

Vincent J. Reilly-New Haven Football Officials Association

2018 Pre-Season Exam

On the answer sheet or another sheet of paper, answer the following 'T' or 'F' followed by the reference(s) for each answer.

I. New Rules

1. 2/7 at the B-25. During a run to the B-16 for an apparent 1st down, the L sees that QB A12 has a mouth protector that is dangling from his face mask and can only cover his front teeth. Ruling: After the down, the L declares an official time-out and A12 must leave the game for one down.
2. During the pre-game walk, the U notices that several Team A players have sweatbands on their biceps. Ruling: They inform the coach the players will not be allowed to play in the contest until the bands are removed or worn properly.
3. A free kick from the K-40 goes out of bounds untouched by R at the R-42. Ruling: If R elects, it may have the ball 1/10 at the R-42, no other options.
4. On an onside kick attempt from the A-40, the ball is muffed at the R-48 by K22, then goes out of bounds at the K-49. Ruling: R 1/10 at the K-46 is K so elects.
5. 4/7 from the K-46. K3 punts the ball to the R-17, which is caught by R58 and run back for a TD. Following the snap and before the kicks ended, K67 was called for holding at the K-45. Ruling: R has the option of taking the holding penalty on the Try or on the succeeding kick.
6. 4/7 from the K-46. K3 punts the ball to the R-17, which is caught by R58 and run back for a TD. During the runback, K56 is called for a personal foul. Ruling: R has the option of accepting the penalty on the Try or succeeding kick.
7. K3 free kicks from the K-40. While the kick is in flight, K-78 blocks below the waist at the R-35. The ball is caught by R7 and returned to the 35. Ruling: R 1/10 from the 50 if R so elects.

II. 2017 Rules

8. Prior the game, the home team provides three balls to the R for testing and marking. On all three, they see "The Acme Firecracker Company, Wile E. Coyote, President" stamped on the ball. The balls also have the school mascot stamped on the opposite panel. Ruling: The balls are legal.
9. At the time of the pre-game walk, Umpire John Jones is tied up in traffic on I-95 and lets the crew know he will be late. Ruling: The Referee may not designate another crew member to inspect the equipment and talk with the coaches.
10. 1/10 on B-25, A44 advances for a touchdown when B67 commits a block with open hands on a player obviously out of the play (blindside). The covering official rules it unnecessary and flagrant. Ruling: Penalty for the block is assessed on the Try or succeeding kickoff. Player B67 is disqualified from the rest of the game for the flagrant block.
11. 1/10 on B-25, A44 is in possession of the ball at the B-28 (in the free-blocking zone) and runs parallel to the LOS with B44 attempting to make the tackle. A67 attempts a blindside block with his forearms and shoulder at the B-27 (in the FBZ). A44 runs for 11 yards, to the B-14. Ruling: A 1/27 at the B-42.
12. 4/15 on the K-30, R67 enters the game as the 12th player while K3's punt is in the air. R67 catches the kick at the R-35 and runs to the R-42, where he is tackled. Ruling: K 1/10 on K-45.
13. With :17 left in regulation time, K just tied the score, 27-27. K3 attempts a pop-up kick from the K-40 by driving the ball into the turf and pooching it over the first line of the kick. Ruling: Dead-ball foul. Kill the play and penalize K 5 yards. K kicks from the K-35.
14. 3/Goal from the B-7. A67 takes his final position over the ball and gets ready to snap, following the Ready-for-Play signal. A67 attempts to snap the ball, but B89

successfully swipes the ball out of his hand as he moves it backwards. Ruling: Penalize B89 for encroachment.

15. With 1:21 remaining in regulation, A 2/7 from the B-21. A44 gets a hand off and runs to the B-18, where he is tackled inbounds. B78 commits a late hit on A44. Ruling: A 1/Goal from the B-9. Clock starts on the snap if A so elects.

16. A 2/7 from the A-45. A11 attempts a long pass down to the B-25. A89 and B94 are running downfield. B94 does not play the ball, and puts his arms up to inhibit the vision of A89 as the ball comes toward him. The pass falls incomplete. Ruling: A 1/10 from the B-40, DPI.

