

EFAF Officiating Newsletter

No. 29 over all

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1 November, 2005

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Editor's Note

By Frank Kristensen



As you may remember from last month's Newsletter, this edition is a bit late due to my vacation to the States. You can read much more about it under the heading Viking Tour '05 - Part 1.

Before long it will be time to look ahead towards the 2006 season, and in December we will start by including the first segment of a series of articles by Einar "the field inspector" Bolstad regarding the new rules. We will also include the first NCAA Bulletin, so stay tuned for the December issue.

In Denmark, we are deeply submerged in the dreaded "off-season". What a terrible word and an even worse concept. However, it doesn't have to be all bad. The time can be spent wisely improving your rules knowledge. During our trip to the States, I spoke with a Pac-10 official, who told us about their study meetings, and I started thinking that we should do something like that in EFAF.

... it should be possible to meet through the internet.

I realise that we are scattered all across Europe, but it should be possible through the internet. My suggestion is this: We set up a certain time every two or three weeks, and we meet in a chat room and discuss rules/mechanics and whatever else we want to. All I need is for someone to recommend a good chat room, and point out any potential problems we might have.

Everything should be ready to run by 1 December.

Enjoy the Newsletter.

EFAF Clinic

By Perttu Hautala,

Atahotel Executive

Ufficio Manifestazioni

Viale Sturzo, 45
20154 Milano

With this letter we invite to the

EFAF Officiating Clinic

January 13-15, 2006 at Milano (Italy)

Start: Saturday 13, 2006 at 09.00 h (09.00 a.m.)

End: Sunday 15, 2006 at 13.00 h (01.00 p.m.)

at

ATAHOTEL EXECUTIVE
Viale Don Luigi Sturzo 45
20154 Milan – ITALY
www.atahotels.it

The new EFAF Website

By Frank Kristensen, Newsletter Editor



Have a look at the new and improved EFAF Website. A new webmaster and a lot of new functionalities, which will be implemented little by little.

www.efaf.org

It's worth the while.

Working the Sidelines – A perspective

By Tom Wysocki October 2002



We all know how tough working the sidelines can be, especially with certain coaches.

CALM We need to become better people ourselves, to grow as individuals, in order to handle the emotional situations which are part and parcel of football. **WE NEED TO BE THE CALMEST PEOPLE IN THE STADIUM** - as everyone else is going nuts, we need to be calm and continue doing a professional job. At times we are like actors - saying things for a purpose, the purpose being to keep the game fair, safe as possible, and as enjoyable as possible for the participants.

RESPECT We need to have a genuine respect for the participants and coaches. Any of us who played or coached, know the tremendous effort and dedication that goes into competitive athletics. Games are of little consequence - the numbers on the scoreboard go away at the end of the game with a flip of a switch - few in the world even know the game occurred. Yet the idea of putting one's full effort and commitment into a task of little inherent value does develop many great habits and skills to help one in more important life situations. Coaches are the orchestrators of this effort put forth by their players.

We need to be aware of the pressure to perform which many coaches work under.

CONCERN AND COMPASSION Coaches often have a great deal riding on the outcome of the inherently inconsequential contest. Their families' livelihood depends on their "success" as a coach. We need to be aware of the pressure to perform which many coaches work under. I'd hate to have my job depend on whether an 18 year old kid caught or dropped a pass. We need to understand this going in.

COMMUNICATE - words, body language, actions - all portray respect, concern, compassion - or lack thereof. This is true if the person communicating is acting "rationally." As officials we must remain rational and our words, body language, etc. can more accurately portray our inner convictions. As officials we must recognize that a coach's words, body language, actions *often do not portray* his real inner convictions - because during games, coaches often have emotion take over and they are not acting "rationally."

We try to have our officials understand that what a coach says or does is NOT to be taken personally - criticism (or praise) does not mean anything in the midst of a game. The guy who says "great call, you are doing a great job" over and over for the first 3 quarters will call you a blind SOB if the circumstances change in the midst of the 4th quarter. The fact is you may have been doing a terrible job for 3 quarters and finally got it together in the 4th - don't place value on coach's criticism or praise offered in the midst of a game - emotion often causes both.

