



COLLEGE FOOTBALL OFFICIATING, LLC

NCAA FOOTBALL RULES COMMITTEE

2015 Rules Changes--FINAL

The Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) has approved rules changes for 2015. Here are the changes as they will appear in the 2015 NCAA football rulebook.

1. Illegal Equipment: Overbuilt Facemask (Rule 1-4-7)

Add new paragraph l:

“l. Non-standard overbuilt facemask.”

2. Illegal Equipment: Player Must Leave the Game (Rule 1-4-8)

Replace the current paragraphs b and c by the following:

“b. If an official discovers illegal equipment, the player must leave the game for at least one down and is not allowed to return until the equipment is made legal. The player may be allowed to return without missing a down if the team takes a charged team timeout, but in any event he may not play with illegal equipment.

c. If equipment becomes illegal through play, the player is not required to leave the game for one down, but he may not participate until the equipment is made legal.”

3. Pre-Game Warm-ups (Rule 3-1-1)

Add new paragraph a; re-number subsequent paragraphs.

“a. Prior to regular season games, teams may have access to the field for pregame warm-ups until at least 22 minutes before the opening kickoff. This may be altered in advance through written mutual agreement of the teams. Game management personnel are responsible for administering this rule.”

4. Play Clock: Reset When Ball Is Not Ready For Play (Rule 3-2-4)

The first sentence of paragraph b-3 becomes:

“b-3. In the event that the 40-second play clock is running and reads 25 before the ball is ready to be snapped, the referee shall declare a timeout and signal that the play clock be set at 25 seconds.” (The remainder of the paragraph is not changed.)

5. Play Clock: Helmet Comes Off Defensive Player (Rules 3-2-4 and 3-3-9)

a. In Rule 3-2-4-c-13, delete: “~~Exception: If there is an option for a 10-second subtraction in either half, the play clock is set at 25 seconds for any player.~~”

b. In Rule 3-3-9-b-2, delete second sentence: “~~The play clock will be set at 25 seconds.~~”

6. Unsportsmanlike Conduct for Pushing/Pulling an Opponent off the Pile (Rule 9-2-1)

Add new sub-paragraph (k) to Rule 9-2-1-a-1:

“(k) After the ball is dead, using forcible contact to push or pull an opponent off the pile.”

7. Game Administration Interference (Rule 9-2-5)

Modify penalty statement, as follows:

“**PENALTY—Administer as a dead-ball foul.**

First infraction: Warning for sideline interference. No yardage penalty. [S15]

Second and third infractions: Delay of game for sideline interference; five yards from the succeeding spot. [S21 and S29]

Fourth and subsequent infractions: Team unsportsmanlike conduct for sideline interference; 15 yards from the succeeding spot. Automatic first down for fouls by Team B if not in conflict with other rules [S27 and S29]”

8. Number of Officials: Allow up to eight (Rule 11-2-1)

Rewrite Article 1 to read:

“ARTICLE 1. The game shall be played under the supervision of five, six, seven or eight officials.”

9. Instant Replay: Blocking by Team A during on-side kick (Rule 12-3-4)

Add new paragraph e:

“e. Blocking by Team A players before they are eligible to touch the ball on an on-side kick.”

Rogers Redding

Secretary-Rules Editor

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