

2022 SCFOA RATINGS EXAM: YEARS 4+

Use a #2 pencil to **COMPLETELY** fill in the correct answer.

To change your answer **ERASE COMPETELY & CLEANLY** and mark again. Make no extra marks on the answer sheet; they may be picked up as incorrect answers.

Answers are either True or False = [A] or

[B]OR

Multiple Choice = [A], [B], [C], [D], [E]

***** **INCORRECT MARKINGS:** [ll] [o] *****

Follow the instructions and properly mark your answer sheet!

DO NOT LEAVE the exam room UNTIL your answer sheet has been reviewed and found ACCEPTABLE by the Proctor!

- Under the new SCHSL “mercy rule”, what happens once a team gains a 42-point advantage at any point in the second half?
 - The “running clock” is automatically put in effect and continues for the remainder of the game, regardless of further point differentials. (SCHSL memo)**
 - The “running clock” is automatically put into effect, but will stop once the point differential falls below 42 points. It will start up again once a 42-point differential is established.
 - The “running clock” is put into effect only with the approval of the coach of the winning team and the Referee, and is in effect only when the winning is in team possession of the ball.
 - The “running clock” is put into effect only with the approval of both coaches and the Referee, and can be “turned off” at anytime with the approval of both coaches and the Referee.
- A89 catches a touchdown pass after the clock runs out in the first quarter. During the down, **one** foul was committed: Defensive pass interference. How is this penalty enforced?
 - If A accepts the penalty for DPI, the down will have to be replayed. The touchdown does not count, and an untimed down is run.
 - If A accepts the penalty, they keep the touchdown, the try is attempted, and then an untimed down is run for the subsequent kickoff.
 - Because a foul occurred on the last play of the quarter, A does not have a choice. The touchdown does not count, and there must be an untimed down.
 - If A accepts the penalty, the touchdown stands and the try is attempted. A may enforce the penalty on the try or the subsequent kickoff. There is no untimed down (other than the try). (3-3-3d; 3-3-4b)**
- When can obvious errors in the timing by the **play** clock be corrected?
 - Up until the snap. (3-4-9)**
 - Up to the time the ball is spotted.
 - Up until the time the ball is ready-for-play.
 - Up until the time A lines up in a formation.
- There are two ways the ball is considered “**ready-for-play**”. One is with a signal from the Referee. What is the other?
 - After the ball is ruled dead by an official after a down **and** an official has spotted the ball.
 - After the ball is ruled dead by an official after a down, an official has spotted the ball, **and** the down box has been set.

- C. After the ball is ruled dead by an official after a down, an official has spotted the ball, and the official has stepped away to his or her position. (3-6-1b, 1-2)**
- D. After the ball is ruled dead by an official after a down, an official has spotted the ball, the official has stepped away to his or her position, **and** the snapper has placed a hand on the ball.
5. The home team's marching band performs the entire *Dark Side of the Moon* album during halftime, which takes 45 minutes. What is the foul and enforcement for this?
- A. Delay of game on the home team; 5 yards on the second half kickoff. (3-6-4)**
- B. Unsportsmanlike foul on the home team's head coach, one of the two that leads to ejection; 15 yards enforced on the second half kickoff.
- C. No foul, as long as the visiting team's head coach was notified of the length of the halftime show at least 5 minutes prior to the opening kickoff.
- D. A warning for the home team's head coach. If it is the home team's second delay of game warning, they are assessed a five-yard penalty on the second half kickoff.
6. When can the Referee correct the number of the **next** down?
- A. Prior to the next change of possession.
- B. Prior to the second live ball following a Coach-Referee conference.
- C. Prior to the ball becoming live after a new series of downs is awarded and prior to the end of the period being officially declared. (5-1-1b)**
- D. Never. Once the Referee signals the number of the next down with a hand signal and/or verbal communication, that becomes the official number of the down.
7. The goal posts shall be padded to a height of how many feet off the ground.
- A. 3 feet.
- B. 6 feet. (1-2-5f)**
- C. 10 feet.
- D. 23 feet 4 inches.
8. Once appointed, the head coach's designee in making penalty acceptance or declination decisions remains in place for how long?
- A. For one half.
- B. The entire game, unless an emergency develops. (1-4-4)**
- C. Until the designee receives one unsportsmanlike conduct foul.
- D. Until the head coach decides he no longer wants the designee to make the decisions.
9. Which of the following is **true** regarding eye shields?
- A. They must have tint and constructed of a rigid material.
- B. They can be either clear or mirrored, but must be constructed of a rigid material.
- C. They can be either clear, mirrored, or tinted, and constructed of a flexible material.
- D. They must be clear, without the presence of any tint, and constructed of a rigid material. (1-5-3c4)**
10. When can electronic communication devices be used to communicate with a **player**?
- A. Only during an outside-the-9 conference. (1-6-1)**
- B. Only during a between-the-9 conference.
- C. On the field, between downs, as long as the player is inside-the-9s.
- D. During both an outside-the-9 conference and a between-the-9 conference.
11. Why can first touching by K on a **punt** only occur in the field of play and beyond the neutral zone?
- A. Because K can legally catch or recover a punt in or behind the neutral zone and advance. (2-12-2; 6-2-3)**
- B. Because if K touches a punt in or behind the neutral zone, the ball becomes dead immediately.
- C. Because it is considered illegal touching and not first touching if K touches a punt in or behind the neutral one.

