



2020 NFHS Football Exam - Part I

NOTE: In the exam situations, A—refers to the offensive team and B—refers to their opponents the defensive team. K—refers to the kicking team and R—refers to the receiving team. A1, B1, K1 and R1 are players of these teams. If team possession changes during the down, each team retains its identity. In kicking situations, it is not during a try and no fair-catch signal has been given unless specified. Unless stated, acts occur while: the ball is inbounds; a forward pass is legal; any out-of-bounds is between the goal lines. Line means scrimmage line. Reference to a foul is to a player foul which is not unsportsmanlike. There is no foul or change of possession, unless it is mentioned, and penalties are considered accepted for enforcement.

1. At the snap, at least five A players shall be on their line of scrimmage and no more than five A players may be backs.
 - A. True
 - B. False
2. The penalty for illegal kicking or batting is 5 yards.
 - A. True
 - B. False
3. Ready-for-play signifies that the ball may be put in play by a snap or a free kick with 25 seconds or 40 seconds on the play clock.
 - A. True
 - B. False
4. The penalty for a player who is not properly equipped is to remove that player for at least one down.
 - A. True
 - B. False
5. The passer continues to be a defenseless player until the legal forward pass ends or the passer moves to participate in the play.
 - A. True
 - B. False
6. The signal for free kick infractions, other than encroachment of the neutral zone is Signal 18.
 - A. True
 - B. False
7. At the option of the offended team, the basic spot may be the succeeding spot for fouls by K during a legal free or scrimmage-kick down (other than kick-catch interference) prior to the end of the kick when K will not be next to put the ball in play.
 - A. True
 - B. False
8. The ball becomes dead and the down is ended when a prosthetic limb comes completely off the runner.
 - A. True
 - B. False

9. No player or nonplayer shall trip an opponent.

- A. True
- B. False

10. Effective with the 2024 season, the entire body of the number shall be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.

- A. True
- B. False

11. The horse-collar foul is enforced as a live-ball foul.

- A. True
- B. False

12. By state association adoption, use of instant replay is allowed only for postseason contests.

- A. True
- B. False

13. During a kick, an offensive player may use his hands or arms to ward off an opponent who is attempting to block him.

- A. True
- B. False

14. It is legal for a player positioned directly behind the snapper to conserve time by intentionally throwing the ball forward to the ground immediately after receiving the snap that has neither been muffed nor touched the ground.

- A. True
- B. False

15. Game officials may use supplementary equipment to aid in game administration as authorized by the state association.

- A. True
- B. False

16. An artificial arm may not be worn by any player.

- A. True
- B. False

17. Decorative markings in the end zone may be within a foot of the goal line.

- A. True
- B. False

18. When R1 gains possession of a free kick, blocking below the waist by teammates is legal.

- A. True
- B. False

19. It is recommended that the restraining line be marked by placing 12-inch-long lines, separated at 24-inch intervals.

- A. True
- B. False

20. A down ends when the live ball becomes dead.
- A. True
 - B. False
21. Each head coach shall designate a representative who will make decisions regarding penalty acceptance or declination.
- A. True
 - B. False
22. A tinted eye shield is illegal.
- A. True
 - B. False
23. A disconcerting act foul is a 10-yard penalty.
- A. True
 - B. False
24. The play clock is set to 25 seconds when an official's time-out is taken for an injury to a defensive player or a defensive player has an equipment issue.
- A. True
 - B. False
25. When weather conditions are construed to be hazardous to life or limb of the participants, the crew of game officials is authorized to delay or suspend the game.
- A. True
 - B. False
26. The head coach of each team is not responsible for his team being on the field for the mandatory three-minute warm-up period after halftime intermission.
- A. True
 - B. False
27. If there is a double foul during the last timed down of a period, the period is automatically extended.
- A. True
 - B. False
28. Any receiver may signal for a fair catch while any legal kick is in flight.
- A. True
 - B. False
29. The succeeding spot is where the ball was last snapped or free kicked.
- A. True
 - B. False

