



2015 NFHS Football Exam - Part I

NOTE: In the exam situations, A—refers to the offensive team and B—refers to their opponents the defensive team. K—refers to the kicking team and R—refers to the receiving team. A1, B1, K1 and R1 are players of these teams. If team possession changes during the down, each team retains its identity. In kicking situations, it is not during a try and no fair-catch signal has been given unless specified. Unless stated, acts occur while: the ball is inbounds; a forward pass is legal; any out-of-bounds is between the goal lines. Line means scrimmage line. Reference to a foul is to a player foul which is not unsportsmanlike. There is no foul or change of possession, unless it is mentioned, and penalties are considered accepted for enforcement.

1. Targeting is an act by any player who takes aim and initiates contact against an opponent above the shoulders with the helmet, forearm, hand, fist, elbow or shoulders.
 - A. True
 - B. False
2. No defensive player shall commit any illegal personal contact foul listed in Rule 9-4-3 against the passer.
 - A. True
 - B. False
3. The game officials shall assume authority for the contest, including penalizing unsportsmanlike acts, 15 minutes prior to the scheduled game time - an earlier time if required by the state association.
 - A. True
 - B. False
4. Face tackling is an act by any player who initiates contact against an opponent at the shoulders or below with the crown (top portion) of his helmet.
 - A. True
 - B. False
5. The referee shall have the authority to correct the number of the next down prior to the ball becoming live after a new series of downs is awarded.
 - A. True
 - B. False
6. Illegal helmet contact may not be judged a flagrant act by the game official.
 - A. True
 - B. False
7. No player or nonplayer shall make any other contact with an opponent, including a defenseless player, which is deemed unnecessary or excessive and which incites roughness.
 - A. True
 - B. False
8. The accidental touching of a loose ball by a player who was blocked into the ball is ignored and does not constitute a new force.
 - A. True
 - B. False

9. A defenseless player is a player who, because of his physical position and focus of concentration, is especially vulnerable to injury.

- A. True
- B. False

10. When the ball is loose following an illegal kick, it does not retain the same status as prior to the illegal kick.

- A. True
- B. False

11. If a free kick goes out of bounds between the goal lines touched inbounds by R, the ball is put in play by R at the inbounds spot.

- A. True
- B. False

12. Blocking is obstructing an opponent by contacting him with any part of the blocker's body.

- A. True
- B. False

13. Initial force results from a carry, fumble, kick, pass, snap or muff.

- A. True
- B. False

14. Any act that is clearly intended to cause B to encroach is an unsportsmanlike foul.

- A. True
- B. False

15. At the time the ball is kicked, at least four K players must be on each side of the kicker.

- A. True
- B. False

16. By state association adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the uniform without compromising its integrity.

- A. True
- B. False

17. An unofficial auxiliary down indicator may be used, but it must be operated approximately 2 yards outside the sideline (except in stadiums where the total playing enclosure does not permit) opposite the official line-to-gain and down indicators.

- A. True
- B. False

18. A free kick must be used following a safety.

- A. True
- B. False

19. Ball-colored helmets are legal player equipment.

- A. True
- B. False

20. If the helmet comes completely off during subsequent dead-ball action related to the down, and is not directly attributable to a foul by the opponent, the player must leave the game for at least one down (unless halftime or overtime intermission occurs).

- A. True
- B. False

21. If a player does not have a helmet that met the NOCSAE test standards when manufactured, he may participate, but a 5-yard penalty shall be enforced.

- A. True
- B. False

22. When any required equipment is missing, correction must be made before participation.

- A. True
- B. False

23. Between the first and second periods and between the third and fourth periods, the teams may or may not change goals.

- A. True
- B. False

24. If there was an inadvertent whistle during the last timed down of the period, the period is not extended by an untimed down.

- A. True
- B. False

25. A period shall not be extended by an untimed down if, during a down in which time expires, fouls for which enforcement, by rule, result in a safety.

- A. True
- B. False

26. State high school associations may determine the length of halftimes, provided it is not less than 10 minutes and not more than 20 minutes.

- A. True
- B. False

27. The period shall be extended if, during a down in which time expires, B1 commits an unsportsmanlike foul and the penalty is accepted.

