

2014 Pre-Season Bulletin

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As in previous years, weekly bulletins will highlight rules and mechanics issues that come to my attention. Please contact me with any unusual play situations that I can share with officials and associations across the State. I am also looking for video clips of Oregon play situations that I can incorporate into this year's bulletins.

Training Video

This week's training video is a group of plays from the Salem Football Officials Association. This is Clark's first production of video clips using voiceover and telestration. Thanks to Brad Garrett for his help and expertise in creating this presentation, which will be a feature of these weekly bulletins.

To view these plays, click on the following link: <https://osaafootball.arbitersports.com/front/105991/Site>. Click the screen shot of the Week 1 Video and you will be redirected to Hudl to view the presentation. The first slide is a brief explanation of how to view the presentation.

Some interesting plays to start the season!

Swinging Gate

Play: Team A comes out in a "swinging-gate" formation on a try, the lone wide receiver lines up on the line, covering up the center. When the defense was slow to react to the formation, the ball was snapped to the potential kicker who threw a quick pass to the center who had gone into the end zone. The pass was complete for an apparent two-point extra point.

Ruling: Illegal touching...no replay of the try, since the penalty includes a loss of down. Rule 7-5-13.

Inadvertent Whistle

Play: 1st quarter, 3:41 left on the clock with the clock running. A's ball, 4th and 10 on the A-40. A6 punts the ball from the A-25 and while the kick is in the air at the 50, an official inadvertently blows his whistle. B-15 catches the punt and returns it to the A-30.

Ruling: Inadvertent whistle during a legal kick. Replay the down. The game clock starts on the ready-for-play. Team B **does not** have the option of taking the result of the play as B advanced a dead ball; the ball became dead when the whistle was blown. Rules 3-4-2c and 4-2-3.

Illegally Kicking the Ball

Play: 4th down scrimmage kick from the K-20. The snap is muffed by the punter, who avoids being tackled but kicks the ball as it is lying on the K-10 yard line. The kicked ball goes to the 50 yard line, where it is recovered by R.

Ruling: This is a backwards pass with a foul for illegally kicking the ball; K cannot kick the ball while it is lying on the ground. Since this is a loose ball play, the basic spot is the previous spot, the K-20. As the foul occurred **behind** the basic spot, the penalty would be enforced from the spot of the foul, the K-10, half the distance to the goal, to the K-5 yard line. Team R would also have the option to decline the penalty and take the result of the play.