- D. Because K will automatically be awarded a new series of downs if they catch or recover a punt in or behind the neutral zone, so the spot of first touching is irrelevant.
12. When can a **new** force be **added**?
- A. When a fumble, kick, or backward pass is in flight.
 - B. When a fumble, kick, or backward pass has been grounded. (2-13-1)**
 - C. When a fumble, kick, backward pass, or forward pass is in flight.
 - D. When a fumble, kick, backward pass, or forward pass has been grounded.
13. What is one thing a player must do to legally block an opponent **below the waist**?
- A. He must raise straight up prior to initiating contact.
 - B. He must take at least one step back following the snap.
 - C. He must make the block as part of his immediate, initial action following the snap. (2-17-2c)**
 - D. He must first turn 180 degrees so that he is facing his end zone prior to initiating contact.
14. Which of the following is **true** regarding spearing?
- A. Spearing is the same as targeting.
 - B. Spearing can only occur against an offensive player.
 - C. Spearing can be initiated by any player, including the runner. (2-20-1c)**
 - D. Spearing can only occur against a player in possession of the ball.
15. When could it be possible to have a **1st-and-25**?
- A. When R commits an unsportsmanlike foul as part of PSK.
 - B. When, after the ready-for-play, A commits an unsportsmanlike foul. (2-26-5; 5-1-2a)**
 - C. When, on 3rd-and-5, A runs for seven yards, but during the down, A commits an unsportsmanlike foul.
 - D. After a change of possession, when there are several unsportsmanlike fouls, but A commits one more than B. (In other words, they do not offset.)
16. A **kicks off** from their 40-yard line. R24 catches the kick in flight while straddling the sideline at his 20-yard line, one foot touching in bounds and one foot touching out of bounds. R24 was focused on the ball the entire time it was in flight. How is this to be ruled?
- A. R will put the ball in play on the yard line through where the ball crossed the sideline in flight.
 - B. Since R24 was touching out of bounds when the ball was caught, K put the ball out of bounds. R has choices. (2-29-3; 6-1-9)**
 - C. There are two fouls on the play. K has kicked a free kick out of bounds, while R is guilty of illegal participation. Penalties offset; re-kick.
 - D. Since R24 was touching out of bounds when the ball was caught, R put the ball out of bounds. R will put the ball in play at their 20 yard line.
17. K is lined up in punt formation, 4th-and-10, from their own 3-yard line, with the punter positioned eight to nine yards deep in the end zone. R97 breaks through the line and blocks the punt. R97's momentum carries him across the end line, and the ball remains in K's end zone. R97 returns to the field at his first opportunity, pounces on the ball, and gains sole possession. How is this to be ruled?
- A. Touchdown for R. (9-6-2 "intentionally")**
 - B. Touchback, since R's block was a new force. K's ball, 1st-and-10, from their own 20.
 - C. R97 is guilty of illegal participation. The penalty is enforced 15 yards from the previous spot.
 - D. Once R97 touched out of bounds, he became a non-player. 15-yard unsportsmanlike foul on R97 for a non-player entering the field during the down. 1st-and-10 for K from their 16.
18. K punts the ball out of a scrimmage kick formation. When is the snapper no longer considered a snapper?
- A. Once R gains possession of the ball.
 - B. Once he has advanced 5 yards beyond the line of scrimmage, or the kick has touched the ground or any player.
 - C. He remains a snapper throughout the entire play and may not be charged directly into at any time during the down.

D. Once he has had a reasonable opportunity to regain his balance and protect himself; until he blocks an opponent; or until he moves to participate in the play. (2-32-14)

19. K's **punt** is rolling on the ground near R's 4-yard line. K25 attempts to "down the ball", but slides into R's end zone without touching the ball. While laying in the end zone, he reaches across the goal line and controls the ball, which is lying on the ground at R's 1-yard line. How should this be ruled?
- A. Kick-catching interference on K25.
 - B. Touchback, since K was touching R's end zone.
 - C. Ball down at R's 1-yard line. (R's ball 1st-and-10 at R's 1) (4-2-2f)**
 - D. Illegal participation foul on K25 for leaving the field of play and then touching a live ball.
20. A34 receives a handoff at his **30-yard line** and runs up the field, when A89 blocks B57 in the back at the **50-yard line**. At the **B-45**, A34 is hit and fumbles. The ball rolls to the **B-40**, where it is picked up by A88, who runs it to the **B-25**, where he is hit and fumbles the ball out of bounds at the **B-23**. Where is the end of the related run for **A89's** foul?
- A. A's 40
 - B. B's 45
 - C. B's 40 (2-41-9b)**
 - D. B's 23
21. Prior to the game, A89 is wearing #0, and A88 is wearing #06. Which of those numbers are **legal**?
- A. #0 (1-5-1c1, rule change)**
 - B. #06
 - C. Both
 - D. Neither
22. What is a **chop block**?
- A. A combination block by two or more teammates against an opponent, including the runner, with a delay, where one of the blocks is below the knee and one of the blocks is above the waist.
 - B. A combination block by two or more teammates against an opponent, other than the runner, with a delay, where one of the blocks is below the waist and one of the blocks is above the waist.
 - C. A combination block by two or more teammates against an opponent, including the runner, with or without delay, where one of the blocks is below the knee and one of the blocks is above the waist.
 - D. A combination block by two or more teammates against an opponent, other than the runner, with or without delay, where one of the blocks is below the waist and one of the blocks is above the waist. (2-3-8, rule change)**
23. What are the options for the offended team when a foul is committed with less than 2 minutes to go in the half?
- A. The offended team **must** accept the penalty in order to have an option to start the game clock on the snap.
 - B. The offended team **must** accept the penalty in order to have an option to start the game clock on either the snap **or** the ready.
 - C. The offended team does not have to accept the penalty in order to have an option to start the game clock on the snap. They have the option either way. (3-4-7, rule change)**
 - D. The offended team does **not** have to accept the penalty in order to have an option to start the game clock on the snap **or** the ready. They have the option either way.
24. B is the only team to commit a foul during the down on a play that results in an incomplete pass. What shall the **play** clock be set to after penalty enforcement?
- A. :40, and will start on the ready-for-play signal. (3-6-1a(1)e Exception, rule change)**
 - B. :25, and will start on the ready-for-play signal.
 - C. :40, and will start as soon as the ball is spotted after enforcement.
 - D. :25, and will start as soon as the ball is spotted after enforcement.