- A. True
- B. False

28. Giving an invalid fair-catch signal carries a 15-yard penalty.

- A. True
- B. False

29. Only the receiver who gives a valid fair-catch signal is afforded protection.
- A. True
 - B. False
30. Only one receiver may give a signal for a fair catch while any legal kick is in flight.
- A. True
 - B. False
31. A fair-catch signal given by a receiver in his own end zone is not a foul.
- A. True
 - B. False
32. It is illegal for R1 to fair-catch a free kick in the neutral zone.
- A. True
 - B. False
33. It is a field goal even though part of the ball passes through the line of the upright extended.
- A. True
 - B. False
34. A field goal may be scored by a free kick following a safety.
- A. True
 - B. False
35. During a field-goal attempt, not during a try, the ball becomes dead when it is obvious the kick has apparently failed.
- A. True
 - B. False
36. A backward pass is a pass thrown with its initial direction parallel with or toward the runner's end line.
- A. True
 - B. False
37. If runner A1, who is beyond the neutral zone, tosses the ball forward, he has thrown an illegal forward pass.
- A. True
 - B. False
38. There can be no pass interference, or ineligibles down field, if the pass does not cross the neutral zone.
- A. True
 - B. False
39. Pass eligibility rules apply equally to both legal and illegal forward passes as well as backward passes.
- A. True
 - B. False

40. A multiple foul is one or more live-ball fouls by each team resulting in offsetting penalties.
- A. True
 - B. False
41. Grasping the tooth and mouth protector attached to the face mask is not a foul.
- A. True
 - B. False
42. A foul is a result imposed by rule against a team or team member that has committed a penalty.
- A. True
 - B. False
43. A nonplayer foul may influence the play in progress.
- A. True
 - B. False
44. If B1 intercepts and is downed; and then A1 and A2 both pile on, it is a multiple foul.
- A. True
 - B. False
45. If both teams commit fouls during the same dead-ball period and the second foul is committed prior to the enforcement of the first foul, it is a double foul.
- A. True
 - B. False
46. A free kick which goes out of bounds belongs to the kicking team.
- A. True
 - B. False
47. If K1 is first to touch a free kick between the free-kick lines, such touching is ignored.
- A. True
 - B. False
48. A punt may be used as a free kick following a fair catch.
- A. True
 - B. False
49. A place-kick following an awarded fair catch may score a field goal.
- A. True
 - B. False
50. A player cannot fumble before gaining possession.
- A. True
 - B. False

51. A dead ball may become live only by a legal snap or free kick.
- A. True
 - B. False
52. Penalties are either 5, 10 or 15 yards.
- A. True
 - B. False
53. Illegal participation can be a nonplayer foul.
- A. True
 - B. False
54. The clock shall start with the snap, if the clock was stopped because of an inadvertent whistle.
- A. True
 - B. False
55. It is illegal participation if any player intentionally goes out of bounds and returns during the down.
- A. True
 - B. False
56. Kick-catching interference carries a 15-yard penalty plus a loss of down.
- A. True
 - B. False
57. Following a change of possession, if an inadvertent whistle is sounded, the down must be replayed.
- A. True
 - B. False
58. A coach who has been disqualified may not have further direct or indirect contact with his/her team during the remainder of the game.
- A. True
 - B. False
59. If a loss-of-down foul by A occurs during a successful try, there is no score and the down is replayed.
- A. True
 - B. False
60. If a foul occurs during a running play, the basic spot is the spot where the related run ends.
- A. True
 - B. False
61. A foul that occurs simultaneously with the snap is an exception to the all-but-one enforcement principle.
- A. True
 - B. False

62. A scrimmage kick recovered in or behind the neutral zone may not be advanced by K or R.
- A. True
 - B. False
63. It is not illegal participation if A1 immediately returns to the field and makes a block after being blocked or pushed out of bounds by B1.
- A. True
 - B. False
64. It is illegal participation for a disqualified player to re-enter the game.
- A. True
 - B. False
65. The down is replayed if an inadvertent whistle sounds during the snap.
- A. True
 - B. False
66. The referee's decision to forfeit a game is final.
- A. True
 - B. False
67. A false start is always a dead-ball foul.
- A. True
 - B. False
68. The horizontal crossbar and the uprights above it shall be free of all decorations other than paint, which is recommended to be either silver, white or yellow.
- A. True
 - B. False
69. The referee is the final judge as to the legality of the game ball.
- A. True
 - B. False
70. The bottom edge of the crossbar shall be 10 feet above the ground.
- A. True
 - B. False
71. If K's blocked punt strikes the ground and is then forced into K's end zone by R2 and recovered there by R3, it is a touchback.
- A. True
 - B. False

72. On kicks entering R's end zone, the determination of force dictates whether it is a touchback or a safety.

- A. True
- B. False

73. Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a safety.