We also need to understand that some coaches "blow off steam" by reciting a litany of supposed sins which we officials are committing against their team. We don't need or want to comment back to such a coach. Let him vent - keep your focus on the play in front of you. When the need to communicate arises (such as when a foul is called), initiate communication face to face in a calm voice. Sometimes the coach will momentarily stop venting and listen - other times he will keep right on fuming as you report the information - other times he will turn and walk away in the midst of your words (if he does, don't chase him - simply finish your report and move back to your position for the next play).

That said, we don't want to seem like we are not listening to or respecting the coach. But, we need to recognize "venting" versus an actual attempt to get information.

We want to portray respect, concern, compassion - and one of the best way to do this is to initiate COMMUNICATION.

We want our sideline officials, short and deep wings, to initiate COMMUNICATION. We want this to start prior to the game. At our pregame between R, U and head coach, we will mention the names of the sideline officials who will be working the team's sideline. Make sure we get the coach's name pronounced correctly and pass this info to the sideline guys. Calling a coach by last name pronounced correctly is just a little outward sign of RESPECT -

Sometime prior to the game, the sideline officials will quickly introduce themselves to the head coach - very brief, "Coach Berowitz, I'm Tom Wysocki - I'll be working your sideline today - good luck in the game." Then take the queue from the coach if he wants to chat a bit or if its time for you to move on.

Anytime there is a penalty or unusual occurrence on the field we want the officials to initiate communication of information to the coach. If the penalty is against the team on his sideline, we want that official to come in and get the player number, type of foul, and, in cases of a personal foul - "what did he do?" and hustle to fill the head coach in. We do this every time - we don't want the coach to feel he needs to ask in order to get information. Generally we approach the coach and in a calm voice "Coach, holding on number 78" "Coach, number 44 with a blow to the head, personal foul."

In some situations, we may not be able to get the information immediately after a down to the coach - for example, a hurry up situation - flag way across the field and things moving very quickly - but here we want the wing to tell the coach, "Coach, I'll get you the information on that foul as soon as I can."

**I'll be working your sideline today
- good luck in the game.**

Sometimes a coach will not want to hear this information - and we don't force the issue. Sometimes an assistant will be interested in information on foul, number, etc. and the head coach is in a tizzy and not ready to receive info - fine, we give the info to the assistant. Sometimes they are all going "nuts" at once and the total transmittal of info is a general announcement to the sideline - "Holding number 78."

Sometimes the coach will have a comment on the call - usually not complimentary. "Ah that's BS . . . open your eyes." If the comment is of this nature, we listen so long as the comment is brief and go on without returning a comment. If its long winded, we will have to excuse ourselves to get on to the next play, "*Coach, I'm sorry . . . I need to get ready for this next play. Thanks.*" The point is we are not going to get drawn into a "give and take" argumentative type of exchange. Also don't just walk away giving the appearance that we are totally ignoring the coach. Politely excuse yourself. Portray CALM and be polite (RESPECT).

We respectfully give the info we have . . . respectfully but briefly listen to the coach usually blow off steam . . . acknowledge politely and move on to the next play.

"That's a terrible spot - you go over there and give him the right spot" "I'm sorry Coach but he had a better look at it than we did. . . we need to go with his spot." "That's terrible. . . you guys are the worst officials

we've ever had . . . if I ever see you on a game again, I'm going to forfeit" (No return comment required or expected)

"You tell him number 98 is holding every play." "Coach, I'll tell the ref (umpire, whomever) as soon as there's a break in the action. Thank you."

"Tom, you are a MF'n SOB" "Coach Jones, I don't think I heard you right - would you please repeat that" If he does, flag him now.

The exact details of communication vary depending on circumstances throughout the game, but the main points are

- 1) our approach portrays respect for the coach - whenever possible, approaching the coach, speaking in a normal tone (rather than yelling the information which a lot of guys do without realizing it)
- 2) we are the ones initiating the communication which shows we respect the coach's need to know.
- 3) We listen and when appropriate acknowledge, but don't "argue" - in the midst of games, coach's comments. (Comments are often "safety relief valves" to blow off steam before they have a cardiac arrest.)
- 4) We distinguish between "venting" and real questions - answer or get the answer to real questions.