25. When does the Referee have the authority to correct obvious errors in timing by the **game** clock?
- Up until the time the ball next becomes live following the error.
 - Up until the time he or she leaves the visual confines of the playing field.
 - Up until the time the ball first becomes live following a change in team possession.
 - Up until the time the ball becomes live a second time following the error (or the official end of the period, whichever comes first). (3-4-8)**
26. On the opening kickoff from K's 40, K17 is the first to touch the ball at R's 48. The ball then goes out of bounds at R's 44, untouched by R. The covering official has a bean bag at R's 48. Why is this the **wrong** mechanic?
- Because there should have been a flag for first touching and not a bean bag.
 - Because the ball should have been blown dead once K first touched the ball.
 - Because it is not first touching by K. Therefore, there is no need for a bean bag.**
 - Because the bean bag should have been thrown at R's 44 to mark the spot for the free kick out of bounds, untouched by R.
27. B55 leaves the field on A's sideline prior to the snap. What type of foul is this?
- Live-ball foul; illegal substitution; 5 yards.
 - Dead-ball foul; illegal substitution; 5 yards. (3-7-2, penalty)**
 - Non-player foul; illegal substitution; 5 yards.
 - Unsportsmanlike foul; being outside the team box but not on the field; 15-yard foul.
28. A84 attempts to leave the field on his sideline prior to the snap, but does not make it off in time, resulting in 12 players on the field for A at the snap. What type of foul is this?
- Live-ball foul; illegal substitution; 5 yards. (3-7-4, penalty)**
 - Non-player foul; illegal participation; 15-yard foul.
 - Dead-ball foul; illegal formation for having 12 players in formation; 5 yards.
 - Unsportsmanlike foul; being outside the team box but not on the field; 15-yard foul.
29. What is the status of the ball when it touches a **properly-placed** pylon?
- Dead ball; out of bounds behind the goal line. (4-3-2)**
 - Dead ball; inbounds spot is the last place it touched inbounds.
 - Live ball, since it cannot become dead behind the goal line unless in possession of a player.
 - Live ball if it hits the pylon, caroms back, and next touches the ground inbounds; dead ball if it hits the pylon, caroms off, and next touches the ground out of bounds.
30. Runner A34 is running down the sideline near B's 5-yard line when he is hit hard by B55. A34 fumbles the ball into the air, where B59 leaves his feet and possesses the ball inbounds. However, he first contacts the ground **out of bounds**. How should this be ruled?
- A's ball at the spot of A34's fumble, since that was the end of his related run.
 - B's ball at the spot of A34's fumble, since that was the end of A34's related run.
 - B's ball at the spot the ball crossed the sideline, since B59 caught the ball inbounds.
 - A's ball at the spot the ball crossed the sideline, since B59 did not complete the catch by first landing out of bounds. (2-4-1)**
31. Where may R legally fair catch a **free** kick?
- Nowhere.
 - Only in the neutral zone.
 - Only beyond the neutral zone to R's goal line.
 - Either in or beyond the neutral zone to R's goal line. (6-5-2)**
32. When is the right for R to take the ball at the spot of (any) first touching during a free kick cancelled?
- If either team commits a foul during the down.
 - If R, after the first touching, gains possession of the ball but subsequently loses possession.

