

# Sunshine Football Officials Association

Rookie Prep Session #4



# Agenda

- Questions from last week
- Test #2 (5 questions)
- Rule #2 - Continued

# Questions from last week?



# Test #2



# Question 1.

After the ball is marked ready for play for a scrimmage down:

- (a) B1 enters the neutral zone to give defensive signals; or
- (b) B2, the nose guard, places his hand on the ground so that it is in contact with the ball.

**What is the ruling?**

# Question 1.

After the ball is marked ready for play for a scrimmage down:

- (a) B1 enters the neutral zone to give defensive signals; or
- (b) B2, the nose guard, places his hand on the ground so that it is in contact with the ball.

**What is the ruling?**

**Encroachment in (a), (b), (c) and (d). Whenever a player is illegally in the neutral zone, it is encroachment. (7-1, 7-2)**

# Question 2.

It is first and 10 for A at B's 12-yard line. A1 sprints near the end line and then buttonhooks. He jumps and possesses a forward pass while in the air above the end zone.

(a) A1's momentum carries him back into the field of play and he lands and is downed on the 1-yard line; or

(b) while in the air in the end zone, he is contacted by B1 and he is carried out of the end zone and downed on B's 2-yard line.

**What is the ruling?**

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(a) A1's momentum carries him back into the field of play and he lands and is downed on the 1-yard line; or

(b) while in the air in the end zone, he is contacted by B1 and he is carried out of the end zone and downed on B's 2-yard line.

**What is the ruling?**

**In (a), it is A's ball first and goal at B's 1-yard line. In (b), it is a touchdown because A1 was contacted in the end zone. (2-4-1)**



# Question 3.

\_\_\_\_\_ during a free kick it is first touching if the ball is touched in the field of play by any K player before it crosses R's free-kick line and before it is touched there by any R player.

**What is the ruling?**

# Question 3.

**First touching** during a free kick it is first touching if the ball is touched in the field of play by any K player before it crosses R's free-kick line and before it is touched there by any R player.

# Question 4.

\_\_\_\_\_ one or more live-ball fouls (other than nonplayer or unsportsmanlike) are committed by each team at such a time that the penalties offset.

**What is the ruling?**

# Question 4.

**Double foul is** one or more live-ball fouls (other than nonplayer or unsportsmanlike) are committed by each team at such a time that the penalties offset.

# Question 5.

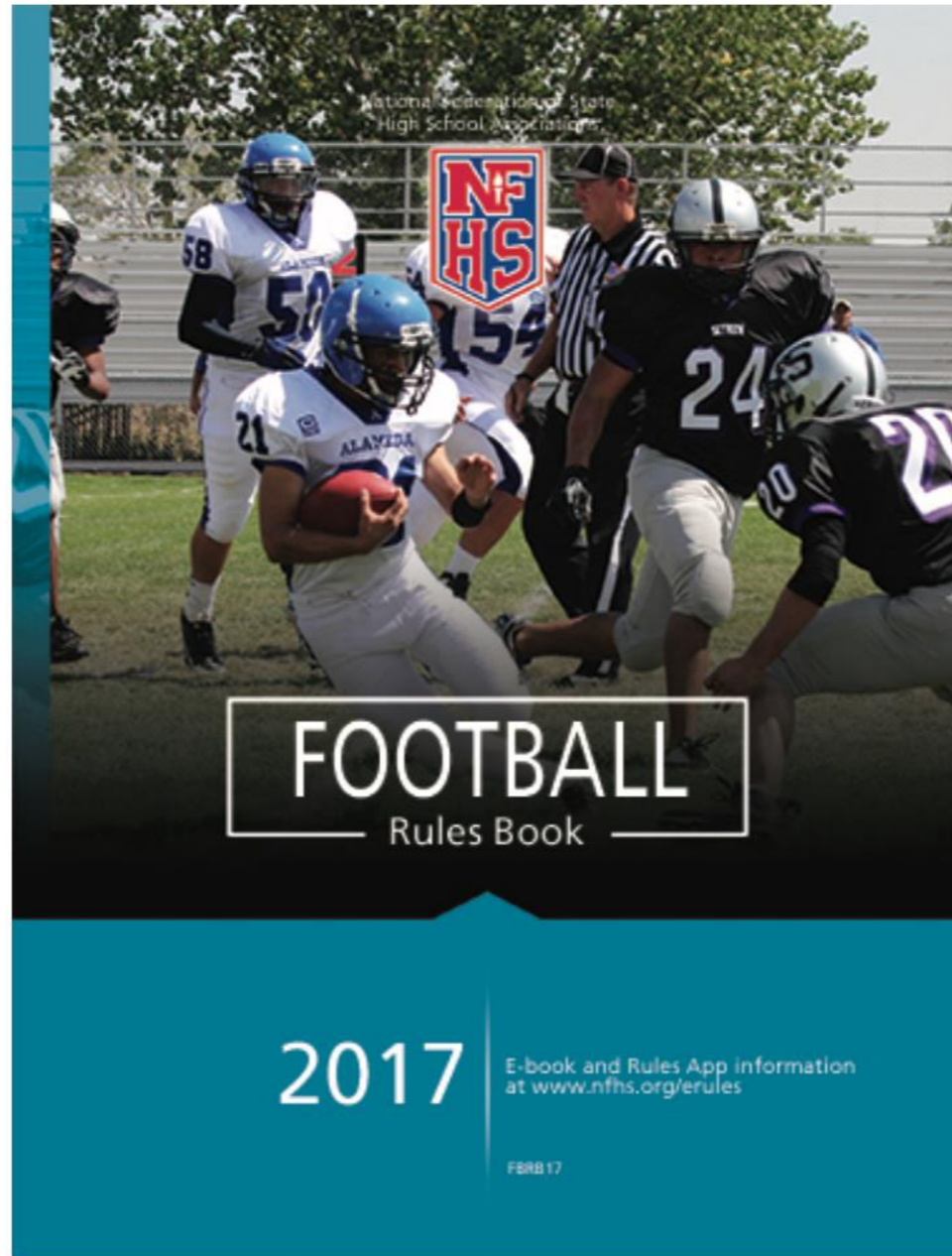
\_\_\_\_\_ a foul which occurs during a down.

