field for the next snap. The request should be denied.

- A. True
- B. False

21. Team K leads 31-28 after scoring a field goal with 0:04 seconds left on the clock in the fourth quarter. The succeeding free kick is a line drive that bounces at the R18 and is touched there by R33. The Referee starts the clock. The ball continues to roll slowly towards the EZ and breaks the plane of the goal line as the horn sounds and the game clock showing 0:00. The officials say the game is over. They are correct.

- A. True
- B. False

22. Fourth quarter, 0:35 seconds left in the game. Team R leads 21-20. Team K must free kick after their score and lines up for an onside kick. The kicker, K16, is seven yards behind the ball at the ready for play whistle. Team K has five players on each side of the ball and all within five yards of their free kick line. As K16 approaches to kick the ball, K12 comes from his right and executes the onside kick leaving four players to the right of the kicker and six players to the left. The ball is muffed by R37 at the K49 and recovered by K89 on the fifty yard line. The result of this play is:

- A. Team K ball at the fifty yard line
- B. Team K should be flagged for encroachment resulting in a dead ball.
- C. Team R may decline the penalty and take the ball at the K49
- D. The next play should be a rekick by K from the K35.
- E. B and D.

23. K kicks off after a score. The ball hits and is rolling at the R35 when it is muffed by R18. The ball then rolls out of bounds at the R28. Which statement is **FALSE**:
- A. Team R will put the ball in play 1/10 at the R28.
 - B. The game clock should start when the ball is touched by R18.
 - C. Team K will rekick from the K35 after a five yard penalty.
 - D. Team R does not have an option to take the ball at the R35.
24. Free kick by Team K from the K40. Ball is rolling at the R35 when it is touched by K32 and subsequently rolls out of bounds at the R28. Which statement is **TRUE**:
- A. Team R must take the ball at the R28.
 - B. Clock does not start when K32 touches the ball
 - C. Team K must rekick from the K35 after a five yard penalty.
 - D. Team R has the option to take the ball at the R35.
25. Team K executes a free kick from the K40. For any K player to legally gain possession of the ball what must happen prior to possession?
- A. The ball must travel ten yards either on the ground, the air or a combination of both.
 - B. Ball must touch the ground
 - C. Team R possesses the kick and then fumble with K recovery.
 - D. Team R muffs the kick with K recovery.
 - E. Any of the above
26. Team K kicks off to start the game. The ball lands and comes to rest at the R2. R28 attempts to pick up the ball but muffs it. The ball then rolls and contacts a properly placed pylon. What is the result of this play:

- A. Safety. Two points for Team K.
- B. Touchback. R ball at the R20.

27. Team K kicks off on an artificial surface. The ball leaves the tee, immediately hits the ground and bounces into the air well above the head of R12 who is signaling for a fair catch. Proper officiating:
- A. Would immediately blow the whistle, ending the play and penalize K for an illegal pop up kick.
 - B. Allow play to continue.
28. On second down in overtime Team K attempts a field goal using the snapper numbered K10. There are four other linemen numbered 50, 67, 58, and 66. This is legal.
- A. True
 - B. False
29. While a punt is airborne, R23 gives a legal fair catch signal. He muffs the kick into the air and the ball is then caught by teammate R45. R45 may advance the ball.
- A. True
 - B. False
30. K kicks off after a score. The kick is not a pop up kick but is high. R35 signals for a fair catch at the K46 yard line. A fair catch may be made in the neutral zone on a free kick.
- A. True
 - B. False