- C. If R, after the first touching, commits a foul, or if the penalty is accepted for any foul committed during the down.
- D. If R, after the first touching, touches the kick and thereafter during the down commits a foul, or if the penalty is accepted for any foul committed during the down. (6-1-7)**
33. When would it be possible for **K** to execute more than one scrimmage kick during a down?
- A. Only if all kicks were executed between the hash marks.
- B. Only if the original kick was executed out of a scrimmage kick formation.
- C. As long as all kicks took place from in or behind the neutral zone and before team possession changed. (6-2-1)**
- D. As long as the same player executed all kicks from in or behind the neutral zone and before team possession changed.
34. How should an official rule when there is a question as to the severity of contact?
- A. Always deem it to be legal.
- B. Always deem it to be excessive. (Points of Emphasis)**
- C. As long as the opponent does not target the player, it should always be considered legal.
- D. It can only be deemed excessive if the contact is against a player making a play on the ball.
35. How should forceful contact that is avoidable be ruled?
- A. Legal.
- B. Targeting.
- C. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
- D. Personal foul for unnecessary contact. (Points of Emphasis)**
36. Once the game begins, who is responsible for dealing with unruly spectator conduct?
- A. The officials.
- B. The head coach of the home team.
- C. Game management/school administration. (Points of Emphasis)**
- D. No one; fans are allowed to act in any manner since they purchased a ticket.
37. A75 false starts. How should the official(s) throw the flag?
- A. Throw it to the spot of the foul.
- B. High into the air to indicate the dead ball foul. (Mechanics Manual)**
- C. Casually flip it to the ground in front of them with a flick of the wrist.
- D. Toss it sideways, parallel to the sideline, towards the offensive backfield.
38. Tight end A89 lines up in a three-point stance next to right tackle A74. He is on the line, and he has a teammate to his right, A84, who is also on the line. **Assuming** no other teammates shift, when can A89 **legally** lift his hand off the ground prior to the snap?
- A. Anytime, since he has a number between 0-49 or 80-99.
- B. Anytime, as long as he then establishes himself as a back.
- C. Anytime, as long as he stands up, turns, and faces his goal line.
- D. He can't, since he is on the line and between the snapper and a player on the end of the line. (7-1-7c)**
39. A is lined up in the shotgun formation when snapper A65 snaps the ball. The ball leaves his hand, but it lands softly on the ground two yards behind him. Lineman A75 then touches it. How should this be ruled?
- A. Illegal, since it did not touch a back before it touched the ground.
- B. Legal, since it touched the ground before it touched an A lineman. (7-2-4)**
- C. Illegal, because only the player lined up to take a direct snap can be the first to touch the ball.
- D. Legal, since the only requirement is that the ball immediately leaves the hand of the snapper.
40. When is a passer considered to be “beyond the neutral zone” on a forward pass?
- A. When one foot is beyond the neutral zone when the ball is released. (7-5-1)**
- B. When both feet are beyond the neutral zone when the ball is released.

- C. When one foot is beyond the neutral zone at any point prior to the ball being released.
 D. When any part of the passer's body is beyond the neutral zone when the ball is released.
41. When do pass interference restrictions **end** for **B**?
- A. When the pass has been touched by any player. (7-5-9)**
 - B. When the pass has been touched by any A player.
 - C. When the pass has been touched by any eligible A receiver.
 - D. When the pass has been thrown in the direction of an ineligible A player.
42. Which of the following fouls carries with it a **loss of down**?
- A. Illegal touching. (Table 7-5)**
 - B. Pass interference on A.
 - C. Ineligible receiver downfield.
 - D. Forward pass after a change of possession.
43. 3rd-and-goal from B's 5-yard line. Passer A12 throws a fade to receiver A89 in the back corner of the end zone. The pass is caught, and A89 first contacts the ground inbounds, in the end zone. During the play, B20 commits a pass interference foul. What are the options for A?
- A. A must decline the penalty in order to keep the touchdown.
 - B. A can keep the touchdown, but since it was a live-ball foul, must enforce the penalty on the try.
 - C. A can keep the touchdown and have the penalty enforced on either the try or subsequent kickoff. (8-2-2)**
 - D. A can keep the touchdown and have the penalty enforced either on the try or the succeeding spot.
44. On 4th down, K attempts a field goal, snapping the ball from R's 10. The placekick from R's 17 is low and strikes A75 as he is blocking at R's 12. It caroms off of A75 and proceeds to pass through the uprights. How should this be ruled?
- A. The ball remains live when it strikes K75, but becomes dead as soon as it crosses R's goal line. Touchback and R's ball at their 20.
 - B. The ball remains live; a flag is thrown on K75 for illegal touching. R likely accepts the penalty from the spot of foul. Replay the down.
 - C. The ball becomes dead as soon as it touches K75, as the scrimmage kick cannot touch a K player anywhere on the field before passing through the uprights. R's ball at their 12.
 - D. The ball remains live when it hits K75, as the only restriction on a field goal is that the ball cannot touch any K player beyond the expanded neutral zone before it passes through the uprights. Successful field goal. (8-4-1b)**
45. Which of the following is **true** regarding horse-collar tackles?
- A. The runner must be brought down immediately once the horse-collar is grabbed.
 - B. The runner must still be in possession of the ball when he is taken to the ground by the collar.
 - C. The runner can be pulled down backwards, sideways, or forward by an opponent in order for a horse-collar tackle to occur.
 - D. The opponent must grab the inside back or side collar of jersey or the shoulder pads of the runner, or the nameplate area, and subsequently pull that opponent to the ground, to be guilty of a horse-collar tackle. (9-4-3k)**
46. Which of the following passes batted by an **eligible** receiver is **illegal**?
- A. A forward pass batted forwards by the passing team.
 - B. A forward pass batted backwards by the passing team.
 - C. A backwards pass batted forwards by the passing team. (9-7-3)**
 - D. A backwards pass batted backwards by the passing team.
47. Which of the following fouls is charged to the **Head Coach**?
- A. A substitute leaving the team box during a fight.
 - B. Allowing a player or players to use illegal equipment. (9-8-1h, penalties)**