**What is the ruling?**

# Question 5.

**Live ball** a foul which occurs during a down.

# NFHS Rulebook



# Rule #2 Continued

**2.17.1: Free blocking zone** – The free-blocking zone is a rectangular area extending laterally 4 yards either side of the spot of the snap and 3 yards behind each line of scrimmage. A player is in the free-blocking zone when any part of his body is in the zone at the snap.

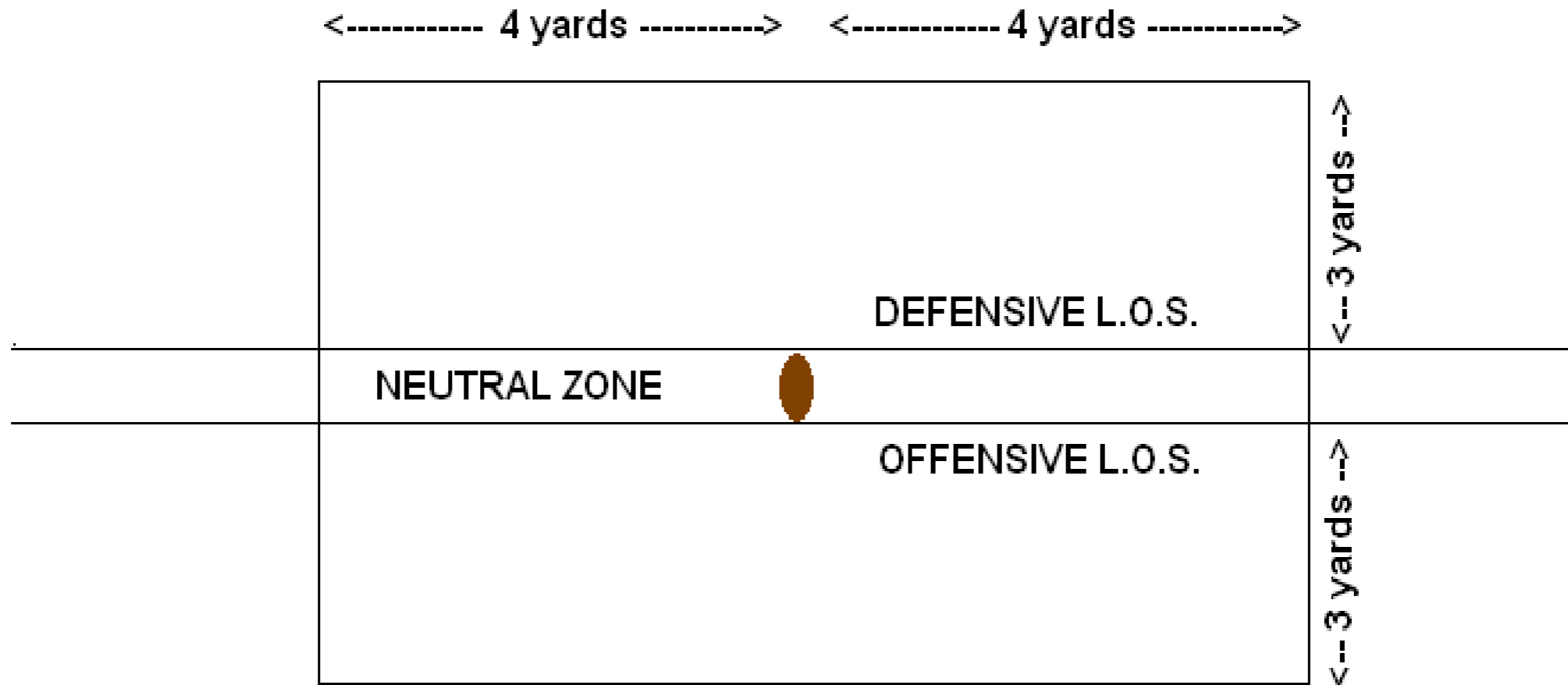
- **ART. 2 . . .** Blocking below the waist is permitted in the free-blocking zone when the following conditions are met:
  - a. All players involved in the blocking are on the line of scrimmage and in the zone at the snap.
  - b. The contact is in the zone.



