

WDFOA rules exam

Summer 2006

Instructions: Use last year's rulebook. Indicate True or False on answer sheet and provide rule reference(s). Return answer sheet only to John Luther, 12536 Belfield Ct., Woodbridge, VA 22192.

Note: In the exam situations, A is the team that puts the ball in play and B is the opponent. K is the kicking team and R is the receiving team. A1, B1, R1 and K1 are players of these teams. If team possession changes during the down, each team retains its identity. In kicking situations, it is not during a try and no fair-catch signal has been given unless specified. Unless stated, acts occur while the ball is inbounds, a forward pass is legal, and any out-of-bounds is between the goal lines. Line means scrimmage line. Reference to a foul is to a player foul that is not unsportsmanlike. There is no foul or change of possession, unless it is mentioned, and penalties are considered accepted for enforcement.

1. The batting of a pass, kick or fumble in flight is not considered a new force for judging whether a touchback or safety results.
2. A safety will be scored when an offensive player commits any foul for which the penalty is accepted and enforcement is from a spot in his end zone.
3. The ball becomes dead when K is first to touch a scrimmage kick which is at rest beyond the neutral zone, before any touching by R.
4. All dead ball fouls are enforced in the order in which they occurred and always from the spot of the foul.
5. All multiple fouls are enforced in the order in which they occur.
6. Illegal substitution, which occurs simultaneously with the snap, is enforced from the previous spot.
7. The momentum exception does not apply to a free kick.
8. If a kickoff is at rest on R's 5-yard line and R1 intentionally kicks the ball through R's end zone, it is a touchback whether the penalty for illegal kicking is declined or accepted.
9. A legal free or scrimmage kick which is not a scoring attempt does not become dead until the ball touches something after it is behind R's goal line plane.
10. If a fair catch signal is given by R1 beyond the neutral zone, R2 may advance if he catches or recovers a scrimmage kick anywhere in the field of play.

11. After the ball is ready-for-play, each Team A player must momentarily be within the 9-yard marks before the snap.
12. If a loss of down foul by A occurs during a successful try, there is no score and the down is replayed.
13. The basic spot for penalty enforcement is the goal line when the final result of the play is a touchback.
14. The runner may be blocked below the waist from behind.
15. A player's gloves must have the compliance label/stamp unless made of unaltered plain cloth.
16. An unofficial auxiliary down indicator is required.
17. A forward underhand pitch, behind the neutral zone from A1 to A2 is an incomplete pass if not caught.
18. A foul by B1 during a down in which Team A scores a touchdown or 2-point try may be penalized.
19. If K1's punt is blocked by R1 and strikes the ground and is then forced into K's end zone by R2, it is a touchback if K1 recovers and is downed there.
20. A new series is awarded to K if it recovers its own, untouched, scrimmage kick beyond the expanded neutral zone.
21. On kicks going into K's end zone, force is not a factor.
22. A free kick may be recovered by K in R's end zone.
23. No foul causes the loss of the ball.
24. It is an illegal block if R1, who has signaled for a fair catch, blocks after the kick has been muffed by R2.
25. Prior to the game, the umpire must check and personally verify that all player equipment is legal.
26. If a loose ball touches a player who is in contact with the sideline, the ball is considered inbounds and remains live.
27. Failure to properly wear required equipment when the snap is imminent is a delay-of-game foul.
28. After a fair catch or kick catching interference resulting in an awarded fair catch, R may choose to have the ball placed on the proper yard line anywhere between the inbounds lines and may snap or free kick.
29. Legal clipping within the free-blocking zone is limited to offensive and defensive linemen.

30. Removable shoe cleats shall not exceed 1/2 inch in length.
31. The period must be extended if during the last timed down B1 commits an unsportsmanlike foul and the penalty is accepted.
32. Illegal participation is enforced as a live ball foul.
33. R may recover any scrimmage kick anywhere between the goal lines and advance.
34. After a double foul, the down is replayed and no yardage penalty is enforced.
35. It is legal to conserve time by intentionally throwing the ball to the ground immediately after receiving a direct hand-to-hand snap.
36. A ball without any stripes is legal for use if both coaches agree to use it.
37. When a punt is used following a safety, the kick may be made from within one step beyond K's free-kick line.
38. If during the last timed down of a period A1 holds and A2 scores a touchdown, the period is automatically ended and the score is cancelled.
39. The dead ball exception allows the ball to remain alive if place-kick holder K1, while his knee(s) are on the ground, catches the snap and then tosses the ball to K2.
40. When a ball is loose, it is in possession of the team of the player who was last in possession.
41. It is an unsportsmanlike foul if any player attempts to focus attention upon himself with any delayed, excessive or prolonged act.
42. Mandatory knee pads must be worn over the knees and the pants must cover the knee pads.
43. If a player is blocked out of bounds by an opponent and returns inbounds at the first opportunity, he may legally participate.
44. If an inadvertent whistle sounds with B1 in possession, Team B may not retain possession.
45. Prior to change of possession, any player of Team A may throw a legal forward pass provided both feet of the passer are in or behind the neutral zone when the ball is released.
46. An illegal shift is a foul at the snap.
47. The ball must have the NFHS authenticating mark.
48. Intentionally swinging an arm or fist at an opponent without making contact is a disqualifying unsportsmanlike foul.