- C. Any non-player being outside the team box, but not on the field.
 - D. Any non-player being on the field except as a substitute or replaced player.
48. What is the progression of penalties against one team for non-players being in the restricted area while the ball is live?
- A. 1st offense: Warning. 2nd offense: 5 yards. Each subsequent offense: 15 yards. (9-8-3, penalty)**
 - B. 1st offense: 5 yards. 2nd offense: 15 yards. Each subsequent offense: 15 yards.
 - C. 1st offense: 15 yards. 2nd offense: 15 yards and disqualification of Head Coach.
 - D. 1st offense: 5 yards. 2nd offense: 15 yards. Each subsequent offense: 15 yards and disqualification of Head Coach.
49. Who makes the final determination as to the legality of any player's equipment?
- A. Umpire (1-5-4)**
 - B. Referee
 - C. Crew of officials
 - D. Referee and Umpire
50. Which of the following is **true** regarding force?
- A. It can only result in a safety.
 - B. A new force may not be added to a ball in flight. (2-13-1)**
 - C. A new force may result only from a bat or an illegal kick.
 - D. The term force is used in connection with the goal line, in both directions.
51. A65, who was on the line and in the free-blocking zone (FBZ) at the snap, pulls and leads a sweep play. B97 blocks A65 below the waist near the numbers. B97 was also on the line and in the FBZ at the snap. How should this be ruled?
- A. Legal, since the block occurred prior to a change of possession.
 - B. Illegal, since only offensive players are allowed to block below the waist.
 - C. Illegal, since the block did not occur in the FBZ and the ball was out of the FBZ. (2-17-2)**
 - D. Legal block, since both players involved were on the line and in the FBZ at the snap.
52. Linemen A1 and B1 are both in the FBZ at the snap. Which of the following is an example of a **legal** block in the back?
- A. A1 blocks B1 in the back, in the FBZ, with open hands and arms fully extended, before FBZ disintegrates. (2-17-3)**
 - B. B1 blocks A1 in the back, in the FBZ, with open hands and arms fully extended, before FBZ disintegrates.
 - C. A1 blocks B1 in the back outside the FBZ, but with the ball still in the FBZ, with open hands and arms fully extended.
 - D. B1 blocks A1 in the back outside the FBZ, but with the ball still in the FBZ, with open hands and arms fully extended.
53. What is spearing?
- A. An act by a defensive player who initiates contact against any opponent, on any part of his body, with the top of his helmet.
 - B. An act by a defensive player who initiates contact against any opponent, at the shoulders or below, with the top of his helmet.
 - C. An act by an offensive player or defensive player who initiates contact against any opponent, on any part of his body, with the top of his helmet.
 - D. An act by an offensive player or defensive player who initiates contact against any opponent, at the shoulders or below, with the top of his helmet. (2-20-1c)**
54. What is the status of the ball after an illegal kick?
- A. Always a kick.
 - B. Always a pass.

C. Always a fumble.

D. Whatever the status of the ball was prior to the illegal kick occurred. (2-24-9)

55. Runner A1 is running near the sideline when he is touched by player B1, who has one foot out of bounds at **A's 35**. A1 continues down the sideline, still inbounds, when he contacts the Line Judge, who is standing out of bounds at **A's 40**. Amazingly, A1 continues down the sideline, still inbounds, where he is touched by non-player B3, who is standing out of bounds at the **50**. A1 is then tackled inbounds at **B's 30**. What is the dead ball spot?

A. A's 35

B. A's 40

C. B's 30

D. The 50 (2-29-1)

56. What is one indicator of a blindside block?

A. The block typically only occurs near the ball.

B. It's typically only offensive players that commit a blindside block.

C. Blindside blocks almost never occur after a change of possession or long return plays.

D. The blocker is "going against the grain" and "seeking out" an opponent.

57. At the snap, A1 is lined up as neither a back nor a lineman. (In other words, he is in "no mans's land".) What are the consequences of this?

A. Legal formation, but A1 is an eligible receiver.

B. Illegal formation, but A1 is an eligible receiver.

C. Legal formation, but A1 is an ineligible receiver.

D. Illegal formation, and A1 is also an ineligible receiver. (2-29-9; 2-32-3; 7-5-6a)

58. Which of the following is **true** regarding tripping?

A. It is always legal.

B. It is always illegal. (2-45; 9-4-3o)

C. It is illegal against any opponent, except for the runner.

D. It is always legal for a defensive player, but always illegal for an offensive player.

59. Which of the following is **true** regarding the new SCHSL "mercy rule"?

A. Once the "mercy rule" is in effect, the periods may not be shortened.

B. If both coaches and the Referee agree, the "mercy rule" may be waived.

C. Once the periods are shortened, the "mercy rule" cannot be put into effect.

D. If the "mercy rule" is in effect, any remaining period may still also be shortened. (SCHSL memo)

60. A12 is injured during a play in which his team scores a touchdown in the first quarter. When may A12 next participate?

A. The subsequent kickoff. (3-5-10)

B. During the try, as long as A calls a charged team timeout.

C. Once A has been awarded a new series following the injury.

D. The first play from scrimmage following the subsequent kickoff.

61. A89 lines up near the numbers and does not have his mouthpiece in when the snap is imminent. A89 has been told at least one previous time to put his mouthpiece in when he lines up. How should the covering official respond?