Jim Keogh says "Kill them with kindness." I agree 100%. And maybe the above thoughts will help our officials actually implement the "kill them with kindness" approach. **Politeness** - "thank you," " I'm sorry," " Coach Jones, I will find out for you" (then find out as soon as you can without interrupting the game flow) - **is key**. This is not "sucking up" - its setting a higher standard for human interaction. Its showing a level of maturity and self confidence which very few folks walking the street may achieve - but one which we officials must strive for if we are to reach our potential as officials.

Be in control of yourself - you will control the situation without becoming antagonistic. What about the coach who wants to talk (yell at) with you and comes out on the field? I head straight to him and continue right on to his sideline team box. He will follow me over and I will talk or listen with him. Always polite, always calm, never yelling (I try - not to say I'm always successful). Do I flag him for being on the field? No (unless perhaps he doesn't follow me to the sideline but stays on the field - I have never had a coach not follow me back to his team box - watch this weekend it will happen(I hope not)).

DON'T TAKE COMMENTS PERSONALLY - DON'T GET EMOTIONALLY INVOLVED - DON'T TRY TO PROVE YOUR MANHOOD BY CONFRONTATION, PROVE IT BY CONTROL OF EMOTION AND ABILITY TO STAY ABOVE THE BEDLAM.

Sideline warnings - yes we use them - we ENCOURAGE our sideline guys to use them if coaches and/or players won't stay out of the 2 yard belt. We need that area clear of personnel including coaches for SAFETY. We NEVER THREATEN a sideline warning - "If you don't get back we'll give a sideline warning" - no don't do this - if the "threat" is needed, make it a formal sideline warning right now.

Flags for unsportsmanlike conduct - yes, rarely, but yes (my own experience, most all have been in Junior College games - maybe 3 or 4 over 25+ years).

Sidelines take some doing - at times it's a fine line between breaking the flow of a game to answer a lot of questions versus appearing to ignore a coach. There's no answer that always works, but initiate communication, stay calm, don't take things personally no matter how "personal" the comments may appear (if necessary, a flag may be required). Understand and respect the coaching profession in general, even if the coach at the moment is not acting in a manner worthy of respect.

One last note - if you blow a call, be honest, admit it to yourself and to the coach. "Coach, I'm really sorry, I missed that call. I'll try to do better." "Heck of a lot of good that does us, that's terrible, you stink." "Sorry Coach." and go on. Usually, the response from the Coach has been "Everyone makes mistakes. I appreciate your honesty."

Did you know?? 😊

By Referee Magazine

The penalty flag was invented by a coach, Youngstown College's Dwight "Dike" Beede. Before the introduction of the flag, officials used horns to signal a penalty. Because he "always disliked the ... horn signal," Beede commissioned his wife, Irma, to sew the flag. She used red cloth accented by white stripes, then added lead sinkers from Beede's fishing tackle box to weight it down. It was 16 inches square with the weight all at one end of the flag. It was officially introduced at the 1948 American Football Coaches rules session. Referee Jack McPhee carried the original flag to many contests until it faded.

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Antonio got married

By Frank Kristensen, Newsletter editor

Which is more incredible: That Tony got married, or that a girl actually agreed to marry him? Regardless, the following links show pictures from his wedding.

<http://www.fumble.it/Matrimonio%20Sarah%20>

<http://www.fumble.it/Matrimonio%20Sarah%20&%20Antonio%20Pierattelli/in>

Websites of interest

By Frank Kristensen, Newsletter editor

What would be your ruling in this situation? Thanks to Alex Henriksen for supplying the link.

http://media.putfile.com/CheapShotUVa_Kiwi25

Here are a couple of links from Mr Bolstad and Mr Briggs:

The NCAA has created a new "portal type page" with some good officiating info. Among other things, you can find the infamous bulletins here, and the rules survey for next year (which always gives you an interesting insight into what might happen) will be posted here soon.

The page is to be found at:

<http://www1.ncaa.org/eprise/main/playingrules/football/2005/index>

Everyone may also be interested in the British equivalent page at <http://www.bafra.org/rulesctee/index.htm>

Viking Tour '05 – Part 1

By Frank Kristensen, Newsletter editor



As some of you may remember, last year I went to California to work a Junior College game. I got to work a great game with some great guys, and I got to meet some great people and I even got to see my very first live NFL game.

