

EFAF Officiating Newsletter

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Editor’s Note

Autumn is upon us and in Denmark the fall season starts this weekend. Football in the fall. Is there anything better? We’ll have one month of regular season games and then we go into playoffs in September.

Of course living in Copenhagen, we just had an opportunity to watch some great football in Malmö, Sweden at the European Championships, where Sweden pulled off the upset and beat Germany in a thrilling final.

Supervisor, Thomas Hofbauer, tried to get a report ready for the August issue, but stay tuned and it will definitely be included next month.

And remember, if your colleagues are not receiving this Newsletter, please let me know.

Enjoy
Frank Kristensen
Editor

Quick tip

For the two officials under the goal posts. When you communicate verbally with each other during the kick, do not say “no good, no good”. You risk your partner only hearing the “good” part, thinking the kick is good. In stead, say something like “yes/no” or “in/out”. Something that cannot be misunderstood or misinterpreted.

Philosophy 101

Mel Pons made the suggestion that we should have a segment in the Newsletter about philosophy just like we have rules quizzes. I thought that sounded like a really good idea, so here we go.

3.1 – Definitions

1. **Point of attack** is defined as follows:
 - (a) on a running play, it is the area in advance of the runner through which he runs – if he changes direction the point of attack changes;
 - (b) on a passing play, it is anywhere in the vicinity of the passer or any player attempting to reach the passer;
 - (c) on a kick play, it is anywhere in the vicinity of the kicker or any player attempting to reach the kicker or block the kick.

1. **Obvious:** An action is “obvious” if it would be visibly apparent to a spectator who knew the rules or to an official watching the game on video. Generally, anything that takes place in the open field, or by a player standing alone, is obvious; anything that takes place in close line play or in a pileup is not obvious.

The above is taken directly from the 2004 BAFRA/EFAF Manual of Football Officiating.

Remember Ken Rivera?

He is the supervisor of the MWC and our EFAF clinician in Paris a few years ago. Also, he is a great guy and he makes a mean BBQ.

He has asked me to include a link to his football officiating clinics for 2006 and to make sure to mention that they all usually sell out by November, so if you are interested, don't wait too long to sign up.

The website is www.renofbofficialscamp.com

Championship Weekend in The Netherlands

Follow-up

In the last Newsletter, the following was reported from Arnold in Holland.

After the Tulipbowl I got home at 23:00hrs and had to get up at 07:00hrs at Sunday morning to be back in Arnhem to Referee the Friendship Bowl. Again a clear cut game with one team dominating the other and no exceptional situations or enforcements.

The most annoying situation was the fact that the microphone didn't work. Which actually isn't a bad thing to think of it because from that point onward my announcements were picture perfect.

The most exciting game was the final game Wildcats - Raptors. A close score but more interesting from our point of view because of the following :

In the 2ndQ Wildcats QB #13 got tackled and resulted in a bloody cut on the jaw. A lot of blood got on his shirt and after getting stitches he returned to the game in a clean shirt #8.

Unnoticed by anyone and only after the game announcer reported this unknown player (as no #8 was on his players list) the Raptors complained and at half time the Referee had to resolve the issue. In the mean time shirt#13 got cleaned up and the player started the 2nd half in his original shirt#13.

So my question to you guys is : what to do, which Rules apply ?? This issue got formal as the Eindhoven Raptors filled a formal complaint to the League and as a member of the AFBN disciplinary committee I had to deal with it.

Here is the conclusion:

We gave the Maastricht Wildcats a formal warning with a fine of 100Euro pending if they do it again.

The disciplinary committee recognised / acknowledged the mistake made in (lack off) enforcing the proper ruling by the officiating crew. A 15y pen. at the beginning of the 2nd half fi because of rule R1 S4

A2 would have ended the whole issue. but as we decided that A.R. R3 S3 A5 V was far more appropriate for the situation we gave them the formal warning. The whole matter was left at that, the score oc. never changed as the result stood.

Arnold Buijs

Officiating salary

We are now up to seven countries, so I thought I'd give it one last shot.

How much does an official with the highest national license earn, working a regular season game in the highest national division?

Please state the amount in Euros.

