



EAST COAST FOOTBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

Back Judge Mechanics Test 2010

Name: _____

Date: _____

KEY: R - Referee; U - Umpire; L - Linesman; LJ - Line Judge; BJ - Back Judge; LOS - Line of Scrimmage; NZ - Neutral Zone; LTG - Line To Gain; OOB - Out of Bounds; GL - Goal Line; A - Offensive Player; B - Defensive Player; K - Kicking Team; R - Receiving Team

True/False

Directions: Place a "T" for True or an "F" for False in the space provided.

Pre-Game Responsibilities

- _____ 1. For varsity contests, officials should arrive at least 1½ hours before scheduled game time.
- _____ 2. A pre-game conference is optional.
- _____ 3. The BJ is responsible for all timing situations, including 25-second count, time-outs, quarter change and the time between a score and the succeeding kickoff.
- _____ 4. The BJ has primary responsibility for instructing the ball persons.

Coin Toss

- _____ 5. The BJ brings approved game ball from each team to the coin-toss if footballs are being run off one (LJ) sideline.

Free-Kicks: Kick-Offs

- _____ 6. The BJ is responsible for counting K and instructing the kicker.
- _____ 7. If there is a foul to be administered on the free-kick, the BJ gives final signal and administers the penalty.
- _____ 8. On a long kickoff return the BJ & LJ have Goal Line responsibility, and signal TD.
- _____ 9. The BJ is responsible for knowing if there is a planned on-side kick.
- _____ 10. On a free-kick following a safety, all officials assume same relative positions and responsibilities as they would for a free-kick after a try-for-point.
- _____ 11. The BJ shares responsibility with the LJ for infractions involving K's Free-Kick Line.
- _____ 12. R1 may signal for and make a fair catch on K's 48 yd. line.
- _____ 13. A kickoff by K1 from K's 40 is muffed by R1 at R's 45 yd. line. K2 may recover and advance.

Scrimmage Kicks: Punts

- _____ 14. After the ball is spotted, the BJ positions himself 10-12 yds. wider than and 2-3 yards in behind the deepest receiver(s) on L's side of the field.
- _____ 15. The BJ carries a bean bag in hand to mark: first touching, momentum, muff into the end zone and end of the kick.
- _____ 16. For punts originating inside R's 50 yd. line, the BJ shall position himself on the GL.
- _____ 17. A punt, which is muffed at R's 2 yd. line, may be recovered by R-2 in his own EZ and returned.
- _____ 18. The BJ is not responsible for the "Momentum Rule" during a punt.
- _____ 19. The BJ must rule on Fair Catch infractions.
- _____ 20. If a punt is caught inside the 10 yd. line and a player is then downed in his end zone or ball goes out-of-bounds there, BJ must be prepared to rule whether his momentum took him into the end zone.

Scrimmage Kicks: Field Goals and PAT

- _____ 21. The wing (either L or LJ), who is facing the back of the R, gets one upright.
- _____ 22. The other wing (either L or LJ), who is facing the back of the holder, remains on the LOS.
- _____ 23. The BJ rules on the crossbar and his upright.

Prior To The Snap

- _____ 24. On a play from scrimmage, the BJ positions himself at least 15-20 yards beyond defensive line of scrimmage and always deeper than the deepest defensive back.
- _____ 25. Each official is responsible for: Down, Distance, LTG, and Clock Status.
- _____ 26. When ball is on inbounds line (hash mark), the BJ's initial position should be no wider than the nearest upright of the goalpost.

Running Plays

- _____ 27. On out-of-bounds runs, especially in team areas, the BJ moves into the area of the dead ball and assists officials in maintaining order.
- _____ 28. On scrimmage plays, the Referee & Umpire are responsible for counting the offense, while the Back Judge and Linesman are responsible for counting the defense.
- _____ 29. The BJ has GL responsibility on any long run.

Pass Plays

- _____ 30. In a balanced offensive formation at the snap, the BJ has the widest receiver (s) to the L's side of the field.
- _____ 31. On pass plays, the BJ initially has primary responsibility for the receiver(s) inside the widest receivers (slot or tight end), but switches to zone coverage after the snap.
- _____ 32. If pass is complete in BJ area of responsibility sound whistle and move towards forward progress. When LTG is reached give T.O. signal twice.

After Try, Field Goal or Safety

- _____ 33. Officials hustle up sidelines to Free-Kick position and then fill out game-card.
- _____ 34. BJ begins timing one minute interval after R signals score, no score or safety.

Goal Line Mechanics

- _____ 35. If the R/BJ has the goal line, the L/LJ are not to blow their whistles unless they have the runner OOB prior to crossing the goal line.
- _____ 36. If a play threatens the back corner of the End Zone, the BJ and Wing Officials should make eye contact prior to giving a signal.
- _____ 37. If the snap is from the 10 yd. line, the BJ is responsible for end line coverage.

Penalty Administration & Enforcement

- _____ 38. There are only two types of plays: loose ball plays and running plays.
- _____ 39. On the first sideline warning, the covering official sounds his whistle, drops penalty marker, gives proper signal, and then reports infraction to referee.
- _____ 40. On penalty enforcement the BJ will assist in holding the spot of the foul and covering the flag.
- _____ 41. On fouls to be enforced on kick-offs, the BJ will give signal to the press-box.

Overtime

- _____ 42. The overtime period(s) is considered part of the 4th period.
- _____ 43. Unused 2nd half time-outs may not be carried over into an overtime period. Each team will start the overtime period with one (1) time out.
- _____ 44. For overtime periods, only the down marker is used for ball position.

Time Outs

- _____ 45. Between downs, communication between players and coaches near the sideline is not an unauthorized conference.
- _____ 46. As the seconds close to end the quarter, the R or BJ has the game clock (whichever person is facing the clock), while the U is to focus on the action of the ball.

Inadvertent Whistle

- _____ 47. One of the keys to avoiding inadvertent whistles is to avoid blowing the whistle unless the ball can be actually seen in possession of a runner who is down or forward progress stopped.

Recommended Crew Communication Signals

- _____ 48. Touchdown signals may be given as the official is running down the field.
- _____ 49. Incomplete pass signals should be given after the official comes to a complete stop.
- _____ 50. After a FG attempt or Try, the BJ and LJ/L at the same time move one yard into the end zone in front of their upright and signal score or no score (2x) while facing the LOS.