RULE 11 SCORING

SECTION 1 VALUE OF SCORES

ARTICLE 1. WINNING TEAM. The team that scores the greater number of points during the entire game is the winner.

Note: If a team forfeits a game, the opponent will be declared the winner by a score of 2-0, but the points will not be added

to the winning team’s record for purposes of offensive production or tie-breakers.

ARTICLE 2. TYPES OF SCORING PLAYS. Points are scored as follows:

(a) Touchdown: 6 points

(b) Field Goal: 3 points

(c) Safety: 2 points

(d) Try after touchdown: 1 point (Field Goal or Safety) or 2 points (Touchdown)

SECTION 2 TOUCHDOWN

ARTICLE 1. TOUCHDOWN PLAYS. A touchdown is scored when:

(a) the ball is on, above, or behind the plane of the opponents’ goal line (extended) and is in possession of a runner who has

advanced from the field of play into the end zone

(b) a ball in possession of an airborne runner is on, above, or behind the plane of the goal line, and some part of the ball

passed over or inside the pylon

(c) a ball in player possession touches the pylon, provided that, after contact by an opponent, no part of the player’s body,

except his hands or feet, struck the ground before the ball touched the pylon

(d) any player who is legally inbounds catches or recovers a loose ball (3-2-4) that is on, above, or behind the opponent’s

goal line

(e) the Referee awards a touchdown to a team that has been denied one by a palpably unfair act

Notes:

(1) The ball is automatically dead when it is in legal possession of a player and is on, above, or behind the opponent’s

goal line.

(2) If a player attempts to catch a pass, the ball is not dead, and a touchdown is not scored, until the receiver completes

the catch. See 3-2-7.

SECTION 3 TRY

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL RULES. After a touchdown, a Try is an opportunity for either team to score one or two additional

points during one scrimmage down.

The Try begins when the Referee sounds the whistle for play to start. The team that scored the touchdown shall put the ball in

play:

(a) anywhere on or between the inbound lines

(b) 15 yards from the defensive team’s goal line for a Try-kick

(c) two yards from the defensive team’s goal line for a Try by pass or run

Notes:

(1) A team’s choice is not final and is subject to change following a team timeout or accepted penalty

(2) All general rules for fumbles after the two-minute warning apply to the Try (See 8-7-6)

(3) The Game Clock will not run during the Try

(4) If the ball has been declared ready for play by the Referee, and the offensive team wants to change the location of

the ball, they can do so by calling a timeout

(5) See 9-1-3 for restriction applicable to Team B formation at the snap

(6) See 16-1-3-a for exception when a touchdown is scored in an overtime period

ARTICLE 2. RESULTS OF A TRY. During a Try, the following shall apply:

(a) If a kick results in a field goal by the offense, one point is awarded. An artificial or manufactured tee shall not be permitted

to assist in the execution of a Try-kick. (The conditions of 11-4-1 must be met.)

(b) If a Try results in a touchdown by either team, two points are awarded.

(c) If the Try results in what would ordinarily be a safety against either team, one point is awarded to the opponent.

(d) If any play results in a touchback, the Try is unsuccessful, and there shall be no replay.

(e) The Try ends when:

(1) either team scores

(2) the ball is dead by rule

(3) a fumble by either team is recovered by a teammate of the fumbling player

ARTICLE 3. FOULS COMMITTED DURING TRY.

If a foul results in a retry, Team A will have the option to enforce the penalty from the spot where it attempted the try (previous

spot) or from the yard line for the other try option.

Exception: defensive pass interference is a spot foul.

Item 1. Fouls Before the Signal. If there is a foul by either team after a touchdown and before the ready-for-play signal, it is

enforced on the next kickoff.

44

Item 2. Fouls Before the Snap. If there is a foul by the offense which causes a play to be whistled dead prior to the snap, it

shall be treated the same as if it had occurred prior to a scrimmage play. The whistle shall be blown immediately. (See 7-4-1).

If a foul by the defense prevents the attempt of a Try, the offensive team has the option to have the distance penalty assessed

on the next Try or on the ensuing kickoff.

Item 3. Fouls by Team A. The following applies if there is a foul by Team A:

(a) If there is a foul by Team A during a successful Try, after the penalty, the Try shall be repeated, unless the penalty results

in a loss of down.

(b) If the penalty for a foul results in a loss of down, the Try is unsuccessful, and there shall be no replay.

(c) All fouls committed after a change of possession will result in a distance penalty being assessed on the ensuing kickoff,

provided the penalty does not negate a successful Try.

(d) All personal or unsportsmanlike conduct fouls will result in a distance penalty being assessed on the ensuing kickoff,

provided the penalty does not negate a successful Try.

(e) If the foul results in a safety, Team B is awarded one point.

Item 4. Fouls by Team B. The following applies if there is a foul by Team B:

(a) All fouls will result in the distance penalty being assessed on the ensuing kickoff, unless Team A chooses to attempt a

retry after enforcement of the penalty, or the penalty negates a score by Team B.

(b) If the foul results in a safety, Team A is awarded one point.

Note: If the foul is for defensive pass interference, and it is declined, no distance penalty is enforced on the kickoff.