Denmark	27 EUR
Norway	60 EUR
Sweden	60 EUR
Great Britain	52 EUR
The Netherlands	40 EUR
France	75 EUR
Spain	60 EUR

Frank Kristensen
Editor

TASO Quiz

1. 1st and 10 for A from their 20 yardline. A1's pass is intercepted by B23 at the 45 yardline, and he fumbles after advancing 5 yards. A34 picks up the fumble and advances to the A-47 yardline, where he is tackled. During A34's run, A78 is flagged for holding at the A-40 yardline.

2. 4th and 10 for Team A from their 35 yardline. After the ball is snapped to A23, the punter, but before the ball is kicked, all five interior offensive linemen run down field. They are all 7 yards beyond the line of scrimmage when the ball is kicked. The kick bounces in the endzone, and rolls around. A78, falls on it in the endzone.

3. 3rd and 20 from A's 30 yardline. A12 drops back to pass and is sacked at his 20 yardline. During the play, B45 inadvertently grabbed the facemask of receiver A80.

4. Team A's ball, 1st and 10 on Team B's 25 yardline. A1's pass is intercepted in Team B's end zone by B2, whose facemask is immediately grabbed and twisted by A3. B2 fumbles and the ball rolls into the field of play and out of bounds at Team B's three yardline.

5. 2nd and 7 on A's 33. Wide deployed player A27 is legally lined up as a backfield player. Prior to the snap, he takes a step forward and is in motion along his scrimmage line, back toward the tight end when the ball is snapped. He turns and goes downfield after the snap and Team A's legal forward pass is incomplete beyond the neutral zone.

6. 4/10 from B-40. Team A punts the ball and B44 receives the ball in B's end zone and returns it to B-30. During punt, B60 holds at the B-21.

7. 4th and 12 on B's 29. Team A is lined up to attempt a field goal. The snap bounces to holder A3 who has to rise up to grab the ball and immediately returns to a kneeling position. A3, from his kneeling position, tosses a shovel pass to A84 at B's 32. A84 is downed on B's 16. The kicker was still in position to kick the ball when A3 was rising, kneeling and passing.

8. 3rd and 10 on A's 30. Team A linemen have their hands on their thighs. As they are moving down into their normal three-point stance, the snapper snaps the ball. B44 intercepts A17's legal forward pass and advances for a touchdown.

9. 4th and 9 on B's 41. B23 muffs A8's scrimmage kick on B's 7 and the ball rolls into B's end zone. B23 picks up the ball and starts to run but fumbles the ball while still in B's end zone. B56 recovers on B's 2 and advances to B's 22 where he is downed. During B23's fumble, B55 blocked A74 below the waist at B's 6.

10. A27 bats a scrimmage kick in Team B's end zone that was untouched by Team B beyond the neutral zone. The kick is then recovered by B33 who runs to the Team B 18-yardline. B33 fumbles when tackled and A74 recovers and is downed at the Team B22 yard line.

Answers

1. 1st and 10 for Team A from the 30 yardline, clock on the ready. The clock was stopped to award the 1st down, not to enforce the penalty.

2. Touchback. When the ball hit in the endzone, the play was over. There is no penalty for members of the kicking team leaving early, that is a NFL rule only.

3. The run ended behind the line on the sack. Because no pass was thrown, this is not a passing play, just a running play that ended behind the LOS. The 5 yard penalty will be

enforced from the previous spot, with Team A having a 3rd and 15. Because a legal forward pass did not cross the neutral zone, the defensive penalty is not awarded an automatic first down.

4. 1st and 10 for Team B from their 35-yardline. The fumble forward out of bounds brings the ball back to the spot of the fumble. The ball is in the endzone because of the pass interception. The 15-yard penalty is enforced from the 20, the spot the ball is placed because of the touchback.

5. A's ball, 3rd and 7, on A's 33. Illegal motion and A27 is an ineligible receiver downfield. The tight end is an eligible receiver since he is legally on the end of the line and assumed to be wearing the proper number. A27 is considered illegally in motion. A27 is also considered neither on his scrimmage line nor behind the backfield line. A27 is not a back. A27 is not a lineman. If Team B accepts the penalty, it would be A's ball, 2nd and 12, on A's 28. (A.R. 7-3-3-1) [CCA - 8/28/98 - #6]

6. This is a PSK foul. The basic spot is the "postscrimmage kick spot" which is usually where the kick ends, but here it's the B-20 because the kick ended in B's endzone. The spot of the foul is in advance of the basic spot, so enforce from the basic spot. B's ball 1/10 at the B-10.

