



## 2015 CFOA Football Exam

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. A player with an eligible number e.g. A88, is an eligible receiver unless otherwise stated. The reference to a yard line is abbreviated so that “the B-25” means Team B’s 25 yard line. 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. There cannot be an illegal shift unless the ball is snapped.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
3. If two players of Team A are in motion, the action is legal if one of the players stops and sets for at least one second before the snap.
  - 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 is a flagrant foul by rule.
  - A. True
  - B. False

7. If a player possesses the ball while airborne and is driven out-of-bounds by a defensive tackler prior to touching grounds inbounds, it may be ruled a catch.  
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. A kick ends when a new force is applied after it has touched the ground.  
A. True  
B. False
11. If K27's try by kick is blocked and K22 recovers behind the line and runs into the end zone, K is awarded two points.  
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 Team 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. A fair catch can be made anywhere between the goal lines.  
A. True  
B. False

17. After an onside kickoff has traveled 10 yards and touched the ground, it is legal for K62 to bat the ball to prevent it from going out-of-bounds.  
A. True  
B. False
18. A place kick must be used following a safety.  
A. True  
B. False
19. If a fumble or backward pass is out-of-bounds behind a goal line, the ball belongs to the team defending that goal and the result is either a touchback or safety.  
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. There can be only one loose-ball play during any down.  
A. True  
B. False
22. When any required equipment is missing, correction must be made before participation.  
A. True  
B. False
23. When the runner is airborne and the ball is beyond the sideline plane, the goal line includes the extension beyond the sideline.  
A. True  
B. False
24. If there was an inadvertent whistle during a down in which time expires, the period is 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. Only the receiver who gives a valid fair catch signal is afforded protection.
- A. True
  - B. False
29. A fair catch signal given by a receiver in his own end zone is a foul.
- A. True
  - B. False
30. On a free kick, it is illegal for R41 to make a fair catch in the neutral zone.
- A. True
  - B. False
31. It is a field goal even though part of the ball passes through the line of the upright extended.
- A. True
  - B. False
32. A field goal may be scored by a free kick following a safety.
- A. True
  - B. False
33. A backward pass is a pass thrown with its initial direction parallel with or toward the runner's end line.
- A. True
  - B. False
34. If runner A22, who is beyond the neutral zone, tosses the ball forward, he has thrown an illegal forward pass.
- A. True
  - B. False
35. There can be no pass interference, or ineligibles down field, if the pass does not cross the neutral zone.
- A. True
  - B. False
36. Pass eligibility rules apply equally to both legal and illegal forward passes as well as backward passes.
- A. True
  - B. False
37. 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, the fouls cancel.
- A. True
  - B. False

38. A free kick which goes out of bounds belongs to the kicking team.  
A. True  
B. False
39. If K81 is first to touch a free kick between the free-kick lines, such touching is ignored.  
A. True  
B. False
40. A punt may be used as a free kick following a fair catch.  
A. True  
B. False
41. A place kick following an awarded fair catch may score a field goal.  
A. True  
B. False
42. A player cannot fumble before gaining possession.  
A. True  
B. False
43. Illegal participation can be a non-player foul.  
A. True  
B. False
44. The clock shall start with the snap, if the clock was stopped because of an inadvertent whistle.  
A. True  
B. False
45. It is illegal participation if any player intentionally goes out of bounds and returns during the down.  
A. True  
B. False
46. Kick-catching interference carries a 15-yard penalty plus a loss of down.  
A. True  
B. False
47. Following a change of possession, if an inadvertent whistle is sounded, the down must be replayed.  
A. True  
B. False
48. If a loss-of-down foul by Team A occurs during a successful try, there is no score and the down is replayed.  
A. True  
B. False
49. If a foul occurs during a running play, the basic spot is the spot where the related run ends.  
A. True  
B. False

50. A foul that occurs simultaneously with the snap is an exception to the all-but-one enforcement principle.
- A. True
  - B. False
51. A scrimmage kick recovered in or behind the neutral zone may not be advanced by Team K or Team R.
- A. True
  - B. False
52. It is illegal participation if A81 immediately returns to the field and makes a block after being blocked or pushed out of bounds by B42.
- A. True
  - B. False
53. It is unsportsmanlike conduct for a disqualified player to re-enter the game and the head coach is ejected.
- A. True
  - B. False
54. The down is replayed if an inadvertent whistle sounds during the snap.
- A. True
  - B. False
55. The referee is the final judge as to the legality of the game ball.
- A. True
  - B. False
56. If K28's blocked punt strikes the ground and is then forced into Team K's end zone by R42 and recovered there by R53, it is a touchback.
- A. True
  - B. False
57. On kicks entering Team R's end zone, the determination of force dictates whether it is a touchback or a safety.
- A. True
  - B. False
58. Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a safety.
- A. True
  - B. False
59. It is a safety if A11 retreats into A's end zone and fumbles the ball beyond the end line.
- A. True
  - B. False

