

## **2012 SRI Bulletin 5**

### **Momentum:**

Play: Scrimmage kick from R's 40-yard line going in. The ball lands at R's 10-yard line and is bouncing towards R's goal line. K34 sprinting downfield, catches the ball on one of the bounces at the 3-yard line with both feet on the ground and attempts to stop but slides (with both feet on the ground and the ball in his arms) from the 3-yard line into the end zone. Does momentum apply or does R get the ball 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 on the 20 after a touchback?

Ruling: Momentum is not a factor since a K player secured possession of the ball. Rule 8-5-2a Exception. Once the kick is possessed by a team K player, the ball becomes dead. Rule 4-2-2f. R's ball, 1<sup>st</sup> and 10 from their 3-yard line. Related play, Case Book 4.2.2 Situation F.

### **Head Coach Pre-Game Conference:**

Play: Officials were informed by an assistant coach that the Head Coach had appointed him as a designee to speak to officials at the pre-game conference. The Referee and Umpire met with the assistant coach/designee and asked the usual questions.....players legally equipped, special plays, captain's names and numbers, etc.

Ruling: Rule 1-5-4 requires that the HEAD COACH, not his designee, SHALL verify to the Referee and Umpire that his team is legally equipped. Beyond that, any coach may present other administrative information to the officials....captain's names, numbers, special plays, etc.

Note: There is no penalty for a Rule 1-5-4 violation; get the necessary information from the designee if you have to, but Brad wants to/needs to be informed if any officiating crew has this issue. He will deal with the Athletic Director at the offending coach's school.

### **K's Free Kick Line:**

Play: Last Friday night an assistant coach asked an official, "is the kicker considered offside if he places his "leading foot" over the 40-yard line on a kickoff....anywhere from 1-6 inches?"

Ruling: The 40-yard line should be officiated like a plane; break the plane and you're guilty of encroachment. That said, on a "regular" kickoff, i.e. not an onside kick, most officials will let a K player break the plane as long as his leading leg/foot doesn't touch the ground beyond the 40-yard line before the ball is kicked. On an onside kick, any breaking of the plane is considered encroachment as that gives more of a potential unfair advantage to the kicking team.

### **Overtime:**

Play: In overtime, team A gets several penalties backing them up to their own 10 yard line. On 4<sup>th</sup> and very long, running back A34 fumbles into the end zone and the ball is recovered by B in the end zone. Do we award a touchdown?

Same scenario, except quarterback A12 is tackled in the end zone. Do we award a safety?

Ruling: In the first scenario, award Team B 6 points; the game is over, B wins. In the second scenario, award Team B 2 points; the game is over, B wins. Rule Book pages 89-90, Resolving Tied Games, Rule 8-1.

### **Unfair Act:**

Play: A coach indicated they use an unusual play for PAT's and FG's where the team lines up to kick without a tee, the coach then holds up a tee at the sideline, the prospective kicker heads to the sideline under the pretense of retrieving the tee, and the ball is snapped to an up-back who throws the ball to a "motion man."

Ruling: Unfair act. Rule 9-9-1. Dead ball Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty. Case Book play 9.9.1 Situation B is almost identical.

### **Officials' Jurisdiction:**

From a Crew Game Report: After completion of the game, both teams met at the 50-yard line to shake hands and returned to their sidelines. Winning visiting team players ran to the north end zone and celebrated in the end zone. Home team players ran from their sideline and began to holler "not on our field" and "this is our end." Teams confronted each other. Coaches responded immediately and after much shouting and belly bumping, the teams separated. Officials were crossing the goal line leaving the field when the confrontation began. The coaches responded quickly and calmed the situation. Officials did not get in the middle of the situation, but some of the crew wanted to intervene; some did not. Officials talked to players, asking them to just walk away.

What are your thoughts on intervening when a confrontation happens so long after the game?

My Response: Game officials' jurisdiction extends through the Referee's determination that the fourth quarter has ended. Jurisdiction may be extended to allow officials to gather information and complete reports of acts that occurred while the officials had jurisdiction. Rule 1-1-8. In this situation, jurisdiction ended without incident; all of the extracurricular activity occurred long past the end of the 4th quarter.

I think this crew did the appropriate thing by not actively intervening. Let the coaches and school administrators handle their players.

### **Training Videos:**

Two training videos have been posted to the Central Hub. The first features various plays showing blocks in the back, false starts, holding, dead ball action, bad snap mechanics and a fumble. This week's LeMonnier training video talks about the passing game.