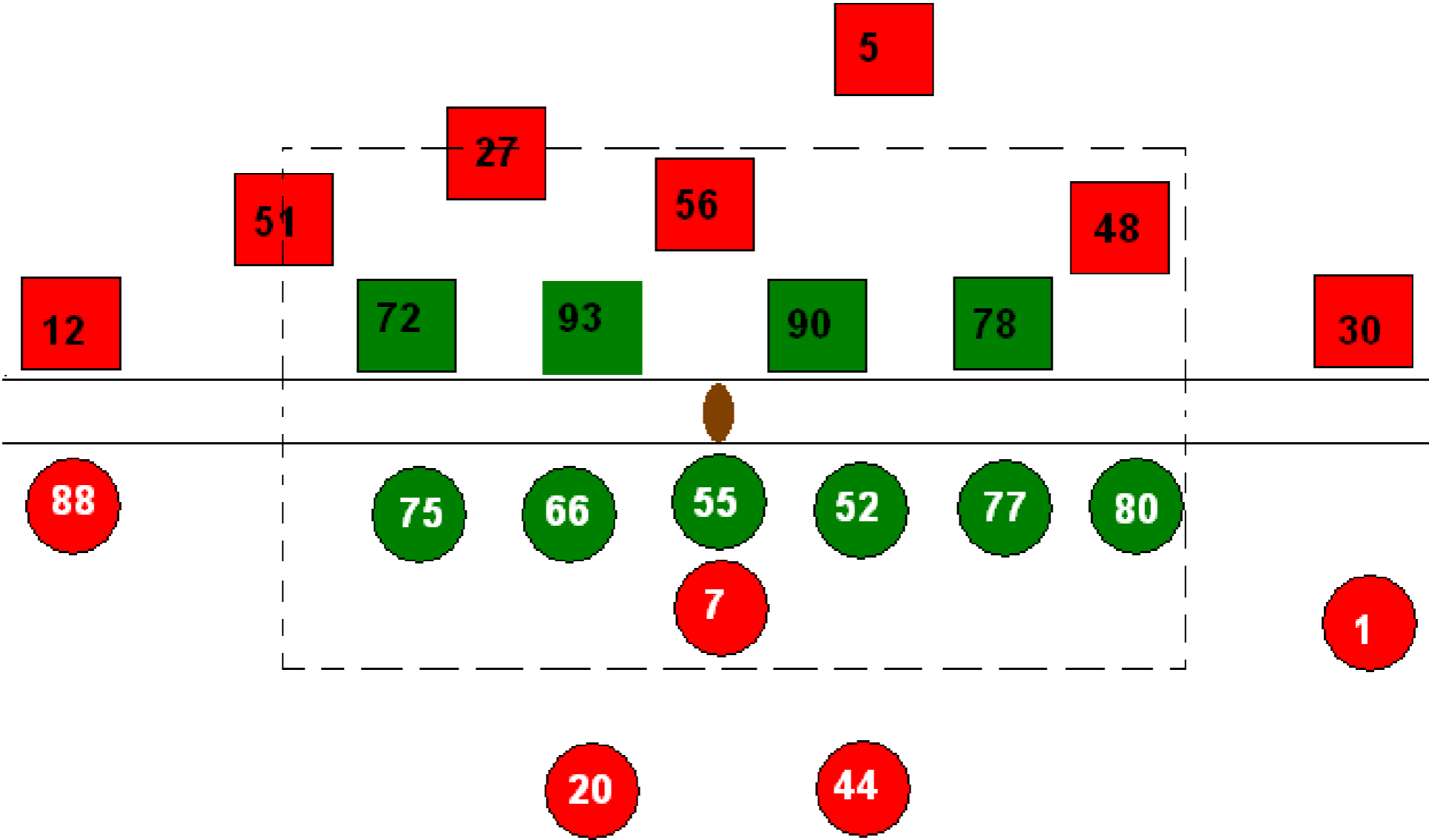
# Rule #2 Continued

- **ART. 3 . . .** Blocking in the back is permitted in the free-blocking zone when the following conditions are met:
  - a. By offensive linemen who are on the line of scrimmage and in the zone at the snap.
  - b. Against defensive players who are in the zone at the snap.
  - c. The contact is in the zone.
- **ART. 4 . . .** The free-blocking zone disintegrates and the exception for a player to block below the waist and/or the exception for an offensive lineman to block in the back is not to continue after the ball has left the zone.

