

2011 SRI Bulletin 1

Fumblewrooski

Question: “Is it legal for an offensive back to advance a planned loose ball?”

Answer: Rule 7-2-8 only applies to a planned loose ball being advanced by an offensive lineman. Thus, it would be legal for an offensive **back** to advance a planned loose ball.

Mandatory Three Minute Warm-up

Question: When has a team met the requirements of being “on the field” for the mandatory three (3) minute warm-up prior to the second half kick-off?

Answer: Rule 2-10-1 gives us a definition for the “field”...the area within the boundary lines and end lines. If the team is making their way to the field, if they are in “sight” of the officials but not yet on the field, I don’t believe they have met the spirit of, nor the intent of the rule. Please use common sense and preventive officiating before throwing the flag for Rule 9-8-1g2 violations.

Eligibility

Play: 3rd and 10 on B 27. Wide Receiver A15 goes downfield and goes out of bounds on his own at the B20. He comes right back in and continues toward the goal line. A pass is thrown to him in the end zone. B27 arrives early and interferes with A15's ability to catch the ball, which falls incomplete. Flags are thrown for Illegal Participation where A15 came back on the field and for DPI against B27. The fouls were offset and the down was repeated.

Ruling: Correct call. A15 does not lose his eligibility when he returns inbounds. He is only guilty of Illegal Participation. Rules 7-5-6d, 9-6-1 and 9-6-2.

Play Cards

Annual reminder, play cards worn on the belt are illegal equipment. Please review Case Book play 1.5.3 Comment.

25-Second Clock

Back Judges are reminded to raise their hand for the last 5-seconds of the 25-second count. Coaches often look for this signal prior to calling a time out. When the hand is not raised, it is difficult to justify a flag for delay of game when the coach is scrambling to get the wing official's attention to request a time out.