



# 2010 NFHS FOOTBALL RULES INTERPRETATIONS

**Publisher's Note:** The National Federation of State High School Associations is the only source of official high school interpretations. They do not set aside nor modify any rule. They are made and published by the NFHS in response to situations presented.

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**SITUATION 1:** A has possession, fourth and 8 from B's 40-yard line. A1 advances 7 yards where B1 grabs him by the inside back collar of the jersey and commits an illegal horse-collar foul. The jersey/collar is grabbed one yard inbounds and B1 pulls A1 down: (a) inbounds, or (b) just out of bounds. **RULING:** In both (a) and (b), the penalty for illegal horse-collar is penalized from the end of the run and A is awarded a new series. **COMMENT:** Even though the tackle in (b) ends up out of bounds, the NFHS Football Rules Committee's intention for 2010 was clearly to be able to enforce the foul whether or not the ball became dead between the grabbing the inside back collar of the jersey and the bringing of the player to the ground. (9-4-3k)

**SITUATION 2:** In the first quarter, the assistant coach for Team A accidentally collides with the line judge while the line judge is covering a play. Team A's head coach is penalized 15 yards. In the second quarter, the back judge is covering a play near the sideline and observes an assistant in the restricted area during the play. **RULING:** As written, this is a first warning for Team A for violation of the restricted area and is not penalized in terms of yards. The occurrences of the new illegal personal contact foul and the restricted area violation are not combined for penalty enforcement purposes. (9-4-8)

## 2010 NFHS Football Rules Book Clarification

(Underlining shows additions; ~~strikethrough~~ shows deletions.)

**Pages 94-95, SIX-PLAYER – RULE 7:**  
~~b. After the ready and before the snap, each player of A must be momentarily be within 12 yards of the spot of the snap.~~ Re-letter c-f.