

NHFOA

FREE KICK MECHANICS

POSITIONS

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| 1. Referee | On the goal line – middle of the field |
| 2. Line Judge | Home team side line at approximately the 20 yard line |
| 3. Head Linesman | Visiting team side line at approximately the 20 yard line |
| 4. Umpire | Home team side line at the receiving team's restraining line |
| 5. Back Judge | Visiting team side line at the kicking team's restraining line |

INITIAL KEY

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|------------------|---|
| 1. Referee | Middle 3 Kicking team members |
| 2. Line Judge | Kicking team # 1 & # 2, nearest the Home team side line |
| 3. Head Linesman | Kicking team # 1 & # 2, nearest the Visiting team side line |
| 4. Umpire | Kicking team # 3 & # 4, nearest the Home team side line |
| 5. Back Judge | Kicking team # 3 & # 4, nearest the Visiting team side line |

ZONES

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. Referee | Each pylon to the middle of the field at approximately the 25 yard line |
| 2. Line Judge | Near pylon to 35 yard line, nearest one-half of the field |
| 3. Head Linesman | Near pylon to 35 yard line, nearest one-half of the field |
| 4. Umpire | From 35 yard line to the Kicking team restraining line |
| 5. Back Judge | From 35 yard line to the Kicking team restraining line |

BALL COVERAGE – MOVEMENT

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|------------|---|
| 1. Referee | Observe ball reception

Check your keys

Observe runner, until he is picked up by Line Judge or Head Linesman (approximately the 20 yard line.)

Observe all blocks in front of the runner, until he is picked up by Line Judge or Head Linesman

Observe all action behind the runner, once he is picked up by the Line Judge or Head Linesman

Observe all dead ball action behind the end of the run |
|------------|---|

2. Line Judge

Observe ball reception, if in your zone

Check your keys

Observe all action in front of the runner

If the runner is in your zone, pick up the runner at approximately the 20 yard line

If the runner is in the Head Linesman's zone, check all action between you and the runner

Observe all dead ball action between you and the end of the run

3. Head Linesman

Observe ball reception, if in your zone

Check your keys

Observe all action in front of the runner

If the runner is in your zone, pick up the runner at approximately the 20 yard line

If the runner is in the Line Judge's zone, check all action between you and the runner

Observe all dead ball action between you and the end of the run

4. Umpire

Once the kicking team members have passed by you, move into the area of the nearest hash mark

Move down the field no further than the area of the 40 yard line

Observe your keys

Observe all action in front of the runner in your zone

If the runner is on the other side of the field, observe all action between you and the runner

On a long return, let the runner pass you and officiate as you would on a scrimmage play

Observe all dead ball action between you and the end of the run

5. Back Judge

Once the ball is kicked, move into the area of the nearest hash mark

Move down the field no further than the 50 yard line

Check your keys

Observe the action in front of the runner in your zone

If the runner is on the other side of the field, observe the action between you and the runner

On a long return, stay ahead of the runner and cover the goal line, if necessary

Observe all dead ball action between you and the end of the run

NOTES:

The Referee sounds his whistle and gives the ready-for-play signal when the Back Judge signals that he is ready.

The Back Judge signals that he is ready, only after checking and confirming that all other officials are signaling that they are ready.

The Referee is responsible for determining whether or not there are 4 Kicking team members on each side of the ball at the time of the kick.

The Back Judge should determine whether or not the kicking tee is legal.