49. If A1 is replaced by A12 following a down, he may not return during the same dead-ball interval, even if the period ends prior to the next down, or the penalty is accepted for a foul which occurred during the down.
50. A player who is an eligible receiver at the snap may become ineligible during the down.
51. The goal line is entirely in the end zone and the edge toward the field of play and its vertical plane is the actual goal line.
52. The previous spot is where the ball was last snapped or free kicked.
53. It is a field goal even though only part of the ball passes through the inside edge of the upright extended.
54. The use of the hands by a defensive player to strike a blocker's head is illegal.
55. If B1 intercepts and is downed; and then A1 and A2 both pile on, it is a multiple foul.
56. The time-out for a coach-referee conference may be requested by a player or head coach of either team.
57. If A1 commits a false start which causes B1 to enter the neutral zone, B1 has not encroached.
58. There is no limit to the number of coaches that may take part in a conference on the field at the team huddle between the inbounds marks.
59. If R1 is blocked into the kicker by K1, it is not roughing the kicker.
60. A backward pass out of bounds is an illegal pass.
61. A down is action which starts with a legal snap or a free kick and ends when the ball next becomes dead.
62. Encroachment is a term to indicate a player is illegally in the neutral zone, or in advance of his free-kick line.
63. Spearing involves an attempt to punish an opponent by intentionally contacting him with the helmet.
64. Inbounds lines shall be marked so that the yard lines bisect the inbounds lines.
65. A kicker continues to be a kicker and has special protection until he has had reasonable opportunity to regain his balance after the kick.
66. Butt blocking carries a 15-yard penalty and automatic disqualification of the offender.

67. Touching is any contact with the ball either by touching it or being touched by it.
68. It is a false start if snapper A1 puts one hand on the ground, but does not touch the ball and then stands erect to call out a blocking assignment.
69. A coach-referee conference will be held at the sideline in the field of play in front of the coaches' team box.
70. A player in punt formation becomes a kicker as soon as he catches or recovers the snap from center.
71. If B1 tackles A1, who is obviously not the runner, it is defensive holding.
72. A scrimmage kick ends when a player gains possession or when the ball becomes dead.
73. The line to gain is the yard line established when a new series (first down) is awarded.
74. Successive charged time-outs may be granted during the same dead-ball period.
75. An illegal snap or other snap infraction causes the ball to remain dead.
76. Initial force results from a carry, fumble, kick, pass, snap or muff.
77. The neutral zone is the space between the two scrimmage lines during a scrimmage down.
78. A substitute becomes a player when he enters the huddle or is positioned in a formation.
79. A loose ball is out of bounds if it touches anything, including a player or game official, who is out of bounds.
80. When a live ball becomes dead in player possession in that player's end zone, it is always a safety.
81. If B1 catches a kick on his 6-yard line and his momentum carries him into his end zone and he is tackled there, it is a touchback.
82. Handing the ball is not a pass.
83. Pass interference by B may occur beyond, in or behind the neutral zone
84. It is an unauthorized conference if a player(s) goes near the sideline between downs to communicate with coaches.
85. Following an interception by B1 on his 3-yard line, it is a touchdown if B1's momentum carries him into B's end zone and he fumbles and A1 recovers there.

86. The captain is the only player allowed to call a time-out.
87. The exception to the numbering requirement is permitted on any down if Team A sets or shifts into scrimmage-kick formation.
88. B1 may not legally bat a ball which is in possession of A1.
89. If snapper A1 removes both hands from the ball following the ready-for-play and B1 dives on the ball, it is an illegal snap by A1 and encroachment by B1.
90. The neutral zone may be expanded into the end zone during a scrimmage kick.
91. The free-blocking zone may disintegrate before the down is ended.
92. A player shall be considered injured and must leave the game if he has a small spot of blood on his uniform.
93. It is an illegal touching foul, if ineligible A1 beyond the neutral zone, bats a legal forward pass in an effort to prevent an interception.
94. It is legal for B1 to grasp and pull an offensive blocker to clear a path for B2 to the runner or to a loose ball.
95. One of the requirements for A1 being on the line is that A1 face his opponent's goal line with shoulders approximately parallel thereto.
96. Unless the clock is already stopped, an official's time-out shall be taken as soon as the ball becomes dead following a change of team possession.
97. It is legal for B1 to trip runner A1.
98. A scrimmage kick which is bouncing beyond the neutral zone may be batted by a player of either team.
99. When a defensive player uses a hand or arm, the hand must be in advance of the elbow at the time of contact.
100. Non-player and unsportsmanlike fouls are not considered when determining if a period ends or must be extended.

Name _____ Date _____

Completely blacken True or False

	T	F	Rule Reference(s)		T	F	Rule Reference(s)
1.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	26.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____
2.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	27.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____
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25.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	50.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____

Name _____ Date _____

	T	F	Rule References(s)		T	F	Rule Reference(s)
51.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	76.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____
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