7. A's ball, 1st and 10, on B's 16. The ball remains a live ball when an offensive player has simulated a kick or is in position to kick the ball held for a place kick by a teammate. The ball may be kicked, passed or advanced by rule. If the kicker moves away, perhaps to block, then grounded A3 causes a dead ball. The ball would also remain a live ball if an opponent was able to snatch the ball or bat the ball from the holder's hands while the holder was in a kneeling position. The ball would become dead if the holder catches or recovers the ball while grounded after the kick is blocked.

8. B's ball, try, on A's 3 . Touchdown. Team A committed an illegal shift foul. This is not a false start. It would not be a false start if the snapper waited for one second after the linemen got into their three point stance before he snapped the ball. So, there is no reason to believe that Team A simulated action at the snap.

9. Safety. B's ball, free kick, on B's 20. B55's foul occurred during a running play that included B23's run. The end of B23's run was in B's end zone. Acceptance of the penalty results in a safety regardless of the spot of B55's foul. If B23 was tackled in B's end zone (no fumble), then the basic enforcement spot would be B's 20 and the 15-yard penalty would be enforced from the spot of the foul. (A.R. 10-2-2-XLI)

10. First and 10 for Team B at the 20-yard line (6-3-11). The privilege for taking the ball at the spot of illegal touching is only cancelled if there is an accepted penalty.

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. Second and five on team A's 35 yardline. A1's forward pass is intercepted by B1, who returns to team A's 30 yardline before being tackled. Flags are thrown because A6 holds B6 before the pass is released and B2 holds A2 before the interception.

- a. The fouls are enforced in the order of their occurrence.
- b. Only team A's foul is enforced.
- c. Only team B's foul is enforced.
- d. The fouls offset.

2. Second and 10 on team A's 40 yardline. A2 takes a pitchout and is downed on his 45 yardline. After the ball is dead, B2 piles on and A3 subsequently spears B2.

- a. The fouls are enforced in the order of their occurrence.
- b. Only team A's foul is enforced.
- c. Only team B's foul is enforced.
- d. The fouls offset.

3. A snapper:

- a. Must have his shoulders approximately parallel to the opponent's goalline.
- b. May never be positioned on the end of the line.
- c. May be an eligible receiver under specific circumstances.
- d. May never be contacted until he moves to participate in the play.
- e. May wear a towel of any size and color in inclement weather.

4. R1 catches a punt at team K's 20 yardline. During the run, R3 blocks K4 at team K's 35 yardline. R3's block is with his shoulder below K4's waist from the front.

- a. Legal block.
- b. R3 is guilty of blocking below the waist.
- c. The penalty is enforced from team K's 30 yardline.
- d. The penalty is enforced from team K's 35 yardline.
- e. The penalty is enforced from team K's 40 yardline.

5. Fourth and goal on team R's 12 yardline. Team K sets up to attempt a field goal and team R responds with a massive substitution. R11 quickly and incorrectly counts the defense and, thinking he is the 12th man, leaves the field just before the snap. R11 goes over the endline and immediately returns to his bench.

- a. Legal.
- b. Illegal substitution, a live-ball foul.
- c. Illegal substitution, a dead-ball foul.
- d. Illegal participation, a live-ball foul.
- e. Illegal participation, a dead-ball foul.

EFAF Official profile

Name: Rebes, Jose Maria **Age:** 49

Job: Analyst/Programmer

Number of years as an EFAF official: 5

Highlights as EFAF official:

Eurobowl 2004

Highlights as national official:

Spanish Bowl

Did you play football before becoming an official?

No

What do you do, to improve as an official?

National & EFAF clinics, watch tapes, discussions about the rules with my colleagues

The “guilty”

My son, he still plays (QB). The first time that I watched a football game I was absolutely lost ... What kind of rules do you have???

I decided to study the rules ... and I became official !

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.

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jim_vg@sbcglobal.net

By the book - Answers

1: d. (10-1-4-exc. 1)

2: d. (10-1-4-exc. 1, AR 10-1-5-VII)

3: a, c. (2-27-4, 7-3-3-a)

4: b, d. (9-1-2-e, 10-2-2-e exc.)

5: c. (3-5-2-b)