With the ground done and trust established, this year the project was expanded to include a Dane - Frank Rasmussen - and even a Norwegian - Einar Bolstad - and instead of just one game, we were scheduled to work back-to-back nights.

But let me start at the beginning.

The planning actually began back in March when Pac-10 HL Jeff Hansen was in Denmark as the lead clinician in one of our clinics. We started talking about the different possibilities and I contacted Frank and Einar to hear if they were even interested. After long consideration (NOT!!) they came on board.

A lot of ideas and suggestions were discussed, as we also wanted to go to New York and visit the NFL Headquarters, and we actually ended up having a lot of fun planning and arranging the trip with all the online bookings and all that stuff.

Einar was very good at finding the cheapest airline tickets and Frank R is the perfect navigator - way to go, guys!!

Finally, the day arrived. Thursday 20 October, 2005. We met in Stockholm to fly together across the ol' pond, and we landed safely in Newark International Airport. The plan was for us to spend the night at a hotel near JFK Airport, as we were flying out early Friday morning bound for Los Angeles. It sounded like a good plan, but little did we know that the biggest logistical problem we would face on the entire trip lay right before us. It is pretty far from Newark to JFK, so we decided to take an airport shuttle instead of a taxi, to save some money, and boy, was that a mistake!!

Perhaps we should have seen the warning signs, when the driver asked for payment including the tip in advance, but tired from the flight and excited to be under ways we paid the man.

To simply say that he was a bad driver would be a gross understatement. He was SO bad, that one of the other passengers almost threw up! When we tried to make suggestions as to how and what he should do he would simply yell: You don't know what I'm doing!!! At least he was right about that. When he finally managed to find our hotel we were all pretty sure that he didn't know either.

We had spent most of the time from NY to LA looking at the new rules...

After a short night, we flew to LAX, where we were lucky not to have any delays, so we made our flight to Oakland. Running through the terminals, Frank and I also managed to fulfil one of our many objectives. We saw a celebrity. One of the stars from the Sit-com King of Queens walked right behind us.

In Oakland Jeff picked us up, and we had plenty of time to check into our hotel and relax a bit before we needed to leave for the first game. A night game - 7PM kickoff - at Laney College. We had spent most of the time from NY to LA looking at the new rules and discussing the different mechanics, so our pre-game was already several hours and time zones old.

Once we pulled into the parking lot at Laney, Jeff got a phone call from Verle Sorgen, the Pac-10 supervisor for football officials. A phone call - as it turned out - that would dramatically change the rest of the weekend for all of us.

Stay tuned for the next segment. Hear about what happened to Jeff, How the two rookies (Frank and Einar) handled their first college game and which surprise was waiting for us in the stands at Laney.

TASO Quiz

1. 3rd and 20 on Team A's 30 yardline. Quarterback A1 drops back to pass and is sacked on the 20 yardline. During the play, B45 inadvertently grabbed eligible A80's facemask at the A 35 yardline.

2. 3rd and 12 from Team A's 20 yardline. A1 attempts a pass to A88. Before the ball was in the air, B35 held A88 and prevented him from making his cut. The pass falls incomplete.

QB A12 throws an interception to B23 in the endzone.

3. 1st and goal for Team A from the B 3 yardline. QB A12 throws an interception to B23 in the endzone. B23 tries to bring the ball out, but he is tackled in the endzone. While he was running around, B45 clips A88 in the endzone.

4. 1st and goal for Team A from the B 3 yardline. QB A12 throws an interception to B23 in the endzone. B23 tries to bring the ball out, and is tackled at the B 4 yardline. While B23 was running around, B45 clips A88 in the endzone.

5. Five seconds remain in the game. Team A is leading 20-14. Team A has the ball 4th and 10 from the Team A 5 yardline. Under a heavy rush, QB A12 is flagged for intentional grounding in his own endzone. Time expires on the play.

6. 4th and 7 on A's 8. The score is A28-B27. The clock shows 0:28 and is running when the referee gives the ready for play. Team B is out of timeouts. The 25-second clock fails to start. The BJ shuts down the play at 0:24.

