

2017 FOOTBALL RULES CHANGES

- 1-3-1h (NEW):** Added that commercial advertising is not permitted on the ball.
- 1-5-1b(3):** Further clarifies that the jersey of the home team shall be a dark color clearly contrasting to the white jersey required for the visiting team.
- 1-5-1a(2) NOTE, 1-5-4:** This change now permits any of the game officials to accompany the referee to meet with the head coach for equipment verification.
- 2-3-10 (NEW), 9-4-3n (NEW), 9-4 PENALTY:** Added a new definition for a blindside block and specifies a penalty for an illegal blindside block.
- 2-16-2h:** Clarified that illegal participation fouls by R occurring during the kick are now enforced under post-scrimmage kick fouls.
- 2-24-10 (NEW), 6-1-11 (NEW), 6-1 PENALTY:** Added a new definition for a pop-up kick and specifies a penalty for a pop-up kick.
- 2-32-16:** Expands the definition of a defenseless player by incorporating specific examples.
- 3-4-7 (NEW):** Added a new option to the offended team to start the clock on the snap for an accepted penalty inside the last two minutes of either half.
- 4-2-2l (NEW):** Specifies that the ball is declared dead if a prosthetic limb comes completely off of the runner.
- 7-1-6:** Now stipulates that it is encroachment to strike the ball or the snapper's hand/arm prior to the snapper releasing the ball.
- 7-5-10:** Removes non-contact face guarding from the pass interference restrictions.

2017 MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES

Facilities Statement; 1-3-2; 1-5-1a(1); 1-5-1a(2) NOTE; 1-5-2b; 1-5-3b(6); 1-5-3c(2); 1-6-1; 1-6-2; 2-5-3; 3-4-8; 3-5-7f; 3-5-10b; 3-5-10c; 4-2-2k; 7-5-6a; 9-3 PENALTY; 9-4-3k; 10-5-1c; FOOTBALL FUNDAMENTALS – VI-2; PENALTY SUMMARY; INDEX.

2017 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

1. Responsibility on Players to Avoid Illegal Contact
2. Illegal Helmet Contact
3. Sideline Management and Control, Professional Communication Between Coaches and Game Officials
4. Proper Enforcement of Penalties for Violations of the Equipment Rules

National Federation of State
High School Associations

