# **Football Strategy**

Original rules ©1972 Avalon Hill This modification ©2004-2006 Marcelo Frossard Paschoalin

# **EQUIPMENT**

- 1. PLAYING BOARD
- 2. FOOTBALL
- 3. TEN-YARD MARKER
- 4. 2 SETS OF TEN DEFENSE CARDS
- 5. 1 SCOREBOARD
- 6. 3 SETS OF OFFENSIVE PLAYS CARDS
- 7. THIS INSTRUCTIONS FOLDER

## PREPARE FOR PLAY

- 1. Players choose which Offensive Plays Deck they intend to use during the game. Once chosen, the chart must be used for the remainder of the game. Any combination is possible; i.e. both players may use the same type of deck or different ones as they see fit. It is recommended that both players use the "Pro Style Offense" decks until they are familiar with the game's mechanics; thus assuring perfect play balance.
- 2. Determine randomly which player wins the "toss of the coin." The player who rolls the highest number gets his choice of whether to kick-off or receive. Note: If a player chooses to kick-off rather than receive, his opponent has the option of deciding whether he wants to kick-off or receive to start the second half.
- 3. Before kicking, he calls out whether the kick is to be Normal or On-Sides.
- 4. Kicker draws a random card. He places the ball and the 10-yard marker on the corresponding yard line as called on the card, and marks off 15 seconds of time on the "scoreboard clock." The game has begun.

## ROUTINE OF PLAY FROM SCRIMMAGE

After the kick-off, the kicker becomes the team on defense, hereafter called D/Q (Defense Quarterback). The receiving team is now the team on offense, hereafter called O/O.

- 1. The D/Q refers to his set of 10 defense cards. He selects one card representing the defense formation that will best stop the offensive play he thinks will be called by the O/Q, and places it face down on the board.
- 2. The O/Q then chooses his first play from among those provided on the 22 Offense Plays Deck.
- 3. Both players reveal their cards.
- 4. Refer to the Offense Plays card and find the result.
- 5. Players adjust the football, the time, the down and the 10 yard marker if necessary.
- 6. Repeat the above procedure for every succeeding play called from the line of scrimmage.
- 7. The O/Q has 4 downs in which to gain a minimum of 10 yards. If he fails to do so, the ball reverts to the D/Q at scrimmage after the fourth down. If he does gain 10 yards in 4 downs or less, he gets another series-of-downs to gain a minimum of 10 yards, etc. If at the start of the 4th down the O/Q doesn't feel he can make a first-down, he should then punt.

# **OFFENSE PLAYS DECK**

The O/Q may select any play on any yard-line with the following exception:

If there's a white sign at the top-right corner of the card that card can't be used when the ball rests between the defender's 1 to [circled number] inclusive.

## LONG GAIN

The O/Q draws a random card and refers to the Long Gain (LG) field, marking off the gain from the line of scrimmage as called for.

## **FUMBLE**

The O/Q automatically loses possession at scrimmage.

## INTERCEPTION

The D takes possession with the yardage gained or lost measure from scrimmage. If the result of the interception would place the ball in the defender's end zone, the D/Q is given possession on his own 20 yard line instead ("touchback"). If the result of the interception places the ball past the physical confines of the defender's end zone it is considered an incomplete pass. If the interception is made "in" or "past" the O/Q's end zone, it is an automatic touchdown for the defender.

#### **PENALTY**

All penalties are measured from scrimmage. In the case of those penalties where a choice is given, the team the penalty favors has the option to accept either the play or the penalty. If a penalty is accepted, there is no loss of down. Note that a half may not end on a penalty, nor may any score be registered via a penalty.

A team may not be penalized more than half the distance between the line of scrimmage and the goal-line.

# **OUT-OF-BOUNDS**

Yardage gains and losses that are followed by the letters "o/b" indicate the play ended up out-of-bounds.

## **PUNTS**

If the distance of the punt would place the ball "through" the end zone before the ball is runback, then the runback is ignored and the D/Q takes possession on his own 20 yard line. If the distance of the punt would place the ball "in" the end zone, the D/Q has his choice of either taking the "runback" or "downing" the ball and taking possession on his own 20 yard line.

## **END ZONE**

The end zone is 10 yards deep.

# PASSES BEYOND THE END ZONE

If a pass is completed "beyond" the end zone, consider the excess as running yardage gained after the reception. Thus, the pass is still considered complete. Note the difference in procedure in this regard between a complete pass and an interception.

# **TIME**

- 1. Before kick-off, set the Time wheel at 0.
- 2. After each succeeding play, move the wheel clockwise according to the length of the play.
- 3. Each team is allowed three time outs per half.
- 4. In 2nd and 4th Quarters, there is an automatic time out at the two minutes remaining mark.
- 5. The Time wheel represents a quarter 4 quarters make up a complete game.
- 6. A play which starts at the end of a quarter cannot use any time in the following quarter.

# **SCORING**

- 1. TOUCHDOWN: The point of the ball has only to reach the goal line not cross it. A touchdown counts as 6 point.
- 2. POINT AFTER TOUCHDOWN: The offensive team has a single possession of the ball at the 2 yard line. If he chooses to try a field goal and it's good he scores 1 extra point. If he chooses to try to reach the end zone and he succeeds he scores 2 extra points.
- 3. SAFETY: Should the O/Q be pushed back to his own goal line, the D/Q is awarded two points. The team scored against must then kick from his own 20 yard line in one of two ways: a) he may use the regular kick-off table and simply add 25 yards to the result, or b) he may punt. To punt, the D/Q spreads his ten defense cards face down on the board. The O/Q chooses one, and the result is marked off from his 20 yard line cross-indexed with the Punt (4th Down Only) card.
- 4. FIELD GOAL: Players may attempt a Field Goal at any time provided the ball is no further than 45 yards from the opponent's goal line. The O/Q draws a random card, referring to the correct field. Field Goals are worth 3 points.

All field goals attempted (kicker) and missed from beyond the 20-yard line will result in the defensive team taking possession of the ball at the spot of the kick (7 yards behind the scrimmage line). On any field goal attempted and missed where the spot of the kick is on or inside the 20-yard line, ball will revert to defensive team at the 20-yard line.























































































































