7. 4th and 8 on B's 20. A7's field goal attempt is good. After the kick was away, B92 roughed A7 behind the neutral zone. Team A accepts the three points.

8. 4th and 8 on B's 33. Team A is in a scrimmage kick formation to attempt a field goal. Immediately following the snap, B97 initiates contact with snapper A53 by grabbing and pulling him so that B59 may run through the vacated area. The kick is unsuccessful.

9. 4th and 10 on A's 35. The snap sails over punter A8's head. The ball is rolling at A's 16 when A8 kicks the ball forward. A64 recovers the ball on A's 38 and advances to B's 42 where he is downed.

10. 4th and goal on B's 16 at the right hash mark. B46 commits defensive pass interference five yards deep in the middle of B's end zone. The legal forward pass is incomplete.

Answers

1. The run ended behind the line due to the sack. Therefore, it is a running play and not a passing play because a legal forward pass did not cross the neutral zone. The result of the play makes it 4th down and 30 from the 20 yardline. The 5-yard facemask penalty will be enforced from the basic spot (previous spot on a

run that ends behind the neutral zone) and it will be 3rd and 15 for Team A from the 35 yardline. Clock starts on the ready.

2. The defensive holding penalty against an eligible pass receiver is enforced from the previous spot, 10 yards and an automatic first down. Clock on the snap.

If Team B declines the penalty, the game is over...

3. The result of the play is a touchback. Therefore, the basic spot is the B 20 yardline. The foul occurred behind the basic spot, the spot of the foul becomes the enforcement spot. Team A will score a safety because of the penalty enforcement.

4. The same result as in play 3. The spot of the foul is behind the basic spot which is now the end of the run. Score a safety for Team A.

5. If Team B declines the penalty, the game is over and they will lose. If Team B accepts the penalty, they will score a safety because the penalty for intentional grounding is a loss of down at the spot. The spot of the pass is in the endzone, therefore, the result of the penalty is a safety. The game will be extended for 1 play (free kick following the safety) with no time on the clock.

6. A's ball, 4th and 7, on A's 8. The referee will have the clock reset to 0:28. The game clock and the 25-second clock will start on the ready for play. Rule 3-2-2-e doesn't fly regardless of the wording of the rule. If the clock started on the snap, Team B would have time for one or more plays. If the clock starts on the ready and Team A punts, Team B may have a runback or may block the punt but time would expire during the down.

7. Field goal. A's ball, free kick, on A's 35. To accept points on a successful field goal, Team A must decline Team B live ball fouls. If Team A accepts the penalty, it would be A's ball, 1st and goal, on B's 10. A successful field goal may be cancelled and the penalty enforced by rule except for a Team B foul carrying post scrimmage kick enforcement during regulation play.

8. A's ball, 1st and 10, on B's 18. The clock starts on the snap. When a team is in a scrimmage kick formation, a defensive player may not initiate contact with the snapper until one second has elapsed after the snap. A scrimmage kick formation requires that it is obvious that a kick may be attempted. The foul is a personal foul and not holding. The penalty carries a first down.

9. B's ball, 1st and goal, on A's 8. The clock starts on the snap. The advance by A64 is legal. A64 recovered a backward pass. Team B will accept the penalty for A8's illegal kicking foul. The foul occurs behind the basic enforcement spot, the previous spot. The penalty is enforced from the spot of the foul, A's 16, and carries a loss of down. In 1998, the clock would have started on the ready for play since the clock was stopped to award a first down to Team A.

10. A's ball, 1st and goal, on B's 2 (right hash mark). The foul occurs inside B's 2 or in B's end zone. Thus, this is not a spot foul enforcement. The penalty is enforced from the previous spot. There is no half the distance provision for defensive pass interference.

Congratulations Erwin

By Erwin van Houten

Well, the world must be double scared right now since my son has been born. Date 21/10-2005 at 16.57 and his name is Daan.

Other names are Reindert Ferdinand Gaston after relatives in our family. Family name is Tournant which is my girl's name.

