

2011 SRI Bulletin 7

Roughing the Kicker

Play: 4th down scrimmage kick. R46 is attempting to block the kick when he is blocked by K34. K34's block does not alter the path of R46's charge into the punter and R46 contacts/targets the punter with the top of his helmet. The ball is not touched. The Referee throws a flag for Roughing the Kicker (RK) after judging that R46's charge would have taken him into the punter regardless of the block.

Ruling: Correct call. R46 does not get out of the RK flag by being blocked into punter. Case Book play 9.4.5 Situation C. There is also a foul for illegal helmet contact, Rule 9-4-3i. Penalize the more severe foul, RK, and award Team K 15-yards and an automatic first down.

Missed Field Goal

Play: 4th down field goal attempt. The ball is snapped from the R31. The kick is short and dribbles untouched across R's goal line. Officials spot the ball on the R31, R's ball 1st and 10.

Ruling: Incorrect spot. The result of the play is a touchback. Rule 8-5-3a1. The ball is not put in play at the previous spot, but is next snapped from the 20-yard line. Rule 8-5-4.

Free Kick Following Safety

Question: Following a safety, the ball is free-kicked from K's 20-yard line. The kick goes out-of-bounds (OB) untouched at the R 40-yard line. What are R's options?

Answer: A free kick after a safety that goes OB is treated like any other free kick that goes OB. R has three options: 1) accept a 5-yard penalty from the previous spot and have K rekick; 2) put the ball in play 25-yards beyond the previous spot, in this play, the K 45-yard line; 3) take the ball at the inbounds spot, in this play, the R 40....not a good choice. Rule 6-1-8.

Possession Behind Line

Play: K's fourth-down punt is high and short. It lands five yards beyond the line and bounces behind the line, where K24 recovers the ball, advances, and (a) makes the line to gain OR (b) does not make the line to gain. While the kick was beyond the line it was touched by R78.

Ruling: K24's advances are legal. In (b), it would have been a first down for Team K even if K24 did not make the line to gain because Team R touched the ball before Team K did. Rule 6-2-3.

Training Video

This week's training video shows a possible block below the waist. Click on the following link to view the play: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxtoleZDtZg> The block is at the 21-yard line. There are a couple of issues for discussion. Do the hands of the K player make contact before R blocks? Does R's block start at or above the waist and then slide down? Legal or illegal block? Please review Case Book play 9.3.2. Situation D. **You Make the Call!**