30. A signal given by R1 in or behind the neutral zone during a scrimmage kick is an illegal fair-catch signal.
- A. True
 - B. False
31. If R1 signals for a fair catch, he may not block until the kick ends.
- A. True
 - B. False
32. Following a legal kick when either team is awarded a new series, the play clock will be set to 25 seconds.
- A. True
 - B. False
33. The referee shall have the authority to correct obvious errors in timing by the play clock if the discovery is prior to the snap.
- A. True
 - B. False
34. If the game is interrupted due to the weather during the last three minutes of the second period, and the delay is at least 30 minutes, the opposing coaches can mutually agree to shorten halftime intermission, provided there is at least a one-minute intermission (not including the three-minute warm-up period).
- A. True
 - B. False
35. If R1 touches K1's field-goal attempt in R's end zone in flight and the ball caroms between the uprights and above the crossbar, the attempt is good.
- A. True
 - B. False
36. A passer continues to be a passer until the legal forward pass ends or until he moves to participate in the play.
- A. True
 - B. False
37. If the ball is beyond the neutral zone when it leaves the passer's hand on a forward pass, it is an illegal forward pass.
- A. True
 - B. False
38. If an illegal forward pass strikes the ground, the ball remains live.
- A. True
 - B. False
39. A forward underhand pitch behind the neutral zone from A1 to A2 is an incomplete pass if not caught.
- A. True
 - B. False

40. A disqualified player shall be removed even if the penalty for the foul is declined.
- A. True
 - B. False
41. If a player refuses to comply with a game official's directive, the player will be disqualified.
- A. True
 - B. False
42. An offensive player cannot commit a spearing foul.
- A. True
 - B. False
43. Initiating contact with an opposing player whose helmet has come completely off is ruled an illegal personal contact foul.
- A. True
 - B. False
44. No foul causes a live ball to become dead.
- A. True
 - B. False
45. It is legal to grasp the opponent's chin strap.
- A. True
 - B. False
46. If a pool of water forces the referee to move the ball for K1's kick, the free-kick lines may be less than 10 yards apart.
- A. True
 - B. False
47. A field goal may be scored by a kickoff.
- A. True
 - B. False
48. After the ball is marked ready-for-play, and until the ball is kicked, K must have at least two K players on each side of the kicker.
- A. True
 - B. False
49. The kickers may not advance a recovered free kick.
- A. True
 - B. False
50. A kick ends as soon as R1 touches the kick.
- A. True
 - B. False

51. A handed ball beyond the neutral zone is considered to be a pass.
- A. True
 - B. False
52. A foul that occurs simultaneously with the snap is an exception to the all-but-one enforcement principle.
- A. True
 - B. False
53. If a player is blocked out of bounds by an opponent and returns inbounds, at the first opportunity he/she may legally participate.
- A. True
 - B. False
54. An inadvertent whistle does not end the down.
- A. True
 - B. False
55. It is illegal participation for a player whose helmet comes completely off during a down to continue to participate beyond the immediate action in which the player is engaged.
- A. True
 - B. False
56. All fouls by A during the down are enforced from the basic spot.
- A. True
 - B. False
57. Fouls that occur after an inadvertent whistle can only be dead-ball fouls.
- A. True
 - B. False
58. A foul during a try is not paired with a dead-ball foul to create a double or multiple foul.
- A. True
 - B. False
59. A period shall not be extended when a foul occurs that specifies a loss of down and the penalty is accepted.
- A. True
 - B. False
60. All nonplayer fouls are enforced from the succeeding spot.
- A. True
 - B. False
61. Forward pass interference can occur behind, in or beyond the neutral zone.
- A. True
 - B. False

62. While it is possible to have several running plays during a down, with each one having its own basic spot of penalty enforcement (where the related run ended), there can only be one loose-ball play during a down.

- A. True
- B. False

63. If a substitute or replaced player influences the play, it is illegal participation.

- A. True
- B. False

64. A player's towel may have a ball-drying product applied to it that will affect the football.

- A. True
- B. False

65. If during a down in which time expires, K1 holds during a successful field-goal attempt, the period is automatically ended and the score is canceled.

