



2017 NFHS FOOTBALL RULES INTERPRETATIONS

Publisher's Note: The National Federation of State High School Associations is the only source of official high school interpretations. They do not set aside nor modify any rule. They are made and published by the NFHS in response to situations presented.

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2017 NFHS Football Rules Book Clarification:

(Underlining shows additions; ~~striketrough~~ shows deletions.)

Page 62, Table 7-5-4, 7-5-5 –

SUMMARY OF COMPLETED AND INCOMPLETED FORWARD PASSES: Under COMPLETED FORWARD PASSES: ... b. Pass caught by the passer's ineligible ~~eligible~~ receiver; ball remains live. ...

2017 NFHS Football Case Book Clarifications:

(Underlining shows additions; ~~striketrough~~ shows deletions.)

Page 24, 3.4.2 SITUATION A:

Near the end of the second period, there is a false start by A1 clearly for the purpose of stopping the clock: (a) in the first or third periods or with two minutes or more remaining in the second or fourth periods; or (b) with less than two minutes remaining in the second or fourth periods. When will the clock be restarted? **RULING:** In (a), because the foul was the only reason for stopping the clock, it will be restarted on the ready-for-play signal following the enforcement of the penalty unless the referee feels compelled to start the clock period on the snap by 3-4-6. In (b), Team B shall

have the option to start the clock on the snap. (3-4-7)

Page 24, 3.4.2 SITUATION B:

K1's kickoff is caught by R1 and returned to R's 30. While the kick is in flight, R2 blocks K2 below the waist on R's 40. **RULING:** If the penalty is declined, R will have the ball first and 10 on R's 30. Since the clock is stopped for a new series following a legal kick, the clock will start with the snap. If the penalty is accepted, K will rekick from R's 45. The clock will start when the kick is touched other than first touching by K. When a free kick down is replayed, the clock will start the same as it does on the original free kick, ~~unless the offended team chooses to start the clock on the snap inside the last two minutes of either half.~~ (3-4-1, 3-4-3)

2017 NFHS Football Rules By Topic Clarifications:

(Underlining shows additions; ~~striketrough~~ shows deletions.)

Page 48, 3.4.2 SITUATION B:

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the clock will start with the snap. If the penalty is accepted, K will rekick from R's 45. The clock will start when the kick is touched other than first touching by K. When a free kick down is replayed, the clock will start the same as it does on the original free kick, ~~unless the offended team chooses to start the clock on the snap inside the last two minutes of either half.~~ (3-4-1, 3-4-3)

2017 NFHS Football Preseason Guide Clarification:

(Underlining shows additions; ~~striketrough~~ shows deletions.)

Page 8, Game Clock, Play 5:

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