III. The Game, Field, Players, Equipment

17. Prior to the game, the Team A coach informs the officials his players are wearing gloves that have the NOCSAE label, but no the SIFA label. Ruling: The gloves may not be worn.

18. In the pre-game conference with the coaches, the umpire notices the visiting team's players have towels on their belts that are the correct size, and are of the same color, but they each have a Nike "swish" on them. He rules they are illegal.

19. During a time-out the coach of the home team calls his team over to the sidelines to conduct a conference between the nine-yard marks and the sideline. While conferring with his QB, he uses a tablet computer to illustrate a play formation. Ruling: Legal.

20. Wireless access goes down during a time-out. The coach of Team B, who is conferring with his team, alerts the Referee. Ruling: The Referee should not get involved in the matter unless league rules require notification.

21. QB A-11 is seen prior to the game to have his play card attached to his belt. The umpire or other official inspects all play cards and sees they are all attached to the belts of the visiting team. Ruling: Illegal.

IV. Definitions

22. 3/7 from the A-35. A11 drops back to pass and is under a heavy rush. He is hit and loses possession. At the time of the hit his arm was going forward, but the ball ends up landing behind him. Ruling: Incomplete pass, 4/7 from the A-35.
23. Following a TD, K lines up for the subsequent kickoff from the K-40. It's a windy day and K uses a holder. As they line up for the kickoff, K14 has his body beyond the free kick line in order to hold the ball. Ruling: After the Ready-for-Play, the official covering the line should call encroachment.
24. 3/8 on the B-40. Airborne receiver A88 catches a legal forward pass near the sideline on the B-25. Defender B54 contacts him from the front, knocking A88 backwards and out of bounds, where he lands at the B-27. Ruling: Complete Pass.
25. 1/10 from the B-12. A89 runs a buttonhook route, jumps and possesses a forward pass while in the air in the end zone. His momentum carries him out of the end zone where he is downed on the B-1. Ruling: TD. Try on B-3.
26. 3/Goal from the B-2. A43 takes a handoff and runs toward the near side pylon. He advances into the end zone while holding the ball outside the sideline plane. Ruling: TD. Try on B-3.

V. Timing, Substitutions

27. 3/9 from the B-40. A88 goes long to the right goal line pylon. He is in position to receive a legal forward pass by A11, but is interfered with by B89. As the LJ throws his flag (while the ball is in flight), he sounds his whistle. Ruling: A 3/9 at the B-40.
28. 3/7 at the 50. B44, thinking he's the 12th player on the field, runs off the field on his opponent's sideline. Ruling: 3/2 from the B-45.

29. 3/17 at the B-35. A comes up to the line, when an assistant coach requests "Time-Out" from the Line Judge. The head coach is in the press box, and the coach who requested the time-out was designated prior to the game. Ruling: Grant the time-out.
30. 3/10 at the A-35. Team A quick kicks and the ball is blocked, B 43 picks up the ball and runs to the A-20 where he fumbles and A39 recovers. Ruling: A 1/10 at the A-20. Clock starts on the ready.
31. 4/7 at the K-40. K3's punt is blocked and stays behind the line. Personal protector K82 picks up the loose ball and runs to the K-48 where he is downed. Ruling: K 1/10 on the K-48. Clock starts on the Ready.
32. 4/5 on the R-30. R12 enters and takes a position as a punt-returner and the player he replaces leaves the field. K decides to go for it. R12 leaves the field. Ruling: Legal play.
33. By mutual agreement of the coaches, a halftime period may be reduced to no shorter than 10 minutes.
34. 1/10 on the B-15 with time running out in the first half and A trying to score. A11 is positioned in a shotgun formation 5 yards deep, receives the snap and immediately throws the ball to the ground to stop the clock. Ruling: Legal play. Start the clock on the Snap.
35. 4/10 from the K-15. With :40 on the clock in the first period, K-3 is in punt formation with a strong wind in K's face. After running 23 seconds down, there is a false start. Ruling: Penalize 5 yards and the R can decide to start the clock on the RFP or snap.