# The Free Blocking Zone



Players shown in Green may block the opponents shown in Green below the waist.



# Rule #2 Continued

- **2.20.1: ART. 1 . . . Illegal helmet contact** is an act of initiating contact with the helmet against an opponent. There are several types of illegal helmet contact:
  - a. **Butt Blocking** is an act by any player who initiates contact against an opponent who is not a runner with the front of his helmet.
  - b. **Face Tackling** is an act by a defensive player who initiates contact against a runner with the front of his helmet.
  - c. **Spearing** is an act by any player who initiates contact against an opponent at the shoulders or below with the crown (top portion) of his helmet.
- **ART. 2 . . . Targeting** is an act by any player who takes aim and initiates contact against an opponent above the shoulders with the helmet, forearm, hand, fist, elbow or shoulders.

# Targeting Example



# Targeting Example



# Rule #2 Continued

**2.22: Hurdling** is an attempt by a player to jump (hurdle) with one or both feet or knees foremost over an opponent who is contacting the ground with no part of his body except one or both feet.

# Hurdling Example

## **HURDLING**

In 2012, the committee had requests to change the hurdling rule and eliminate it as a foul. By definition: *“Hurdling is an attempt by a player to jump (hurdle) with one or both feet or knees foremost over an opponent who is contacting the ground with no part of his body except one or both feet.”* This is an Illegal Personal Contact Foul (NFHS Football Rule 9-4-3d) and carries a 15-yard penalty. Recently, national and local media have identified some of these plays at the collegiate and professional levels as “spectacular feats” and glorified the individual’s athletic ability instead of pointing out the heightened potential for harm. Little regard has been given to the fact that attempting to “hurdle” a defender increases the risk of injury to both the hurdler and tackler! The NFHS SMAC requested that this rule not be changed and backed up its request by showing several incidences where players were severely injured while attempting this act! The NFHS Football Rules Committee concurred with the SMAC and did not change the hurdling rule. In addition, to focus on the dangers associated with hurdling, it has been included as a Point of Emphasis for the 2012 season. The emphasis on this illegal act supports the committee’s ongoing attempt to minimize the risk of injuries in high school football. Coaches must teach their players of the inherent dangers associated with this illegal act, and game officials must call it when observed.



# Rule #2 Continued

**2.27: Muff** is the touching of a loose ball by a player in an unsuccessful attempt to secure possession.

**2.31.2: Forward Pass** A forward pass is a pass thrown with its initial direction toward the opponent's end line.

**NOTE:** Prior to releasing the ball on a pass, if the potential passer is contacted, and the ball is released, it is a forward pass if his arm was moving forward on contact.

**ART. 5 . . .** A **backward pass** is a pass thrown with its initial direction parallel with or toward the runner's end line.

**ART. 6 . . .** A **backward pass** ends when it is caught or recovered or is out of bounds.

# Rule #2 Continued

**2.39: Shift** is the action of one or more offensive players who, after a huddle or after taking set positions, move to a new set position before the ensuing snap.

**2.45: Tripping** is the use of the lower leg or foot to obstruct an opponent, who is not the runner, below the knee.

# On Field Mechanics



# Final Questions?



# Upcoming Events

- **April 30<sup>th</sup>** – Training Meeting 6pm, General Meeting 7pm
- **May 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>** – Spring Color Games
- **May 9<sup>th</sup>** – Training Meeting 6:30pm
- **May 12<sup>th</sup>** – Field Scrimmage at St. Petersburg H.S.  
Scrimmage begins at 8:30am
- **May 14<sup>th</sup>** – Training Meeting 6pm, General Meeting 7pm
- **May 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>** – Spring Classics

# Upcoming Events

- **June 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>** – Training Meetings: 6:30pm
- **June 16<sup>th</sup>** – 7 on 7 Tournament at Boca Ciega H.S.
- **June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>** – 7 on 7 Tournament at Anclote H.S.

# Look Ahead to Next Week

- Next meeting: **Monday April 30 at 6:00**
- General Meeting: **Monday April 30 at 7:00**
- Test questions from this week's material
- Continue with on field mechanics