Item 5. Fouls by Both Teams With No Change of Possession. If there are fouls by both teams during a Try in which there

is not a change of possession, the Try must be replayed (14-5-1).

Item 6. Fouls by Both Teams With Change of Possession. If both teams foul during a Try in which there is a change or

changes of possession, the following shall apply:

(a) If both teams foul before the first change of possession, the Try shall be repeated.

(b) If Team B fouls before the first change of possession, the Try shall be repeated.

(c) If Team A fouls before the first change of possession, the Try shall be deemed to have failed.

(d) If neither team fouls before the first change of possession, and both teams subsequently commit fouls, the Try shall be

deemed to have failed.

Item 7. Fouls After a Try. If there is a foul by either team after a Try, it is enforced on the succeeding kickoff. If there are fouls

by both teams, normal enforcement rules apply.

ARTICLE 4. KICKOFF AFTER TRY. After a Try, the team on defense during the Try shall receive the kickoff (6-1-1-a).

SECTION 4 FIELD GOAL

ARTICLE 1. SUCCESSFUL FIELD GOAL. A field goal is scored when all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The kick must be a placekick or dropkick made by the offense from on or behind the line of scrimmage or from the spot of

a fair catch (fair-catch kick). If a fair catch is made or awarded outside the inbound line, the spot of the kick is the nearest

inbound line.

(b) After the ball is kicked, it must not touch the ground or any player of the offensive team before it passes through the goal.

(c) The entire ball must pass through the vertical plane of the goal, which is the area above the crossbar and between the

uprights or, if above the uprights, between their outside edges. If the ball passes through the goal, and returns through the

goal without striking the ground or some object or person beyond the goal, the attempt is unsuccessful.

Note: See 9-1-3 for restriction applicable to Team B formation at the snap.

ARTICLE 2. MISSED FIELD GOALS. If there is a missed field-goal attempt, and the ball has not been touched by the

receivers beyond the line in the field of play, the following shall apply:

(a) If the spot of the kick was inside the receivers’ 20-yard line, it is the receivers’ ball at the 20-yard line or

(b) If the spot of the kick was from the receivers’ 20-yard line or beyond the receivers’ 20-yard line, it is the receivers’ ball at

the spot of the kick.

Note: These options apply only if the ball has been beyond the line.

Exceptions:

(1) If there is a missed field-goal attempt and the ball is touched by the receivers beyond the line of scrimmage in the

field of play, all general rules for a kick from scrimmage will apply, and the special rules pertaining to field goals in (a)

and (b) are not applicable.

(2) If a field-goal attempt from anywhere on the field is blocked, and the ball has not been beyond the line, general rules

for scrimmage kicks apply, and the special rules pertaining to field goals in (a) and (b) are not applicable.

(3) If the ball has gone beyond the line and returns behind the line untouched by Team B beyond the line, and either

team recovers and attempts to advance the ball, all special rules for missed field goals in (a) and (b) are no longer

applicable, and general rules for scrimmage kicks apply. If either team recovers and does not attempt to advance the

ball, Team B has the option to take the ball at the dead-ball spot or the spot of the kick.

Note: If a foul occurs during an unsuccessful field-goal attempt in (1), (2), or (3) above, Rule 9-5-1 governs.

(4) If the receiving team commits a post-possession foul during the kick, all special rules for missed field goals in (a) and

(b) are no longer applicable, and general rules for scrimmage kicks apply.

45

Rule 11, Section 3

Note: If the ball has not been touched by the receivers beyond the line in the field of play and goes out of bounds in the

field of play after being touched by a receiver in the end zone, it is the receiving team’s option to take the ball at the spot

of the kick or the receiving team’s 20-yard line.

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES:

(1) If the receivers do not touch the ball beyond the line of scrimmage in the field of play or in the end zone, and the ball

bounces back into the field of play after it touches the ground on or behind the receiver’s goal line, it is the receivers’

ball at the spot of the kick. If the attempt was from inside the 20-yard line, it is a touchback. The ball is dead as soon

as it touches the ground in the end zone.

(2) If the ball goes out of bounds after it is first touched by the receivers beyond the line of scrimmage in the field of play,

it is the receivers’ ball at the out-of-bounds spot.

(3) If the receivers first touch the ball beyond the line of scrimmage in the field of play or in the end zone, and the kickers

recover, the ball belongs to the kickers at the spot of recovery. If the recovery is in the end zone, it is a touchdown.

(4) If the receivers first touch the ball beyond the line of scrimmage in the field of play, and without any new impetus, the

ball rolls into the end zone where it is declared dead in the possession of the receivers, it is a touchback.

(5) For a successful field goal, or for an unsuccessful attempt that does not land in the field of play, the maximum amount

of time that can run off the game clock is five seconds.

ARTICLE 3. FAIR-CATCH KICK. The rules for a field-goal attempt from scrimmage apply to a field-goal attempt following a

Fair Catch (a Fair-Catch Kick).

Exceptions:

(1) The fair-catch kick line for the kicking team is the yard line through the most forward point from which the ball is

kicked.