60. An official's timeout can be called for unusual heat or humidity situations.  
A. True  
B. False
61. A clock will start with the ready-for-play following a television timeout.  
A. True  
B. False
62. The clock starts on first touching by Team K.  
A. True  
B. False
63. A signal to end a period shall be sounded when time expires (clock indicates 0:00) during the down.  
A. True  
B. False
64. 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 Team K.  
A. True  
B. False
65. 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
66. It is a safety if a forward pass is intercepted in Team B's end zone it becomes dead there in Team B's possession after B21 tries to run it out, but never leaves the end zone.  
A. True  
B. False
67. 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
68. It is a touchdown for Team A when a live ball in A33's possession breaks the vertical plane of Team B's goal line.  
A. True  
B. False
69. It is a touchdown for Team A if A32 fumbles into Team B's end zone and A42 is the last to touch the ball prior to its going out of bounds beyond the end line.  
A. True  
B. False

70. 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.
- A. True
  - B. False
71. On the opening kickoff, K27's kick is short and high catching R by surprise. K88 goes to catch the ball at the R-45 but muffs it. R62 recovers the ball and runs to midfield.
- A. K88 committed a foul for kick-catching interference.
  - B. K88 committed a foul for kick-catching interference only if no R player was in position to catch the ball.
72. With 7:17 to play in the fourth quarter, runner A21 is at the B-10 when he turns and taunts pursuing B52. Team B accepts the penalty.
- A. Team B has the choice of enforcement on the try or on the succeeding kickoff.
  - B. The penalty must be enforced on the try.
  - C. The penalty must be enforced on the succeeding kickoff.
  - D. The penalty must be enforced from the B-10.
73. Substitute A88 enters the field as Team A is going to the line. Replaced player A86, who is on the opposite side of the field from his team box, begins to leave immediately upon seeing A88 enter. At the snap, A86 is halfway between the numbers and his sideline.
- A. The play should be killed when A88 enters.
  - B. The play should be killed just as the ball is snapped.
  - C. There is no foul as long as A86 does not participate.
  - D. A86 should be flagged for a substitution infraction.
74. Fourth and three for team A from the A-27. From behind the line of scrimmage, A8 throws a backward pass toward A22. The backward pass bounces off A22's chest, and goes forward where it is recovered by A43, who advances and is downed at the A-33.
- A. Legal play under all circumstances.
  - B. Legal play only if A43 catches the ball.
  - C. The fourth-down fumble rule applies.
  - D. The ball should be blown dead when A43 recovers it.
75. Team A, trailing by five points and out of timeouts in the fourth quarter, has the ball first and goal on the B-9. A82 catches a pass and is tackled inbounds on the B-1. During the down, A82 was flagged for pass interference and the clock is stopped with 0:04 remaining. The penalty is accepted.
- A. If the clock expires before Team A can snap the ball, the period is extended for an untimed down.
  - B. If the clock expires before Team A can snap the ball, the period is not extended and the game is over.



76. Third and 10 on the A-20. Team A's coach thinks it's fourth down and sends punter A7 onto the field. When A7 reaches the huddle and tells A9 to leave the game, he is told it's only third down. A7 then runs off the field.

- A. Legal.
- B. Flag team A immediately for illegal substitution.
- C. If team A snaps the ball they will be flagged for illegal substitution.

77. Third and goal for team K from the R-7. With six seconds to play in a tie game, K11 is in position to kick a field goal and K22 is on one knee at the R-14 in position to hold. K22 takes the snap and, without rising, throws a forward pass to eligible K43, who drops it.

- A. Incomplete pass.
- B. The ball should be ruled dead when K22 passes it.
- C. Illegal forward pass.

78. Fourth and 10 on the K-38. Team K's punt enters Team R's end zone. During the kick, R66 holds at the R-28. If the penalty is accepted the next down will be:

- A. Team K's ball, first and 10 at the K-48.
- B. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-28.
- C. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-20.
- D. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-14.
- E. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-10.

79. K31's field goal attempt is good. R42 is flagged for running into the kicker.

- A. The penalty is declined by rule.
- B. If team K wants to accept the penalty, it must be enforced from the previous spot. There is no option for enforcement on the succeeding kickoff.
- C. Team K may choose enforcement from the previous spot and a replay of the down or enforcement on the succeeding kickoff.

80. R20 has one foot out of bounds behind his own goal line when he touches K72's free kick, which is otherwise untouched and is rolling at the R-2.

- A. Touchback.
- B. Safety.
- C. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-2.
- D. Free kick out of bounds.

81. Fourth and four on the B-35. Team A comes to the line and assumes an initial set in a scrimmage-kick formation. At that time, team A has only four players numbered 50 through 79. A88 assumes an initial position as a tackle, in effect becoming the fifth lineman numbered 50 through 79. Team A then shifts, uncovering A88, who is now lined up as an end. A few seconds later, the ball is snapped to A7, standing on the B-45. A7 fakes a punt and runs to the B-25.

- A. Legal play.
- B. Foul for illegal formation.