A. Do nothing, and speak with the player once the ball becomes dead.

B. Blow the whistle, stop the clock (if necessary), and throw the flag for delay of game.

C. Blow the whistle, stop the clock (if necessary), and inform the player that he must sit out for one down (unless a halftime or overtime intermission occurs). (3-5-10e)

D. Wait until the ball becomes live and then throw the flag for unsportsmanlike conduct on the Head Coach for failure to make his players wear equipment properly.

62. When may a Head Coach request a timeout for the purpose of discussing a possible misapplication or misinterpretation of a rule?
- At anytime during the current series.
 - Prior to the ball becoming live after a new series is awarded.
 - Prior to the second live ball following the play to be reviewed.
 - Prior to the time the ball becomes live following the play to be reviewed. (3-5-11)**
63. B has used all of their permissible timeouts for the first half. Which of the following subsequent timeout requests would be **denied**?
- For the review of a possible misapplication or misinterpretation of a rule.
 - For an apparently injured player so designated when the request is made.
 - When B's captain requests a timeout and says they would accept a delay of game penalty in exchange. (3-5-5)**
 - For the necessary repair to player equipment, except when the helmet comes completely off a player during the down or when any required player equipment is missing.
64. During a try by kick, R1 partially blocks the kick. The ball caroms to K3, who was blocking behind the neutral zone. K3 possesses the ball and runs into the end zone. What is the result of this play?
- "Touchdown" for K, resulting in 2 points.
 - Dead ball once K's kick has apparently failed. No points. (4-2-2i)**
 - "Touchdown" for K, resulting in 1 point since the original play was a scrimmage kick.
 - Foul for illegal touching on K. R would likely accept the penalty and replay the down.
65. B55 attempts to tackle A34, but the contact causes B55's helmet to come completely off. A34 continues running with the ball, while B55 walks over to his helmet and picks it up. What should the covering official(s) do?
- Blow the play dead, since the helmet came completely off a player.
 - Blow the play dead only if B55 continues to participate in the play beyond the initial action of the attempted tackle.
 - Nothing. Let the play go, since the ball becomes dead only when the helmet comes completely off of a runner. Flag B55 only if he continues to participate. (4-2-2k)**
 - Let the play go, but throw a beanbag at the spot the helmet came off, as it will become an enforcement spot if a foul occurs later during the down.
66. The game is tied as time expires on the last play of the 4th quarter. B55 piles on runner A34 after the down. A wins the toss and chooses to go on defense. What is the down and distance on the first play of overtime?
- B's ball. 1st-and-10 from the 25.
 - B's ball. 1st-and-goal from the 25. (Resolving Tied Games, 5-1-1)**
 - B's ball. 1st-and-10 from the 12-1/2.
 - B's ball. 1st-and-goal from the 12-1/2.
67. Who is responsible for placing 3:00 on the game clock for the mandatory warmup following halftime?
- Referee
 - Line Judge
 - Back Judge
 - The crew of officials (3-1-7)**
68. When a disqualifying foul occurs, the player's number, name (if known), team, and type of foul should be recorded on which official's game card?
- Referee
 - The Linesman
 - Crew of officials (Mechanics Manual)**
 - The official who disqualified the player/non-player

69. Which of the following is **NOT** a way for officials to learn how to make decisions so quickly that they become reflex?
- A. Have a thorough knowledge of the rules.
 - B. Know fundamentals so well they become second nature.
 - C. Continue to study the rules and possible situations that may occur.
 - D. Only work one game a week so you remain sharp. Don't work sub-varsity or youth games because you won't be working "real" football. (Mechanics Manual)**
70. One of your key requirements to be a good official is courage. When must you penalize promptly and fairly?
- A. It's acceptable to let all fouls go when the game is one-sided.
 - B. Sometimes fouls can be overlooked as long as they are not safety issues.
 - C. No fouls should be called until the players are told what they are doing wrong and have a chance to correct it.
 - D. Always, regardless of pressure from fans, coaches, and players, with the protection and welfare of the players paramount. (Mechanics Manual)**
71. When may the officials use replay or television monitoring equipment to make decisions related to the game?
- A. Only if the crew of officials feels that it will help get the call correct.
 - B. Only if the game is televised on a local channel as the "Game of the Week".
 - C. Only under guidelines set forth by the State Association for playoff or championship games. (Table 1-7 6.)**
 - D. Only if the Head Coach insists that you review the play during a Referee-Coach Conference.
72. If the Referee is late to the pregame—or doesn't show up at all—who determines who will replace the Referee?
- A. Umpire
 - B. Linesman
 - C. Back Judge
 - D. Crew of officials (Mechanics Manual)**
73. If the Referee is late to the pregame—or doesn't show up at all—who should lead the pre-game conference?
- A. Umpire
 - B. Linesman
 - C. Back Judge
 - D. The crew member with the most experience (Mechanics Manual)**
74. Prior to the start of the game, to whom shall the Head Coach verify that all of his players are legally and properly equipped?
- A. Umpire
 - B. Referee
 - C. The entire crew
 - D. Referee and any other official. (Mechanics Manual)**
75. What is the touching of a loose ball in an unsuccessful attempt to secure possession?
- A. Bat
 - B. Muff (2-27)**
 - C. Snap
 - D. Fumble
76. B1 hits runner A2 late and out-of-bounds. A2 reacts and forcefully knocks B1 to the ground. B3 then jumps into the fray and shoves A2 to the ground. How are these three fouls enforced?
- A. All fouls offset.

