



OREGON ATHLETIC  
OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

*One Rule - One Interpretation - One Mechanic*



# **OCEP PLAYOFF CERTIFICATION TRAINING**

## **ISSUES FOR THE REFEREE**

### **INCOMPLETE PASS VS FUMBLE**



## SOME SITUATIONS AND RULINGS

IF THE PASSER DECIDES AGAINST THROWING THE BALL BUT IT COMES OUT AS HE STOPS HIS HAND GOING FORWARD, IT IS AN INCOMPLETE PASS.

IF THE PASSER IS TRYING TO THROW A BACKWARDS PASS AND HE IS HIT AND THE BALL GOES FORWARD, IT SHOULD BE RULED AS AN INCOMPLETE PASS.



## SOME SITUATIONS AND RULINGS

IF THE PASSER LOSES THE BALL AS HE IS BRINGING HIS HAND BACK, RULE FUMBLE.

IF THE PASSER IS HIT WHILE STARTING A FORWARD PASS MOTION AND THE CONTACT CAUSES THE BALL TO GO FORWARD OR BACKWARD, RULE INCOMPLETE.

IF THE BALL BECOMES LOOSE BEFORE THE PASSER'S ARM BEGINS TO MOVE FORWARD, I.E. "EMPTY HAND," RULE FUMBLE.



## SOME SITUATIONS AND RULINGS

IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBT WHETHER IT IS FORWARD PASS OR FUMBLE, RULE INCOMPLETE PASS; YOU DON'T WANT ANY "CHEAP TURNOVERS."

AS A RULE OF THUMB, IF THE PASSER IS HIT FROM BEHIND AND LOSES THE BALL, RULE FUMBLE.



## SOME SITUATIONS AND RULINGS

MOST QB'S ARE SAVVY ENOUGH TO GET THEIR ARM GOING FORWARD WHEN THEY ARE ABOUT TO BE HIT BY A DEFENDER IN THEIR FIELD OF VISION, BUT NOT WHEN THEY ARE BLINDSIDED FROM BEHIND.



CONTINUE TO OFFICIATE THE PASSER (2-32-11) UNTIL HE IS FREE OF HARM OR CEASES TO BE A PASSER BECAUSE IF HE IS HIT HELMET-TO-HELMET, ROUGHED OR HIT WHILE DEFENSELESS, IT IS STILL A FOUL.

WHEN YOU RULE FUMBLE AND THE BALL IS ON THE GROUND, DO NOT ADVANCE TOWARD IT; INSTEAD, RETREAT TOWARD TEAM A'S GOAL LINE.