

Rules Changes for 2003

Football

- 2-16-2g** The enforcement procedure for a foul by the receiving team during a scrimmage kick has been changed. The change reflects that should a foul occur by the receiving team on its side of the expanded neutral zone prior to the end of the kick, the receiving team shall retain possession of the ball following enforcement of the penalty. The foul does not apply to a try.
- 2-16-5** A penalty is a result imposed by rule against a team or team member that has committed a foul.
- 2-17-3** Clipping is permitted in the free-blocking zone when the following conditions are met: a. by offensive linemen who are on the line of scrimmage and in the zone at the snap; b. against defensive players who are on the line of scrimmage and in the zone at the snap; and c. the contact is in the zone.
- 7-5-9a** Pass interference restrictions end for offensive players, when the defense touches the pass or last forward pass if more than one.
- 8-2-1** Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a touchdown.
- 8-2-2** If during a touchdown, a foul by the defense occurs, the scoring team may accept the result of the play and have the penalty enforced from the succeeding spot.
- 8-4-3** The offense, on a successful field goal, may accept the results of the play and have the penalty enforced from the succeeding spot.
- 9-8-1h** A penalty may be assessed for the failure of the head coach, following verification, to have the player(s) use or wear legal and/or required equipment.
- 10-5-1e, f** A foul by the scoring team occurs on a successful try, successful field goal or touchdown.

Major Editorial Changes

1-5-3m; 2-5-3; 2-16-2b; 2-23-2; 3-3-3; 8-5-2b.

Other Editorial Changes

1-3-1a; Table 1-7; 3-1-1Note; Table 3-1; 6-1-2 Penalty; 9-2-1 Penalty; Fundamental X3b; Penalty Chart

Points of Emphasis

1. Security and Safety at Contests
2. Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Profane Language, Taunting and Baiting
3. Offensive Pass Interference
4. Chop Blocks