(2) The fair-catch kick line for the receiving team is the yard line 10 yards in advance of the kicking team’s fair-catch kick

line.

Note: Though a fair-catch kick is not a free kick, the rules for a free-kick formation apply (6-1-3). However, the kicking

team cannot possess the ball unless it has first been touched or possessed by the receivers.

ARTICLE 4. NO TEE. An artificial or manufactured tee shall not be permitted to assist in the execution of a field goal.

ARTICLE 5. BALL NEXT IN PLAY. After a field goal, the team scored upon will receive the kickoff. See 6-1-1-a.

SECTION 5 SAFETY

ARTICLE 1. SAFETY. It is a Safety:

(a) if the offense commits a foul in its own end zone or;

(b) when an impetus by a team sends the ball behind its own goal line, and the ball is dead in the end zone in its possession

or the ball is out of bounds behind the goal line.

Exceptions:

It is not a safety:

(1) If a forward pass from behind the line of scrimmage is incomplete in the end zone.

(2) If a defensive player, in the field of play, intercepts a pass or catches or recovers a fumble, backward pass,

scrimmage kick, free kick, or fair catch kick, and his original momentum carries him into his end zone where the ball

is declared dead in his team’s possession. The ball belongs to the defensive team at the spot where the player’s foot

or other body part touched the ground to establish possession.

(a) If a player of the team which intercepts, catches, or recovers the ball commits a foul in the end zone, it is a

safety.

(b) If a player who intercepts, catches, or recovers the ball throws a completed illegal forward pass from the end

zone, the ball remains alive. If his opponent intercepts the illegal pass thrown from the end zone, the ball remains

alive. If he scores, it is a touchdown.

(c) If a player of the team which intercepts, catches, or recovers the ball commits a foul in the field of play, and the

ball becomes dead in the end zone, the basic spot is the spot of the change of possession.

(d) If the spot where possession changed is inside the one-yard line, the ball is to be spotted at the one-yard line.

Notes:

(1) A ball in the end zone which is carried toward the field of play is still in the end zone until the entire ball is in the field

of play (3-12-4).

(2) The impetus is always attributed to the offense, unless the defense creates a new force that sends the ball behind its

own goal line by muffing a ball which is at rest or nearly at rest, or by batting or kicking any loose ball (3-17).

ARTICLE 2. BALL IN PLAY AFTER SAFETY. After a safety, the team scored upon must put the ball in play by a free kick

(punt, dropkick, or placekick) from its 20-yard line. An artificial or manufactured tee cannot be used. See 6-1-1-b and 6-1-3.

Exception: For extension of either half, see 4-8-2-g.

SECTION 6 TOUCHBACK

Note: A touchback, while not a score, is included in this rule because, like scoring plays, it is a case of a ball that is dead

on or behind a goal line.

46

Rule 11, Section 4

ARTICLE 1. DEFINITION. It is a Touchback if the ball is dead on or behind the goal line a team is defending, provided that

the impetus comes from an opponent, and that it is not a touchdown or an incomplete forward pass.

Note: A ball in the end zone which is carried toward the field of play is still in the end zone until the entire ball is in the field

of play (3-12-4).

ARTICLE 2. TOUCHBACK SITUATIONS. When a team provides the impetus (3-17) that sends a loose ball behind its

opponent’s goal line, it is a touchback:

(a) if the ball is dead in the opponent’s possession in its end zone

(b) if the ball is out of bounds behind the goal line (see 8-7-3-Item 4-a)

(c) if a scrimmage kick has not been touched by a player of the receiving team beyond the line of scrimmage, and the ball:

(1) touches the ground on or behind the receiver’s goal line

(2) touches a player of the kicking team who is touching the ground on or behind the receiver’s goal line

(3) touches a player of the kicking team who has touched the ground on or behind the receiver’s goal line and has not re-

established himself in the field of play (see 11-4-2-b for exception for a missed field goal from beyond the 20-yard

line)

(d) if any legal or illegal kick touches the receivers’ goal posts, crossbar, or uprights, other than one which scores a field goal

(e) if the kickers interfere with the opportunity to catch an airborne kick or with a fair catch behind the receivers’ goal line (10-

1 and 10-2)

(f) if a player of the kicking team illegally catches or recovers a scrimmage kick in the field of play, and carries the ball across

the goal line, or touches the goal line with any part of his body while in possession of the ball. For exception for a missed

field goal from beyond the 20-yard line, see 11-4-2-b.

Notes:

(1) If the impetus is a scrimmage kick, and there has been a spot of first touching by the kickers beyond the receivers’

20-yard line, the receivers shall have the option of taking possession of the ball at the spot of first touching.

(2) The impetus is not from a kick if a muff, bat, juggle, or illegal kick of any kicked ball (by a player of either team)

creates a new momentum which sends it on, above, or behind the goal line. See 3-17.

ARTICLE 3. BALL NEXT IN PLAY. After a touchback, the team that has been awarded a touchback next snaps the ball at its

20-yard line from any point on or between the inbound lines, unless the touchback results from a free kick, in which case the ball

shall be placed at the team’s 25-yard line.