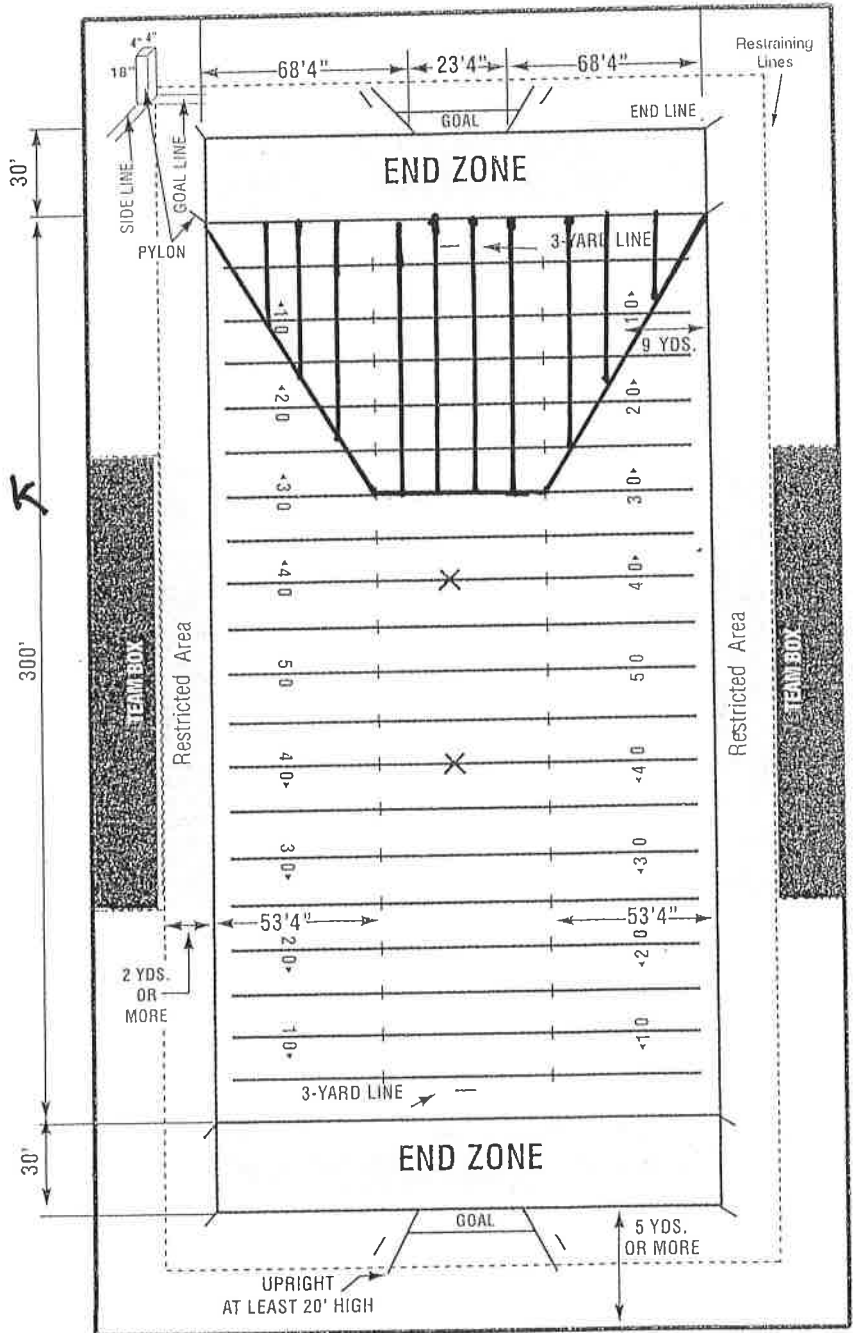
The Back Judge must not give the ball to the kicker until he determines that there are 11 players on the field for the Kicking team and verifying with the Umpire that there are 11 players on the field for the Receiving team.

