



2024 Football Memo – Week 6

September 25, 2024

Illegal Participation vs Illegal Substitution

Illegal participation and illegal substitution are two different types of violations that can occur during a game:

- Illegal participation - 15-yard penalty

See Rule 9-6

- Illegal substitution - 5-yard penalty

See Rule 3-7

A replaced player who attempts to leave the field before the snap but fails and does not participate should get an illegal substitution penalty. 3-7-4 Live ball - 5-yard penalty. It is illegal participation to "have 12 or more players participating at the snap or free kick." 9-7-4(c).

Running vs Roughing the Kicker

Running and roughing the kicker is sometimes difficult to determine which should be called. Rule 9-4-5 states "A defensive player shall neither run into the kicker, which is contact that displaces the kicker without roughing; nor block, tackle or charge into the kicker of a scrimmage kick other than:

- a. Contact is unavoidable because it is not reasonably certain that a kick will be made.
- b. The defense touches the kick near the kicker and contact is unavoidable.
- c. Contact is slight and is partially caused by movement of the kicker.
- d. Contact is caused by R being blocked into the kicker by K.

It is best to use this philosophy when determining running vs roughing the kicker. It is running into the kicker when the kicking leg is contacted according to rule 9-4-5. It is roughing the kicker when the plant leg is contacted according to rule 9-4-5. Running into the kicker is a 5-yard penalty from the previous spot. Roughing the kicker is a 15-yard penalty and automatic first down from the previous spot.



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Illegal Shift vs Illegal Motion

If a Team A player moves to a new position after the ready and before the snap, it is a shift. There might be several shifts between the ready and the snap, but no matter how many there are, after the last shift all members of Team A must stop and remain still for at least one second. (7-2-6) After this one-second pause, the ball may be snapped, or one player may go legally in motion and still be moving away from or parallel to his scrimmage line when the ball is snapped. The point is the shift must be separated from the rest of the action by the one-second pause. Otherwise, it is an illegal shift (live-ball foul) simultaneous with the snap. The penalty is five yards from the previous spot.

In 7-2-7, the rules allow for Team A to have one man in motion at the time the ball is snapped. This player must be moving parallel to or towards his own goal line (away from the line of scrimmage) at the moment the ball is snapped. Illegal motion is a live-ball foul that carries a five-yard penalty from the previous spot.

Because both shifts and motion involve movement, officials sometimes confuse the two. If two players are in motion when the ball is snapped, it is a foul for illegal motion. If two players go in motion and one stops before the snap, it is a foul for illegal shift. If two players go in motion and both stop before the snap and remain set for at least one second, it is legal.

- 2024 NFHS Redding Study Guide

Penalty Enforcement After a Score

Rule 8-2-2 states If an opponent of the scoring team commits a foul (other than unsportsmanlike conduct or nonplayer foul) during a down in which a touchdown is scored and there was not a change in possession during the down, A may accept the results of the play and choose enforcement of the PENALTY: a. On the try; or b. On the subsequent kickoff.

If Team B/R commits a foul during a successful try, under Rule 8-3-5, Team A/K can: (1) accept the penalty and replay the down following enforcement; or (2) accept the result of the play, and enforce the penalty from the **succeeding spot**.

If Team R commits a foul during a successful field goal, under Rule 8-4-3, Team K can: (1) accept the penalty and replay the down following enforcement; or (2) accept the result of the play, and enforce the penalty from the **succeeding spot**.

It is important to note in all of these situations - **The penalty does not need to be declined for the score to count.**



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SDHSAA Zoom Meeting

Our first Zoom Training session on 9/23 was successful and we hope you are able to attend the next Zoom meeting on 9/30. We will be covering mechanics and philosophies of officiating.

Here is a link of the recorded meeting from 9/23 has been added to the "Training Videos" page on the SDHSAA website, under the 'In-Season Video Clips' heading "September 23, 2024 (Zoom)":

<https://www.sdhsaa.com/football-training-videos/>

Here are more details for the next call:

Monday, 9/30 – 7:00 PM CT – All coaches, officials, and observers – 30 minutes, recorded to be posted, all on mute, chat in questions

SDHSAA Admin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86915114329?pwd=ILRA3s9xRJTKWbUhDwv9RKgcBuLzDH.1>

Meeting ID: 869 1511 4329

Passcode: 787030

Stay focused as we have about a month left before
playoffs start!

Remember, MIBT = Make it be there

For suggestions, feedback, and comments, please feel free to contact.		
SDHSAA Officiating Coordinator		
Justin Ingalls	coordinator@sdhsaa.com	605-201-9721
Football Officiating Team Captains		
Mark Smith	mrsmith57501@gmail.com	605-222-0281
Todd Landsman	toddmlandsman@gmail.com	605-310-1366
Jason McGough	jmcgough1974@gmail.com	605-390-2853