36. 3/10 from the B-40. B17 sees he is to be the 11th man for his team, and enters on A's side of the field. The ball is snapped before B17 can get on his side. Ruling: Penalize B for illegal substitution from the Basic Spot on a run or Loose-Ball play.

VI. Ball in Play, Dead Ball, Out of Bounds

37. 4/7 from the R-21. K3 comes in for an apparent FG attempt with K12 as the holder on the R-28. At the snap, K12 receives the snap with his knee on the ground and flips the ball to K27, who is dragging in front. K27 runs for a 9-yard gain. Ruling: K 1/10 at the B-12.

38. On a try from the B-3, A requests the ball be placed on the left hash mark. A44 is called for holding on the pass play attempt, which is successful. Following enforcement of the penalty, A's captain requests the ball be placed on the right hash mark. Ruling: His request is denied.

39. 1/10 at the 50. On a sweep to the right side A44 runs to the B-40 is hit and fumbles. The ball rolls to the B-36, where A22 and B68 attempt to recover it. B68 recovers while his foot is touching the sideline. Ruling: A 1/10 at the B-36.

40. K-3's fourth down punt from the K-20 is short. R45 gives a legal fair catch signal at the K-40 and muffs the attempt. The ball is loose and rebounds back behind the neutral zone, where it is recovered by R17 at the K-10. He runs into the end zone. Ruling: Touchdown, try on K-3.

41. 4/7 from the R-21. K3 comes in for an apparent FG attempt with K12 as the holder on the R-28. At the snap the ball goes high causing K12 to rise in order to secure it. K3 remains in kicking position. K12 returns with his knee on the ground to hold the attempt. Ruling: Dead ball.

42. 3/7 at the B-27. Runner A33 runs a sweep to the left side and is running along the sideline when he is contacted by Safety B29 who is touching the sideline. A33 runs into the end zone. Ruling: TD, Try on B-3.

43. During a Try from the K-3, K3's kick hits off lineman K67 behind the neutral zone and goes through the uprights above the crossbar. Ruling: No score.

VII. Series, Downs & Possession After Penalty

44. 4/4 on the R-44. R20 catches the punt at the R-10 runs and is hit and fumbles at the R-12. The ball rolls backwards into the end zone where R33 recovers and is downed. During the kick, K17 committed a block below the waist. Ruling: K 4/19 K-39.

45. 4/4 on the B-27, A17 runs to the B-24, where he is stopped, and is piled on by B67. Ruling: B 1/25 at the B-12.

46. 2/7 on the B-20. A11 throws a legal forward pass to A33, who is tackled hard by B77 at the B-4. A33 comes up and is flagged for a personal foul on B77 in retaliation for the hit. Ruling: A 1/goal at the B-19.

47. 4/5 on the A-30. A11 throws a legal forward pass toward A88 at the A-29 (screen play). B29 is in position to intercept, and lineman A67 turns and bats the ball down and incomplete. Ruling: Illegal touching. B1/10 at the B-35.

48. 3/7 on the B-45. B43 runs around the left end along the visitors sideline and is downed at the B-3. After the play is whistled, A67 hits an opponent at the B-20. Ruling: A 1/10 at the B-18.

49. 2/7 at the B-45. A running play ends close to the B-38, but the Referee determines it is short. Following the Ready for Play, QB A11 asks for a measurement. Ruling: The request should not be granted.

50. 3/16 at the A-24. A11 takes the snap and is under duress, when he throws a legal forward pass in the direction of A42 at the A-39. Safety B29 intercepts the pass and runs for an apparent touchdown. It is discovered the down was incorrect and should have been 2/16. Ruling: A 2/16 at the A-24.

51. 4/7 on the R-20. K3's field goal attempt is partially blocked behind the neutral zone, but deflects beyond the neutral zone and is then muffed by R33. The muffed ball bounces back behind the neutral zone, where K77 picks it up at the R-22, and runs to the R-15. Ruling: Illegal advance. R 1/10 on the R-22.
52. 1/10 on the A-4. A11 is tackled and the ball is spotted in the field of play on the 5-inch line. If rotated to be parallel to the sideline, the rear will penetrate the goal line. Ruling: Safety.

