

RULE ADDENDUM - 2012 WPIFL (NAIFL USA NORTH) SEASON

DEFENSIVE FORMATIONS/ILLEGAL DEFENSE:

- DECLARING:

** For the purposes of each example below, the “box” is the imaginary boundary by which the offense and defense are restricted within. It is the width of the outside shoulders of the interior offensive linemen and extends seven yards deep in both directions away from the line of scrimmage for a distance of 7 yards. The “blue line” refers to the stripe on the playing surface at Southpointe which is approximately 1/2 the distance from the goal line to midfield. It's is the “effective” starting point for each team (touchbacks, etc).*

OFFENSE: There is no longer the requirement of the eligible offensive lineman (TE) to raise his hand to let the players and officials know that he is an eligible receiver. This change is due to the fact that there is no longer an eligible lineman – thus no TE, eliminating a declaration by an offensive lineman.

** It should be noted that at no time may a WR or eligible offensive player touch the ball as they cross the offensive box. For example, a direct snap or pitch to a motioning WR is illegal.*

DEFENSE: There is no longer the requirement for any LB to raise his hand to indicate that he is the “blitzing” or “MACK” backer. EITHER LB can blitz at the snap, but ONLY ONE LB is permitted to move towards the line of scrimmage (i.e., “blitz”). The other LB, or “JACK” backer must only move laterally within the 7-yard defensive box (sideline to sideline) until the play “breaks” by a quarterback pump-fake, the quarterback exiting the offensive box, a hand off, the passing of the ball or the displaying any type of play-action movement.

AT NO TIME CAN BOTH LB “BLITZ” OR “DROP INTO COVERAGE”. One LB must remain in the defensive box until one of the aforementioned events happen OR the LB blitzes.

ALL BLITZING MUST BE DONE IN THE “A” GAP ONLY. Stunts and twists are permitted, but the blitz must always occur in this gap. NO OUTSIDE BLITZING IS PERMITTED.

ANY VIOLATION OF THESE RULES WILL RESULT IN A 5yd PENALTY and an AUTOMATIC FIRST DOWN FROM THE PREVIOUS SPOT.

KICKING:

- KICKOFFS:

OUT OF BOUNDS WITHOUT TOUCHING THE PLAYING SURFACE OF THE RECEIVING TEAM AND LANDING OUT OF BOUNDS – In this scenario, the ball will be placed at the spot where the ball exited the field of play (officials sole discretion) or at the **BLUE LINE**, whichever is more advantageous to the receiving team.

** Example: If the ball is kicked out of bounds on the “fly” at a spot approximately 5 yards into the receiving teams end of the field, then the ball will be placed at that spot.*

** Example: If the ball is kicked out of bounds on the “fly” on the kicking team's side of the field approximately 10 yards before midfield, then the ball is placed at that spot – in the kicking team's end of the playing field.*

** The ball, if it does not touch the playing surface on the receiving team's side of midfield, will be placed at a spot of exiting the playing field but **never to be inside the “blue line”.***

OUT OF BOUNDS AFTER TOUCHING THE PLAYING SURFACE OF THE RECEIVING TEAM AND EXITING THE PLAYING FIELD –The receiving team **MUST** make an attempt to field the kick. Failure to do so will result in the ball being placed at the spot where it exited the field of play **REGARDLESS** of its spot.

** Example: The kicking team “squibs” the kick and it touches a player or the surface on the receiving team's side of midfield... should it roll out of bounds inside the **blue line**, then the ball is placed at the spot of exit – even if it is the 1-yard line.*

KICKOFFS THAT MAKE CONTACT WITH ANY OVERHEAD STRUCTURE OR OBSTACLE (CEILING BEAM, CABLE, NETTING, LIGHT FIXTURE, ETC) – In this scenario, the ball will be placed at the spot where the ball either makes contact with the ceiling or the spot where the ball lands. The choice will be at the official's sole discretion and will be the spot most beneficial to the receiving team regardless of where this spot is located on the field or which side of the midfield stripe the contact is made.

** Example: If a kickoff hits a beam on the kicking team's side of midfield, the ball will be placed at the spot nearest to impact with the ceiling or where the ball lands – whichever is more advantageous to the receiving team. The ball **will not ever** be placed inside the **blue line** of the kicking team. Should the ball make contact with the ceiling past midfield, the ball will be placed at the spot of impact or where the ball lands, whichever is more advantageous to the receiving team. The ball **will not ever** be placed inside the **blue line** of the receiving team.*

ONSIDE KICKS – All kicks are from the kicking team's goal line. An onside kick must travel past the **blue line** before the kicking team may touch the ball. Failure to do so will result in the receiving team taking possession at the spot of recovery or where the ball was illegally touched or exited the field of play. There are no “re-kicks” if the penalty is on the kicking team. Penalties on the receiving team may result in a re-kick at the choice of the kicking team.

- EXTRA POINTS AND/OR FIELD GOALS:

RUSH/BLOCK ATTEMPTS – The defensive team may only have 4 linemen on the line of scrimmage and may NOT rush the kicker. At no time, may any defensive lineman make contact with the center until **AFTER** the ball is kicked. At no time, may any defender use another player to create a pyramid in an attempt to block the kicked ball.

Making contact with the kicked ball behind the line of scrimmage is not permitted. Defenders (4 maximum) may only jump vertically to attempt to block the kick. Running into the kicker is a personal foul resulting in a 15 yard penalty, the resulting attempt being scored as “successful” and, depending on the degree of flagrancy, could result in a fine or ejection for unnecessary roughness.

- SCORING RULES:

- **TD** (6pts)
- **PAT KICK** (1pt)
- **PAT RUN/PASS** (2pts)
- **PAT MIDFIELD CIRCLE** (3pts – ONCE PER HALF LIMIT)
- **FG REG** (3pts)
- **SAFETY** (2pts – SCORING TEAM STARTS AT OWN BLUE-LINE)
- **“UNO” KICKOFF THROUGH GOALPOSTS** (1pt – KICKING TEAM), BALL PLACED AT TEAM'S 5-YARD LINE
- **FAILURE TO RETURN KICK OUT OF ENDZONE** (1pt – KICKING TEAM), BALL PLACED AT 5-YARD LINE