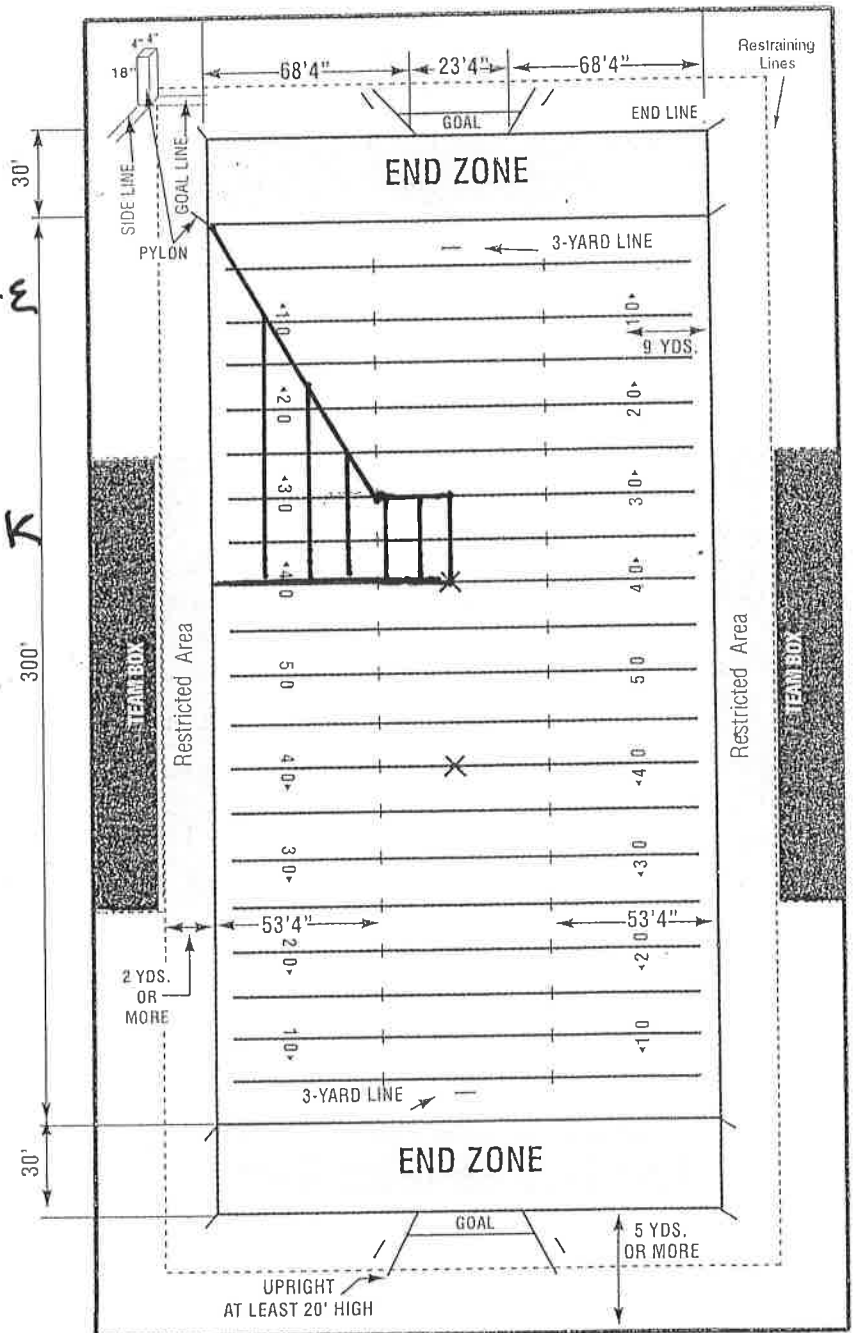
The Back Judge should instruct the kicker to look to the Referee and not to kick the ball until the Referee sounds and signals the ready-for-play.

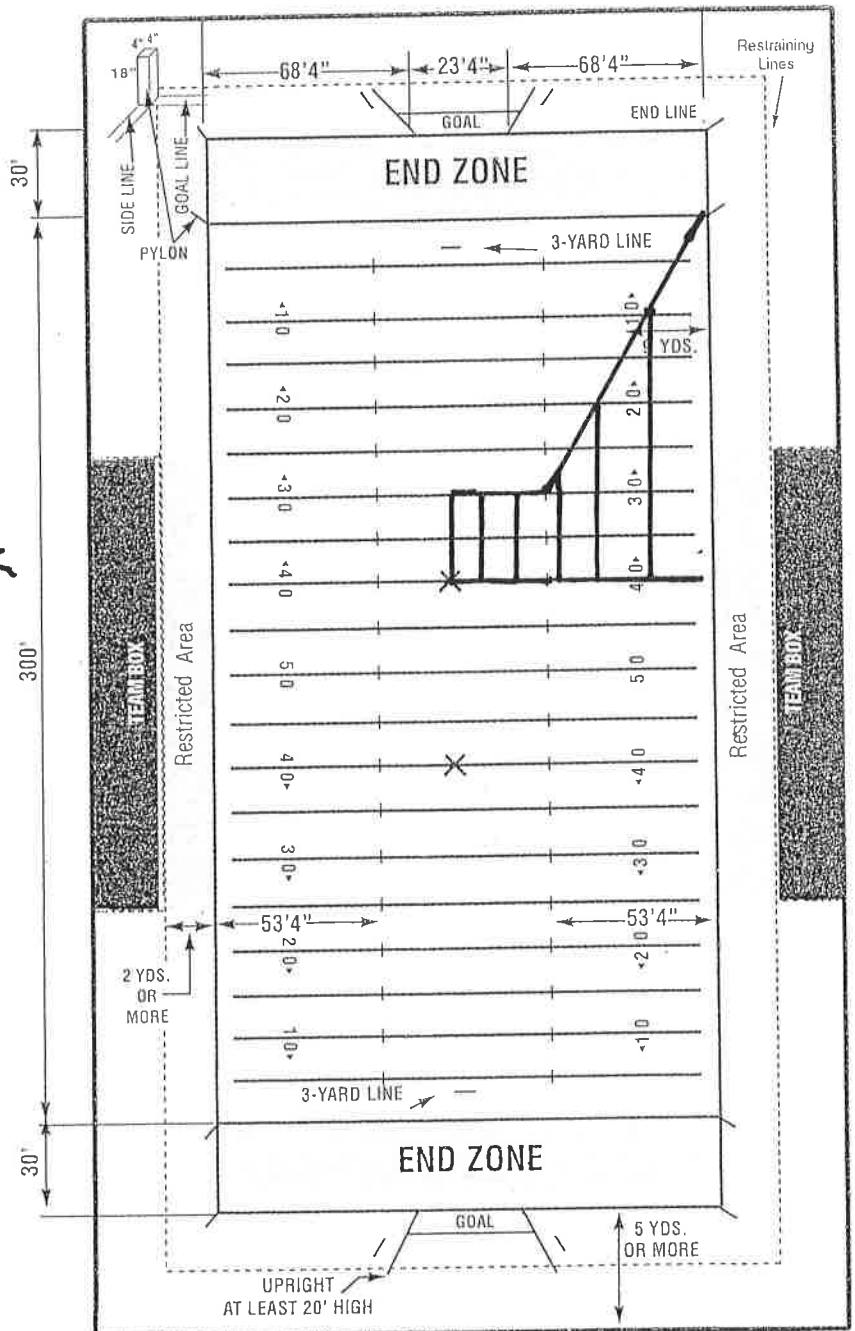
All officials on the side line must instruct the teams to stay out of the restricted zone and check to see that this instruction is obeyed.