- B. Enforce one foul for each team.
 - C. All penalties are enforced, in the order of their occurrence.
 - D. The distance penalties for the fouls by B1 and A2 offset. Enforce B3's penalty. (10-2-5b)**
77. Try from the B8. A1 advances to B's 4-yard line and fumbles. The fumble rolls into the end zone, where B1 intentionally bats (or kicks) the ball across the end line. How should this be ruled?
- A. Safety by B. 1 point for A.
 - B. Touchback. B's ball at the 20
 - C. Enforce B's foul half-the-distance from the previous spot. Replay the down from the 4.
 - D. Enforce B's foul half-the-distance from the end of the run (B's 4). Replay the down from the 2. (10-4-4; 10-1-5; 9-7-2 penalty)**
78. Which of the following would **NOT** cause a period to be extended with an untimed down?
- A. A double foul.
 - B. Inadvertent whistle.
 - C. There was a foul by either team and the penalty is accepted, except for unsportsmanlike, non-player fouls, loss of down fouls, fouls that result in a safety, or fouls enforced on the subsequent kickoff.
 - D. When a touchdown is scored on the last down of the fourth period and the point(s) would not affect the outcome of the game or playoff qualifying. (3-3-3d)**
79. An entering substitute is not on his team's side of the neutral zone at the snap. How is this to be ruled?
- A. Live-ball foul. Encroachment. 5 yards from the previous spot.
 - B. Dead-ball foul. Encroachment. 5 yards from the previous spot.
 - C. Live-ball foul. Illegal substitution. 5 yards from the previous spot. (3-7-5)**
 - D. Dead-ball foul. Illegal substitution. 5 yards from the previous spot.
80. There are some fouls that cause the ball to become dead.
- A. True
 - B. False (III-2)**
81. R can **always** advance any kick.
- A. True
 - B. False (IV-2)**
82. Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is not always a touchdown.
- A. True
 - B. False (I-8)**
83. There are ways in which a player who is eligible to catch a pass at the beginning of the down can become ineligible during the down.
- A. True
 - B. False (VII-1)**
84. When in doubt about a catch or no catch, how should the pass be ruled?
- A. Complete
 - B. Incomplete (Mechanics Manual 8.2)**
85. How should all substitutes who leave the team box during a fight be dealt with?
- A. Give them stern warnings not to do it again.
 - B. Each is given a 15-yard unsportsmanlike foul and disqualified. (9-8-11)**
 - C. Each is given a 15-yard personal foul. There is no disqualification.
 - D. There is no foul unless they actually participate in the fight. (In other words, meet the definition of "fighting".) If they participate in the fight, they are given 15-yard penalties and disqualified.

86. Who can bat a fumble in flight?
- No one.
 - Any player. (9-7-2)**
 - The fumbling team only.
 - The non-fumbling team only.
87. Who can bat a grounded fumble?
- No one. (9-7-2)**
 - Any player.
 - The fumbling team only.
 - The non-fumbling team only.
88. What is the foul for a player who continues to participate after his helmet comes completely off beyond the immediate action in which he is engaged
- Personal foul.
 - Illegal participation. (9-6-4g)**
 - Unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - Failure to properly wear required equipment.
89. What would make a blindside block legal?
- The contact is initiated with open hands. (9-4-3n)**
 - The contact is outside of the free-blocking zone.
 - The contact is against an opponent who is not considered “defenseless”.
 - The contact is against an opponent who is considered to still be “in the play” or “near the ball”.
90. Receiver A89 is running a route, and is no longer a potential blocker, when he is contacted by defender B29 prior to a pass being thrown. What is the foul?
- Illegal block. 10 yards.
 - Illegal contact. 15 yards.
 - Pass interference. 15 yards.
 - Illegal use of hands. 10 yards. (9-2-3d)**
91. Discussing “unusual” plays with the Head Coach before the game; the checking of equipment prior to the game; asking a captain to “...count your players”; and asking a captain for assistance in controlling his team’s behavior are examples of:
- Cheating.
 - Preventive officiating. (Mechanics Manual)**
 - Improper crew communication.
 - The correct use of officials signals.
92. What is one thing all officials should do once the ball becomes dead during a down?
- Turn and sprint to your next position.
 - Immediately search for the ball and begin to shuttle it in to the Umpire.
 - Write down the down and distance of the next play on your game card.
 - Continue to monitor the action of all players and remain alert for dead-ball fouls. (Mechanics Manual)**
93. Runner A34 fumbles the ball at the 50 on 2nd down. 14 players, 7 from each team, jump on the pile in an attempt to recover the ball. After some of the players are pulled off the pile, the covering official sees that A75 and B97 both have firm control of the ball. What should the official do at this point?
- Guess as to who had the ball first, based on the action during the down.
 - Ask the two opponents who had the ball first, and award possession to that player’s team.
 - This is a simultaneous recovery and the ball belongs to A. Official should immediately signal 3rd down. (Mechanics Manual);**
 - Wait to see which of the two opponents wrestles the ball away from the other, and then award possession to that player’s team.