Length 52 cm

Weight 3.860 grams

special site www.tournant.bebiesite.nl

MWC Pre-season Test 2005

For once I thought I'd not include the answers, so if you have questions, be sure to let me know, so we can figure something out.

Frank Kristensen, Newsletter editor

- 1) Where do we place the ball following a DPI foul? Ball snapped from B's 26. (a) Foul at B's 16. (b) Foul at B's 7. Ball snapped from B's 14. (c) Foul at B's 5. (d) Foul in the EZ.
- 2) When does kick catch protection on a scrimmage kick end for Team B?
- 3) Explain the 4th down fumble rule as it relates to a recovery.
- 4) During a scrimmage kick, explain the 2005 leaping rule for a Team B player. Is it the same during a try?
- 5) The original impetus is changed when a loose ball is batted in an EZ. T or F.
- 6) Explain the numbering exception during scrimmage kicks for Team A.
- 7) During a scrimmage kick, when is the kicker no longer a kicker? How about the holder?
- 8) Explain the "clean hands" rule.
- 9) What circumstances cause a period to be extended?
- 10) A's ball, 4-2, on B's 25. A11 takes the shotgun snap and moves forward to the B 26 where he hands the ball forward to A 89 who is standing at the LOS facing B's goal line. He advances to the B 20 where he is downed. Result?
- 11) A player is down when what part of his body touches the ground?
- 12) What are the options of the coin toss winner in OT?
- 13) What are the options for the team in possession if an inadvertent whistle is sounded during these situations? (a) Ball in player possession. (b) Scrimmage kick. (c) Team A fumble. (d) After Team B player intercepts a pass in OT.
- 14) A snap during a scrimmage play must always be made between the snapper's legs? T or F.
- 15) It is roughing the passer when B75 gets blocked into the QB by A34 and he contacts the QB's helmet as he throws the ball. T or F.
- 16) A scrimmage kick is blocked behind the LOS. The punter goes back and picks up the ball. He runs forward toward the LOS and punts the ball at the LOS. Legal play? Why or why not.
- 17) To not be intentional grounding, what must the passer do, 2005 interpretation?
- 18) When is batting a loose ball a foul? Is it ever not a foul?
- 19) If one of the 25 second clock's go blank during the game, what should we do? What should we do if the 25 second clock doesn't start on the referee's ready for play whistle? Who is responsible for the 25 second clock during the game?
- 20) What are the blocking restrictions of a Team B player if they give a fair catch signal during a scrimmage or free kick? What is the enforcement of the foul during a scrimmage kick? Free kick?
- 21) In OT, after Team B intercepts a forward pass and advances and doesn't score, any foul that occurred after the possession change is declined by rule. T or F.
- 22) What is the enforcement for an illegal forward pass to conserve time? Clock?
- 23) An airborne Team A receiver catches a pass 1 yard into Team B's EZ and is driven (not carried) back into the field of play. Result of each situation. (a) Receiver lands on his back at the B 2. (b) Receiver lands on his feet at the B 2, and runs and gets tackled at the B 3. (c) An airborne Team B player intercepts a pass 1 yard deep in the EZ, and gets driven forward to the B 1 where he lands on his stomach.
- 24) On a try from B's 3, Team B commits DPI in the EZ. Next snap will be from B's 2. T or F.
- 25) Define the momentum rule for Team A and B
- 26) A player carrying out a fake handoff can't be tripped. T or F.
- 27) Where is the ball next to be snapped after these missed field goals by Team A. (a) Snapped from B's 17 and missed kick goes out of the EZ. (b) Snapped from B's 30 and missed kick goes out of the EZ. (c) Snapped from B's 23, kick is blocked and goes OB at B's 16. (d) Snapped from B's 15, kick is blocked and goes OB at B's 24.
- 28) What is the status of a loose ball that hits the goal line pylon?
- 29) Who has kick catch protection during a scrimmage kick? Free kick?
- 30) What do we do on a forward fumble OB by Team A? Team A backwards pass that goes OB (not to conserve time)?
- 31) If the Team A punter throws a pass high and deep down the middle of the field and it simulates a kick, DPI can be called. T or F.

