

OSAA Football

2010 SRI Bulletin 4

Monday, September 20, 2010

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Swinging Gate:

Question: What is the correct mechanic when a team lines up in a “swinging gate” formation to attempt a PAT?

Answer: Officials should use their normal PAT by placekick mechanics. Referees need to play wider and closer to the line of scrimmage on the side vacated by the Linesman or Line Judge and have responsibility for action at that goal line pylon if a run or pass develops to that side. Umpires should also play wider to the vacated side while observing the initial line charge, blocking and action on the snapper. If a run or pass develops to your vacated side, the Linesman or Line Judge will move along the end line towards the end line pylon to assist with sideline coverage.

Play: From B’s 40 yard line, A12 completes a pass to A5 who subsequently runs for a touchdown. A99 lined up at tight end and was covered up by an outside receiver, A17, and during the play A99 was illegally downfield. During the down the half ended.

Ruling: Two choices are available to Team B. Decline the penalty for an ineligible downfield and take the result of the play, a touchdown for Team A, or penalize Team A 5-yards from the previous spot and extend the period for an untimed down. The choice is obvious; no need to consult captains on this one!

Penalty Enforcement:

Play: 3rd and goal at the B6. A22 receives a handoff and scores. During the play: a) A70 holds B60 at the B5 or b) A22 turns around at the 3 yard line and puts his finger in the air while he runs backward into the endzone.

Ruling: a) Team B may accept the holding foul, which will result in 3rd and goal at the B15, or they may decline the foul and the touchdown will stand with no further penalty. Rule 10-5-3. b) The touchdown stands, but Team B may choose to have the unsportsmanlike conduct penalty enforced on the try or the subsequent kickoff. Rule 8-2-4.

Comment: In (a), the foul cannot be “banked” **as it was committed by the team that scored, not the “opponent of the scoring team.”** The only fouls by the scoring team that may be “banked” are nonplayer and unsportsmanlike fouls, as in (b) per rule 8-2-4.

Awarded Fair Catch:

Coach’s Question: For a field goal attempt following an awarded fair catch, can the ball be put in play via a holder holding the ball on a platform just like a field goal attempt by a scrimmage kick?

Answer: Following an awarded fair catch, a field goal may be attempted by using a free kick, a drop kick or a place kick. Rules 2-24-3, 2-24-6 and 2-24-7. Under 2-24-7, a holder may used to hold the

ball on the tee. The tee must meet the requirements of Rule 1-3-4.

Excessive Timeouts:

Play: Is there a penalty if an official allows a team or coach a 4th time out in a half?

Ruling: There is no penalty. If an officiating crew allows a 4th timeout, it's because they didn't check with each other after EVERY timeout to make sure this doesn't occur. Once the error is discovered, play should be resumed as soon as possible. If a team requests an extra timeout; officials should simply deny the request.

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