VIII. Free Kicks, Fair Catch

53. On a free kick attempt from the K-40, K-3 is positioned on the K-30. K players are within the five-yard zone and legal. After the ready for play, K23 steps back and has one foot in the zone, and one foot behind the K-25. Ruling: Legal.
54. On an on-side attempt at the K-40. Five K players are on either side of the ball. As K-3 moves toward the ball to kick it, Two K players on the left move behind him to the right. At the time of the kick, three players are on K-3's left, seven on his right. Ruling: Foul. Immediate dead ball and enforcement.
55. K free kick at the K-40. The ball is sliced toward the sideline, where airborne R-17 catches the ball, then first lands on the sideline on the R-15. Ruling: R 1/10 on the R-17.
56. On an on-side kick attempt from the K-40, the ball fails to go the required 10 yards, where K98 falls on the ball at the K-38. Ruling: Flag K for illegal procedure, re-kick at the K-35.
57. K's free kick is muffed by K22 at the R-5 yard line. Following a scramble for the ball, simultaneous possession is determined on the R-17. Ruling: K 1/10 at the R-17.
58. When a punt is used in a free kick after a safety, the kick must be made within one step behind Team K's restraining line.

IX. Scrimmage Kicks, Fair Catch

59. K 3/7 on the R-15. The score is K 24, R 26. On the last play of the game, K attempts a field goal. Players 48, 24 and 31 line up in the formation between the ends, with 24 as the snapper. K3 kicks the ball through the uprights. Ruling: Illegal Formation. K 3/12 from the R-20. Have the riot police on stand-by.
60. 4/15 on the 50. R22 and R23 are deep receivers, with R23 about seven yards ahead of R22. The kick comes to R22, where he catches the ball and runs to the R-35. While the ball was in the air, R23 gave a valid fair catch signal. Ruling: 1/10 after 5-yard penalty. Delay of Game.
61. K's scrimmage kick is slowly rolling at the R-30, when receiver R4 is blocked by K14 and touches the ball. K10 recovers the ball at the R-31. Ruling: R 1/10 on R-30.
62. R1 muffs a K-3 punt from the K-30. As he tried to catch the ball at the R-7. The ball bounces around at the R-3 and is muffed by K13 in an attempt to recover it. The ball goes into the end zone. Ruling: Touchback. R 1/10 on R-20.
63. 4/10 from the R-40. Kicker R3 receives the ball and punts. While the ball was in the air, R56 holds K67 at the R-41. The ball goes through receiver R17's hands, and Back Judge inadvertently sounds his whistle. Ruling: R 1/10 on R-31.
64. On Team K's punt from its own 48 yard line, R17 muffs the punt at the R-7. While the ball is loose, K77 pushes R43 in the back above the waist, and immediately recovers the ball at the R-5. Ruling: K 1/goal on R-5.
65. 4/13 for from the K-45. K3's punt is caught by R77 at the R-20. While the ball is in the air, R17 is flagged for a block in the back. K88, meanwhile, was not on the line of scrimmage, and is called for illegal formation. Ruling: R 4/13 from the K-45 or K 1/10 at the R-10 (PSK).

66. 4/17 at the K-40. K3's punt is partially blocked and goes beyond the neutral zone expanded, where it is muffed by R17. The ball rebounds back behind the neutral zone, where it is picked up by K67 at the K-39, who runs to the 50. Ruling: R 1/10 at the K-39.

67. 4/14 from the K-40. K3's punt goes high into the air. R43 makes a valid fair-catch signal, but runs away from the ball as it comes down, takes a bounce and heads toward the end zone. R43 seeing K92 may ground the ball inside the 5, blocks K92 at the R-6. The ball goes into the end zone. Ruling: Illegal block, PSK. R 1/10 at the R-3.