94. What is the sequence of mechanics and signals a covering official should give when a forward pass is **incomplete** in his or her coverage area?
- A. Only the stop the clock signal.
 - B. Blow the whistle; then incomplete pass signal. (Mechanics Manual)**
 - C. Blow whistle; stop the clock signal; then incomplete pass signal.
 - D. Blow the whistle; incomplete pass signal; then stop the clock signal.

THE FUN ONES

95. 4th and 3 from B's 9-yard line. There are 2 seconds remaining in the 4th quarter, and the score is tied. K attempts a field goal, but the kick is unsuccessful. During the down, K is guilty of an illegal shift foul. Time runs out in the period while the kick is in the air. What are R's options?
- A. By rule, they have no option, as the penalty is "obviously declined", the results of the play stand, and there is no replay.
 - B. Their only options are to decline the penalty and take the results of the play, and thus head to overtime; or accept the penalty and replay the down.
 - C. They can decline the penalty; or they can accept the results of the play (unsuccessful field goal) and have the penalty enforced on the first play of overtime.
 - D. They can decline the penalty and accept the results of the play, and thus head to overtime; or they can accept the penalty, enforce the it from the succeeding spot (R's 20), and have one untimed down with which to run a play, from their own (R's) 25. (10-4-2; 3-3-3a)**
96. QB A12 takes a direct hand-to-hand snap and then pitches the ball backwards to A89, who was on the end of his line, near the numbers, at the snap. As soon as A89 receives the backwards pass, he sees that he is going to get tackled pretty quickly. He then intentionally throws the ball into the team box, well beyond the neutral zone, from within the lateral boundaries of the free-blocking zone (FBZ). How should this play be ruled?
- A. Illegal forward pass, as the pass was made from inside the lateral boundaries of the FBZ.
 - B. Illegal forward pass, as only the player who receives the direct snap is allowed to intentionally throw an incomplete forward pass to conserve yardage.
 - C. Illegal forward pass, since in order to legally throw an incomplete forward pass to conserve time, A89 would have to throw it immediately upon receiving the backwards pass.
 - D. Legal forward pass, as the passer was beyond the the lateral boundary of the FBZ as established at the snap, and the pass reached the neutral zone, extended beyond the sideline. (Table 7-5-2)**
97. The score is K 14, R 13. K punts the ball from K's 12-yard line, and R44 signals for a fair catch. R87 catches the ball at R's 31-yard line. The game clock shows 2 seconds left in the 4th period. What options does R have?
- A. R may only attempt a free kick.
 - B. R may only snap the ball and run a play from scrimmage. (6-5-2. R44 signaled, but r87 caught it.)**
 - C. R may **either** attempt a free kick **or** snap the ball and run a play from scrimmage.
 - D. R is only given a choice if K accepts the penalty for kick-catching interference. If declined, they must snap the ball. If accepted, they can either kick or or run a play from scrimmage after the 15-yard penalty is enforced.
98. 3rd-and-6 from A's 14-yard line, and the clock is running. A67 is flagged for holding at A's 2-yard line. Quarterback A12 throws a pass from the end zone that is intercepted by B62 at A's 21-yard line, and he returns it for a touchdown. What are B's options?
- A. Touchdown. B must decline A's foul in order to keep the touchdown. (8-2-3)**

- B. Touchdown. B may have the penalty against A enforced only on the try.
 - C. Touchdown. B may have the penalty against A enforced only on the subsequent kickoff.
 - D. Touchdown. B may have the penalty against A enforced either on the try or the subsequent kickoff.
99. A scores a touchdown and asks that the ball be placed in the middle of the field for the try. The Referee blows the ready-for-play signal. Team A calls timeout. After the timeout, what are A's options?
- A. They may have the ball moved to the left hash mark.
 - B. They may have the ball moved to the right hash mark.
 - C. They don't have any. The ball must remain in the middle of the field. (4-3-7)**
 - D. They can have the ball placed anywhere they choose between the two hash marks.
100. 4th-and-6 at R's 44-yard line. Punter K12 punts the ball and R77 gives a valid fair catch signal at R's 39-yard line. A strong gust of wind blows the ball back and it lands behind the line of scrimmage at R's 46-yard line, where K62 catches the ball. He advances the ball to R's 35-yard line, where he is tackled there inbounds. What do we have?
- A. Since R77 gave a valid fair catch signal, the ball is dead when it is possessed by K62. 1st and 10 for R at R's 46-yard line. Play clock is set to :25. Game clock starts on the snap.
 - B. Since the ball landed behind the line of scrimmage, 5-yard penalty against R62 for an invalid fair catch signal. Replay 4th down. Play clock is set to :25. Game clock starts on the snap.
 - C. K's ball, 1st and 10 from R's 35-yard line. Play clock is set to :25. Game clock starts on the snap. (5-1-3a; 6-2-3; 3-6-1a1f; 3-4-3c; 5-1-4)**
 - D. K's ball, 1st and 10 from R's 35-yard line. Play clock is set to :25. Game clock starts on the ready.
 - E. K's ball, 1st and 10 from R's 35-yard line. Play clock is set to :40. Game clock starts on the snap.

THANK YOU! AND BEST OF LUCK THIS SEASON!

If you ever need anything, do not hesitate to reach out to us. Please take our contact information down before you turn in this exam.

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