- 32) A's ball, 3-9 on B's 48. A17's pass lands incomplete at the B 45. While blocking, A25 has his face masked grabbed by B50 at the A 47. A 5 yard face mask is called. Ruling?
- 33) What options does Team B have if Team A's free kick goes OB between the goal lines?
- 34) What are the requirements of PSK?
- 35) Fouls that occur after a TD and before the ready for play are administered from where in these situations. (a) 9:35 left in the 1st quarter. (b) Last play of the first half. (c) Last play of the 4th quarter. (d) Team A scores in OT during their first series.
- 36) A pass becomes a forward pass when what happens?
- 37) What is the status of the clock after a runner is downed in bounds after gaining a first during a 4th down play and we have a referee's TO for an injured player? Same situation, but we go into a TV timeout?
- 38) Live ball fouls penalized as dead ball fouls occurring during the try may be penalized in OT. T or F.
- 39) Explain the new rule in 2005 that pertains to the clipping zone. What are the changes?
- 40) A Team A player in position to receive a backwards pass beyond the LOS, may be blocked below the waist. T or F.

EFAF Official profile

Name: Thomas Hofbauer

Age: 37

Job: Air traffic controller

Family status: Married to Ruth, three children; Vanessa, Timothy and Martin

Number of years as an EFAF official:

15 years

Highlights as EFAF official:

EFAF Cup Final 2004. Eurobowl 2002. Worldbowl 2001.

Highlights as national official:

Austrian Bowl 2004. Worked about 20 Austrian Bowls.

Did you play football before becoming an official?

No

Highlights as player:

2 times participated in Silver Bowl as LB with Vienna Ducks

What do you do, to improve as an official?

All I can and a little more.

This concludes the presentations of EFAF officials. It is not because everyone has been presented, but Thomas' profile is the last one I have on file.

Frank Kristensen
Editor

By the book

In each of the following you are given a situation and at least two possible answers. You are to decide which answer or answers are correct. Note: In kicking situations, K is the kicking team, R the receiving team. Answers appear at the end of the Newsletter.

1. Third and five on team A's 30 yardline. A1 throws a forward pass well downfield. While the pass is in flight, guard A6 is blocking B3 at team A's 32 yardline. A6 began contacting B3 right after the snap and on team A's 30 yardline and sustained the block.

- a. Legal play.
- b. A6 is guilty of being an ineligible receiver downfield.
- c. A6 is guilty of OPI.
- d. The penalty is five yards.

- e. The penalty is five yards and a loss of down.
 - f. The penalty is loss of down
2. A1 is advancing toward team B's goalline. With B2 in close pursuit, A1 leaves his feet in a dive toward the end zone. The ball is in A1's left hand and passes the pylon on the left (out-of-bounds) side of the pylon.
- a. That's a TD for team A.
 - b. A1 has caused the ball to be out of bounds. The covering official must determine the point of forward progress.
3. Same as play two except A1 remains on his feet and the ball crosses the goalline on the out-of-bounds side of the pylon.
- a. That's a TD for team A.
 - b. A1 has caused the ball to be out of bounds. The covering official must determine the point of forward progress.
4. Tackle A1 retreats to block for a pass play and is engaged with defensive end B2. Blitzing LB B3 is heading unabated toward QB A4 when A1 extends his leg, which contacts B3's leg and causes B3 to fall.
- a. Legal play.
 - b. A1 is guilty of holding.
 - c. A1 is guilty of tripping.
 - d. The penalty is five yards.
 - e. The penalty is 10 yards.
 - f. The penalty is 15 yards.
5. K1's field goal attempt is blocked behind the line and recovered there by K9, who advances. As K9 crosses team R's five yardline, an official signals TD but does not blow his whistle. K9 continues over the goalline.
- a. The ball should be blown dead when K9 recovers it.
 - b. The ball remains live when K9 recovers it.
 - c. Team K scores a TD.
 - d. The ball is dead when the official signals.

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Practical stuff

I have received an error message for these email addresses, so if there is any problems with the below addresses, please let me know.

oliver@wintgenundpartner.de

By the book - Answers

- 1: a. (7-3-10 exc 2)
- 2: b. (4-2-4-e)
- 3: a. (4-2-4-e)
- 4: c, f. (9-1-2-c)
- 5: b, d. (4-1-2-a)

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