X. Scrimmage Plays, Blocking

68. To be legally on the line of scrimmage an interior lineman must: A. Have his helmet break the plan of a line drawn through the snapper's waist. B. Be in position parallel to the neutral zone. C. May be of any number if on fourth down.

69. 1/10 on the A-40. A's linemen have taken their positions and snapper A69 has made his preliminary adjustment prior to the snap. QB A11 wants to change the play and before going under center, A69 releases the ball and stands to talk to A11. Ruling: Legal play.

70. After the ball is marked "Ready for Play," each Team A player who participated in the previous down, or substitute, must come within the nine-yard marks momentarily before the snap.

71. 3/6 on the B-26, A32 gets a handoff and runs for a touchdown. During the run, B17 incidentally grabs the facemask of A32. Ruling: Penalty may be accepted on the Try or Succeeding Kickoff.

72. 1/10 at the B-25. A11 hands off to A49 on a dive play. Lineman A67 in the FBZ blocks B43, who is also in the zone. They disengage and A67 blocks B77 in the FBZ. The ball is still in the zone. Ruling: Legal.

73. 1/10 at the B-25. A11 is in shotgun formation lined up 7 yards behind the snapper. On the snap, A63 blocks B83 below the waist. Both were in the FBZ. Ruling: Illegal Block.

74. 2/7 at the B-27. Prior to the snap, linebacker B52 charges toward the neutral zone, but stops before entering. At the snap he is within one yard of the neutral zone, and is blocked below the waist by A-55 who is on the line of scrimmage. On the play, Runner A34 runs for a touchdown. Ruling: TD. A 2/22 at the B-42.

75. 3/7 on the A-45, A86 and A33 come out to the same side with A86 outflanking A33 on the line of scrimmage. A86 is in a 2-point stance, A33 assumes a 3-point stance. On signal both players shift to the other side of the line. Ruling: False Start.

76. 2/7 at the B-22. QB A11 comes to the line of scrimmage. After the team was set for a second, Back A33 goes into motion. While he is in motion, lineman A67, who was in a two-point stance, assumes a three-point stance. After one second the ball is snapped. Ruling: Legal.

XI. Scrimmage Plays, Passing

77. 1/10 on the B-40 at the near hash mark. QB A11 throws a swing pass to A32 who is positioned on the opposite hash mark. He catches the ball at the B-44, and is immediately tackled. On the play B22 roughed A11. Ruling: A 1/10 on B-29.

78. 2/8 from the B-40. A44 and A87 are split to the right side in a spread formation. Both line up on the LOS with A44 covered by A87. At the snap, A44 goes downfield and A87 drops back for a screen pass. A44 catches the ball at the B-37 and runs to the B-28. Ruling: A 1/10 at the B-28.

79. 2/7 from the 50, A88 is forced out of bounds by B13. He comes back in bounds and is first to touch a forward pass, which deflects off his hands and into the hands of teammate A34. A34 takes the ball to the B-41, where he is downed. Ruling: A 1/10 at B-41.

80. 2/2 on the A-37. QB A11 drops back to the A-30 and throws a forward screen pass toward Back A32, who is at the A-33. A11's arm is hit as he throws, and the ball goes behind him and lands at the A-28. B77 falls on the ball. Ruling: B 1/10 at A-28.

81. A3/7 at the 50 with :07 remaining and the score tied 20-20. A11 is in a shotgun formation, five yards behind the NZ. The snap gets to A1 on one hop and he spikes the ball to stop the clock with :02 seconds remaining. Ruling: Legal .

XII. Scoring Plays, Momentum

82. 3/7 from the B45. A11 rolls out to pass and throws to A44, who is open in the end zone. The ball is short and caught by B22 at the 3. His momentum forces him back into the end zone. An inadvertent whistle sounds while B22 is in the end zone. Ruling: Safety or A 3/7 from the B45.

83. Team A scores on the last timed down of the game to make the score A20, B21. On the successful kick try, R44 roughs the kicker. Ruling: K may choose to replay the Try after enforcement or penalize R in the overtime period.