The Umpire should instruct all Receiving team members to keep their blocks above the waist.

If the ball blows off the tee, the Back Judge should blow the whistle and give the stop-the-clock signal. The kicker should be instructed to re-tee and await the Referee's signal. If the ball blows off the tee for a second time, the Back Judge should instruct the Kicking team to have a holder keep the ball in place.







HEAD
LINESMAN
ZONE

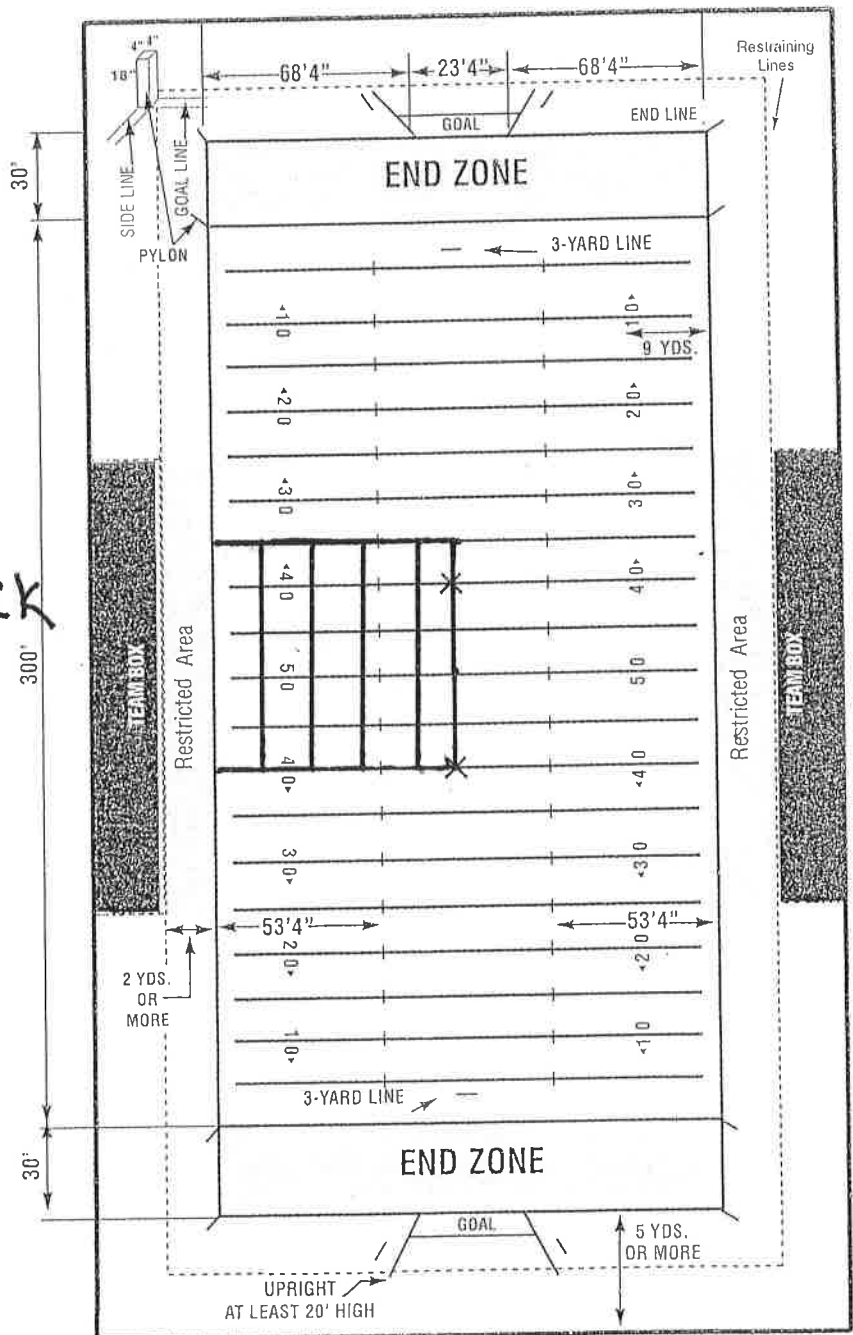
FREE KICK

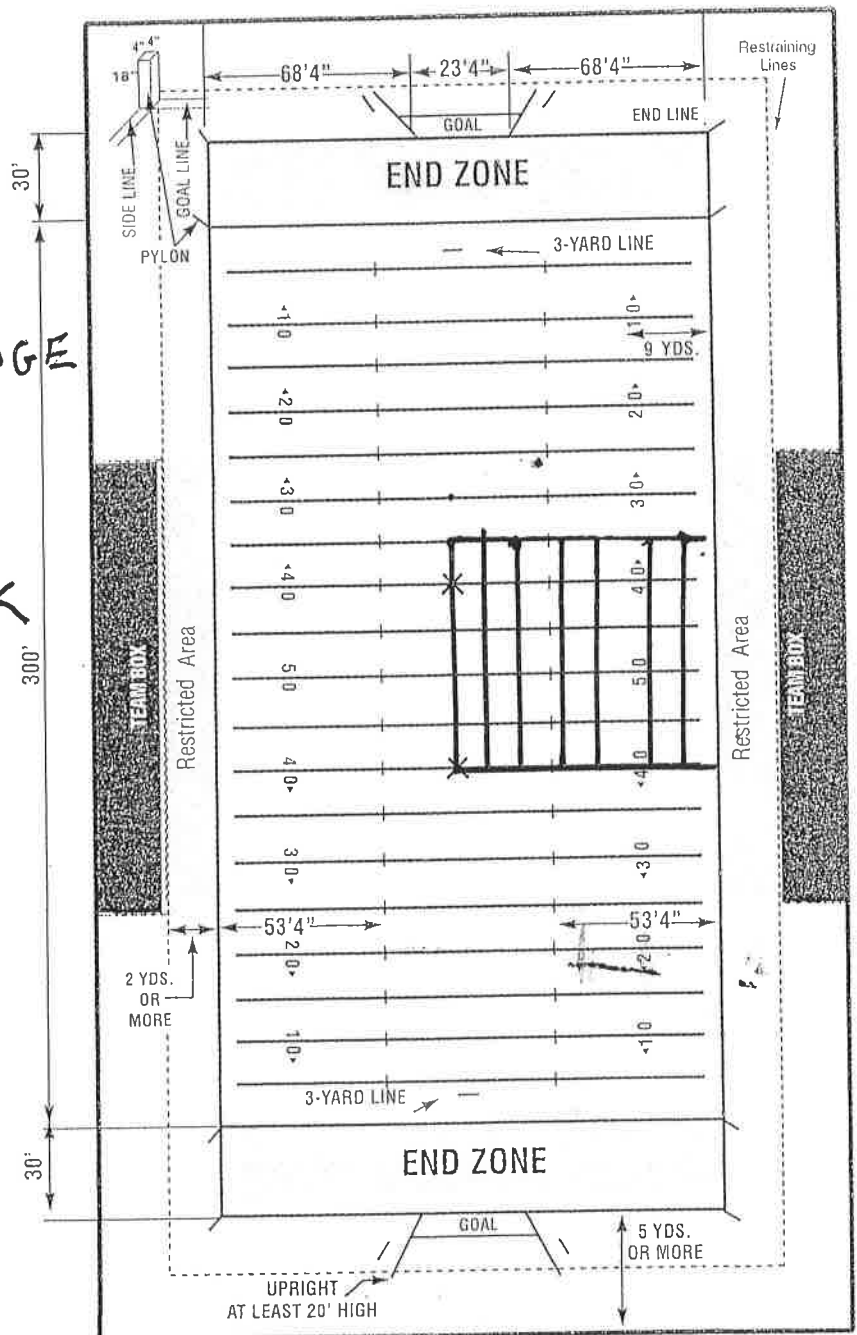


Football Field Diagram 11-player Football Field

UMPIRE
ZONE

FREE KICK





BACK JUDGE
ZONE

FREE KICK