- A. True
- B. False

74. It is a safety if A1 retreats into A's end zone and fumbles the ball beyond the end line.

- A. True
- B. False

75. No single charged time-out shall exceed one minute.

- A. True
- B. False

76. The clock shall be stopped when an illegal forward pass is incomplete.

- A. True
- B. False

77. An official's time-out can be called for unusual heat or humidity situations.

- A. True
- B. False

78. A clock will start with the ready-for-play following a television time-out.

- A. True
- B. False

79. The clock shall not start on first touching by K.

- A. True
- B. False

80. After the ball goes out of bounds, the clock always starts with the ready-for-play.

- A. True
- B. False

81. When the ball becomes dead following a fourth down, the clock must be stopped.

- A. True
- B. False

82. A signal to end a period shall be sounded when time expires (clock indicates 0:00) during the down.

- A. True
- B. False

83. If a free kick is repeated due to a foul, the clock shall start when the free kick is touched, other than first touching by K.
- A. True
 - B. False
84. The batting of a pass, kick or fumble in flight is not considered a new force for judging whether a touchback or safety results.
- A. True
 - B. False
85. It is not a touchback when a forward pass is intercepted in B's end zone and becomes dead there in B's possession.
- A. True
 - B. False
86. When a try is replayed, the snap may be from any point between the hash marks on the yard line through the spot of the ball.
- A. True
 - B. False
87. It is a touchdown for A when a live ball in A1's possession breaks the vertical plane of B's goal line.
- A. True
 - B. False
88. It is a touchdown for A if A1 fumbles into B's end zone and A2 is the last to touch the ball prior to its going out of bounds beyond the end line.
- A. True
 - B. False
89. If a touchdown is scored during the last down of the fourth period, the try shall not be attempted unless the point(s) would affect the outcome of the game or playoff qualifying.
- A. True
 - B. False
90. First touching applies to K only.
- A. True
 - B. False
91. Yard lines shall be marked with a continuous line every 5 yards beginning and ending _____ from each sideline.
- A. 1 inch
 - B. 2 inches
 - C. 4 inches
 - D. 6 inches

92. An act by any player who initiates contact with the front of his helmet against an opponent who is not a runner is:
- A. Face Tackling
 - B. Spearing
 - C. Butt Blocking
 - D. None of the above.
93. When weather conditions are construed to be hazardous to life or limb of the participants, the crew of game officials is authorized to:
- A. cancel the game.
 - B. delay or suspend the game.
 - C. forfeit the game.
 - D. None of the above.
94. The ball becomes dead and the down ends when:
- A. A game official sounds their whistle inadvertently.
 - B. The helmet comes completely off of a player who is in possession of the ball.
 - C. A live ball goes out of bounds.
 - D. Any of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
95. A free kick is not repeated unless:
- A. A foul occurs prior to a change of possession and the penalty acceptance requires a replay of the down.
 - B. There is a double foul.
 - C. There is an inadvertent whistle during the kick.
 - D. Any of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
96. For any free kick, a free-kick line, corresponding to a scrimmage line, is established for each team. These lines are always 10 yards apart. Unless moved by a penalty, K's free-kick line is:
- A. Its 40-yard line for a kickoff.
 - B. Its 20-yard line after a safety.
 - C. Any of the above.
 - D. None of the above.
97. The penalty for failure to properly wear mandatory equipment during the down is:
- A. 5 yards, succeeding spot.
 - B. 5 yards, previous spot.
 - C. 10 yards, succeeding spot.
 - D. 10 yards, previous spot.
 - E. 15 yards, basic spot.

98. The penalty for an illegal forward pass from beyond the neutral zone is:
- A. 5-yard penalty and loss of down
 - B. 10-yard penalty and loss of down
 - C. 15-yard penalty and loss of down
 - D. None of the above
99. The following fouls by B give A an automatic first down:
- A. Roughing the kicker or holder.
 - B. Roughing the passer.
 - C. Roughing the snapper.
 - D. Any of the above.
 - E. None of the above.
100. With first and 10 from A's 10-yard line, A1 drops back into his end zone, where he is tackled by a pulling of the face mask/helmet opening and fumbles. The ball rolls out of bounds at A's 5-yard line. What is the ruling?
- A. Following penalty administration, it will be A's ball, first and 10 at A's 10-yard line.
 - B. Following penalty administration, it will be A's ball, first and 10 at A's 15-yard line.
 - C. Following penalty administration, it will be A's ball, first and 10 at A's 20-yard line.
 - D. Following penalty administration, it will be A's ball, first and 10 at A's 25-yard line.