84. 2/10 from the B-20. B24 intercepts a legal forward pass on the B-6 and his momentum carries him into the end zone, where he is tackled. Ruling: Safety. **T. 8-5-1, 8-5-2a exc.**

85. 2/10 from the B-20. B24 intercepts a legal forward pass on the B-4 and his momentum carries him into the end zone. Prior to entering the end zone, he fumbles on the B-1. The ball rolls into the end zone, where it is recovered by B56. Ruling: B 1/10 at the B-4.

XIII. Touchback, Safety, Force

86. 4/15 from the K-8. Kicker K3 receives the snap deep in his end zone and muffs it. He recovers and makes a legal forward pass to ineligible K67, who is also in the

end zone. K67 attempts to catch the pass, muffs it, and it falls incomplete. Ruling: Safety or R 1/goal from the K-8.

87. 3/G from the B-7. Back A43 takes a handoff and runs toward the pylon on the near side. He is hit at the three-yard line and fumbles. The ball hits the pylon and rolls out of bounds. Ruling: B 1/10 on the B-20.

88. 4/7 on the K-12, Kicker K3 attempts to punt from his end zone. The ball goes high and short and bounces at the K-6. In his attempt to recover the ball and advance it, K67 muffs the ball back into the end zone, where K11 recovers it. Ruling: Safety.

89. 4/15 from the K-8. Kicker K3 receives the snap deep in his end zone and muffs it. He recovers and makes a legal forward pass to ineligible K67, who is also in the end zone. K67 attempts to catch the pass, muffs it, and it falls incomplete. Ruling: Safety by rule, no other option.

XIV. Batting, Conduct of Players, Coaches

90. A 2/7 at the A30. Runner A7 runs to the A40, where he is tackled. Team A has already been given one warning about coaches in the restricted area along the sidelines. A coach is in the area at the snap and the L trips over him during the play. Ruling: A1/10 at the A-25.

91. 4/3 on the K-45. A3's punt lands on the R-2 and is heading toward the goal line when K55 bats the ball backward to prevent it from going into the end zone. It bounces on the R-3, where it is downed by K76. Ruling: Illegal batting. Penalize 15 yards from the previous spot..

92. 2/G on the B-3. A48 gets hit at the line of scrimmage and the ball pops into the air. B76 and A77 try for the loose ball. B76 bats the ball forward and then recovers the ball at the B-10. Ruling: Legal.

XV. Penalty Enforcement

93. 2/17 on the A-3. A32 takes a handoff and runs to the A-25. During the run, A77 was called for holding in the end zone. Ruling: 2/18-1/2 from the 1-1/2.
94. 3/G on the B-8, A10 attempts a forward pass to A88 in the left corner of the end zone. Defender B44 pushes A88 as the ball comes to him and is called for pass interference. Ruling: 3/G B-4.
95. A 3/7 on the A-37. QB on a double pass play, A11 throws a pass to A35 which goes forward. A35 then throws a forward pass from the A-30 to A88 which falls incomplete. Ruling: 4/19 from the A-25.
96. A2/7 from the B-25. A7, who is in motion, goes forward prior to the snap and is flagged. A11's legal forward pass is intercepted in the end zone and returned to the B-15. During the return, B77 was called for a block in the back at the B-8. Ruling: Double foul, replay the down.
97. A 3/9 from the B-34. On a toss sweep, the pass is muffed by A22 at the B-38, but picked up. He runs to the B-23, where he is tackled. A67 was called for holding at the B-36 while the ball was loose. Ruling: A3/21 from the B-46.
98. K4/7 from the K14. K3 kicks a successful FG. At the LOS R21 was called for a rip-and-shoot hold. Ruling: K may accept the penalty and have 1/G at the 7 or enforce the penalty on the kickoff.
99. A 2/G from the B-7. A11's pass is intercepted in the end zone by B44, who attempts to run it out, but is tackled (in the end zone) by the facemask by A87. Ruling: B1/10 from the B-35.
100. A 2/G from the B-7. A11's pass is intercepted in the end zone by B44, who attempts to run it out, but is tackled in the end zone. During the run B99 was called for a block in the back at the B-10. Ruling: Safety.