- A. True
- B. False

66. The kicking tee may not elevate the ball more than 2 inches above the ground.

- A. True
- B. False

67. A shift which is designed to cause Team B to encroach is a false start.

- A. True
- B. False

68. An unofficial auxiliary down indicator is required field equipment for a game.

- A. True
- B. False

69. The goal-line pylons may be any color as long as they are the same color.

- A. True
- B. False

70. The ball shall have the NFHS Authenticating Mark.

- A. True
- B. False

71. If B1 intercepts A's forward pass in B's end zone, it is a safety if he is tackled there.

- A. True
- B. False

72. It is a touchback when A1 fumbles on B's 2-yard line and the ball goes into B's end zone and out-of-bounds there.

- A. True
- B. False

73. The team whose goal line is involved shall put the ball in play anywhere between the hash marks on its 20-yard line by a snap after a touchback and by a free kick after a safety.

- A. True
- B. False

74. If A1 is in his own end zone when he intentionally grounds a forward pass, it is a safety even if B declines the penalty.

- A. True
- B. False

75. A foul can cause the loss of the ball.

- A. True
- B. False

76. If the helmet of the tackler comes off in making contact with the runner, the ball becomes dead immediately.

- A. True
- B. False

77. Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the game and shall not return to play until cleared by the head coach.

- A. True
- B. False

78. A television time-out is not charged to either team.

- A. True
- B. False

79. On a free kick to start a period, the game clock will start when the ball is touched other than first touching by K.

- A. True
- B. False

80. A state association may establish guidelines to use a running game clock when a point differential is reached.

- A. True
- B. False

81. Jerseys shall be long enough to reach the top of the pants.

- A. True
- B. False

82. There is a two-minute intermission following a try, successful field goal or safety and prior to a free kick.

- A. True
- B. False

83. During a down, if time expires for a period and a signal is sounded, the game officials shall ignore the signal.

- A. True
- B. False

84. It is a touchback if A1 fumbles on B's 5-yard line and B1's muff forces the loose ball into B's end zone and out of bounds beyond the end line.
- A. True
 - B. False
85. Players of the same team shall not participate during the same down while wearing identical numbers.
- A. True
 - B. False
86. During a field-goal attempt, the ball becomes dead if the kick is blocked behind the neutral zone.
- A. True
 - B. False
87. Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a touchdown.
- A. True
 - B. False
88. A forward-pass interference foul can occur only beyond the neutral zone.
- A. True
 - B. False
89. It is not a touchdown when a loose ball is caught or recovered by a player while the ball is on or behind his opponent's goal line.
- A. True
 - B. False
90. Whether the next down will be first down is determined at the time the ball becomes dead and after considering any act, except a nonplayer foul or unsportsmanlike foul, which occurred during the down.
- A. True
 - B. False
91. The penalty for blocking after giving a valid or invalid fair-catch signal is 15 yards.
- A. True
 - B. False
92. A block against an opponent, other than the runner, who does not see the blocker approaching is a chop block.
- A. True
 - B. False
93. After a team has used its permissible charged time-outs for the half, any subsequent request shall be denied unless it is for the review of a possible misapplication or misinterpretation of a rule.
- A. True
 - B. False

94. The ball may not contain the school name, logo and/or mascot.

- A. True
- B. False

95. Pass interference restrictions on a legal forward pass begin for B with the snap.

- A. True
- B. False

96. K's free-kick line after a safety is the 30-yard line.

- A. True
- B. False

97. The penalty for a forward pass, batted, muffed or caught by an ineligible A player who is behind, in or beyond the neutral zone is loss of 5 yards and loss of down.

- A. True
- B. False

98. A defensive player shall not contact an eligible receiver who is no longer a potential blocker.

- A. True
- B. False

99. The enforcement spot for any foul by the defense is the previous spot when the run ends in the end zone and would result in a safety.

- A. True
- B. False

100. No player or nonplayer shall hurdle an opponent.

- A. True
- B. False