82. Fourth and four on the B-35. Team A comes to the line and assumes an initial set in a scrimmage-kick formation. At that time, team A has only four players numbered 50 through 79. A88 assumes an initial position as a tackle, in effect becoming the fifth lineman numbered 50 through 79. Team A then shifts, uncovering A88, who is now lined up as an end. A few seconds later, the ball is snapped to A7, standing on the B-45. A7 throws a pass to A88 who is on the B-15.

- A. Legal play.
- B. Foul for illegal formation.
- C. Foul for offensive pass interference
- D. Foul for illegal touching.

83. R42 muffs the kickoff at the R-2. The ball rolls past R42 who dives after the ball. Lying prone, with his entire body in the field of play, R42 grabs the ball and tucks it into his gut at the R-1/2. When R42 touched the ball, the rear tip of the ball was over the goal line, but the ball never actually touched the goal line or any part of the end zone.

- A. Touchback.
- B. Safety.
- C. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-2.
- D. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-1/2.
- E. None of the above.

84. Fourth and 10 on the K-30. After giving a valid fair catch signal at the R-45, R22 muffs the ball. The ball hits the ground and is loose when R22 blocks K82 in the back above the waist at the R-45. R23 recovers the loose ball at the R-48.

- A. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-48.
- B. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-38.
- C. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-35.
- D. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-33.
- E. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the R-30.

85. Second and 10 on the A-30. A11 throws a deep pass and B24 goes through A88's back to intercept the ball. Before the Back Judge can get his flag out, and while the ball is still live, a Team A assistant coach comes on to the field to protest the play.

- A. Team A's ball, second and 10 at the A-30.
- B. Team A's ball, first and 10 at the A-45.
- C. Team A's ball, first and 10 at the A-30.
- D. Team A's ball, first and 10 at the A-40.
- E. None of the above.

86. Second and eight on the B-40. A10's pass is intercepted by B23 at the B-20. After the interception and during the return, B55 blocks A88 in the back at the B-30. At the A-45, A78 grabs and twists B23's facemask. Then B23 fumbles the ball. A32 recovers the ball at the A-40.
- A. Team A's ball, second and eight on the B-40.
  - B. Team A's ball, first and 10 at the A-40.
  - C. Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-10.
  - D. Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-15.
  - E. Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-35.
87. Punt receiver R19 catches the ball at his nine yard line, circles back into the end zone, and is tackled there. During R19's run, K64 commits a personal foul at the B-10.
- A. Safety.
  - B. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the B-15.
  - C. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the B-24.
  - D. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the B-25.
  - E. Team R's ball, first and 10 at the B-35.
88. Fourth and seven on the K-10. K38, in position to punt, muffs the snap from center. To prevent Team R from recovering the ball, K38 bats it backward at the K-2 and into and out of the end zone.
- A. If the penalty is accepted, it is a safety.
  - B. If the penalty is accepted, it is a Team K's ball, fourth and 12 at the K-5.
  - C. If the penalty is accepted, it is a Team K's ball, fourth and 15 at the K-2.
  - D. If the penalty is accepted, it is a Team K's ball, fourth and 16 at the K-1.
89. On fourth and two, ball carrier A12 is stopped inbounds short of the line-to-gain and replaced player B76 didn't make it off the field before the snap (substitution infraction). The clock will start:
- A. On the snap.
  - B. On the ready.
  - C. At the referee's discretion.
90. On third and goal at the B-12, A13 is roughed as he completes a pass to A83. At the B-4, A83 fumbles. The ball rolls into Team B's end zone and over the end line.
- A. Team A's ball, first and goal at the B-6.
  - B. Team A's ball, first and goal at the B-4.
  - C. Team A's ball, first and goal at the B-2.
  - D. Team B's ball, first and 10 at the B-20.
  - E. None of the above.

91. Fourth and five on the B-30. Team A comes to the line and assumes an initial set in a scrimmage kick formation. When the snapper touches the ball, Team A has only four players numbered 50 through 79. A82 assumes an initial position as a tackle, in effect becoming the fifth lineman. Team A then shifts, uncovering A82, who is now lined up as an end. The ball is then snapped to A7, standing back on Team B's 40 yard line. Immediately after the snap, A82 goes downfield.

- A. Team A is guilty of a foul for an illegal formation regardless of what play is run.
- B. When A82 goes downfield, he commits a foul regardless of what play is run.
- C. When A82 goes downfield, he commits a foul only if the play is a pass play.
- D. When A82 goes downfield, he commits a foul only if the play is a pass where a forward pass crosses the neutral zone.

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. Declare the game final.
- D. B or C.

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, Team K's free-kick line is:

- A. The K-40 for a kickoff.
- B. The K-20 after a safety.
- C. Both of the above.
- D. None of the above.

97. The penalty for failure to properly wear mandatory equipment during the down is:
- A. Five yards, succeeding spot.
  - B. Five 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. Five-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 Team B give Team 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. First and 10 on the A-10. A8 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 the A-5. Following penalty administration what is the ruling?
- A. A's ball, first and 10 at the A-10.
  - B. A's ball, first and 10 at the A-15.
  - C. A's ball, first and 10 at the A-20.
  - D. A's ball, first and 10 at the A-25.