

2016 Football Officials Mechanics Test

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. The questions in this examination are to be answered on the basis of a five-game official crew of game officials, unless a four-game official crew is specifically designated.

Question Position	Question	Answer1	Answer2	Correct Answer	Rule Reference
1	Discretion, officiating position and game situation should determine whether the penalty marker is dropped or tossed following an infraction.	True	False	1	Page 17
2	The penalty marker shall not be used to mark the appropriate yard line on which a game official has observed an infraction.	True	False	2	Page 17
3	For all game officials, the bean bag is to serve as an aid to enforcement and is not an absolute reference point.	True	False	1	Page 18
4	After a score or try, prior to the free kick, all game officials need to encourage both teams to take free-kick positions quickly.	True	False	1	Page 20
5	After a score or try, prior to the free kick, the referee does need to check with the line-to-gain crew for questions and positions.	True	False	2	Page 19
6	After a score or try, prior to the free kick, the line judge, while at the 9-yard marks, counts K players and identifies the free-kick line for the receiving team.	True	False	1	Page 19
7	The line judge is the game official who will indicate the end of the fourth period.	True	False	2	Page 22
8	In controlling team-personnel altercations, the head linesman and the line judge should alert the coach on their side to keep all team personnel off of the playing area.	True	False	1	Page 22
9	If a team-personnel altercation is in a game official's area, he/she should attempt to stop initial confrontation.	True	False	1	Page 22
10	Only the referee must consistently administer and enforce team-box and coaches' area restrictions.	True	False	2	Page 21
11	The referee is the only game official who is to notify the opposing coach of a disqualification.	True	False	2	Page 21
12	The line judge or head linesman should notify the coach on his/her side as to the reason for disqualification.	True	False	2	Page 21
13	It is mandatory that any coach receiving two unsportsmanlike fouls carrying 15-yard penalties vacate the stadium area.	True	False	1	Page 21

14	The game official - escorting the team with the second-half choice - obtains from that team's head coach its second-half choice and communicates same to the referee.	True	False	1	Page 15
15	The back judge and line judge should bring an approved game ball from each team to the coin toss.	True	False	1	Page 14
16	The referee is to give a visible count of the last five seconds when on-field 25-second clocks are not utilized.	True	False	2	Page 23
17	At the conclusion of the coin-toss procedures and after the captains have been dismissed, only the umpire and linesman move together for final instructions from the referee.	True	False	2	Page 15
18	In the presence of the umpire, the referee shall instruct the visiting captain to give "heads" or "tails" choice before the coin toss.	True	False	1	Page 13
19	The referee's use of a field microphone adds another dimension to communication – a positive dimension when used properly.	True	False	1	Page 17
20	When using a field microphone, the referee may not announce the number of the player who committed the foul.	True	False	2	Page 18
21	The head linesman should take care of the game ball after approval by the referee.	True	False	2	Page 11
22	The umpire shall coordinate the inspection of playing field and pylons.	True	False	2	Page 10
23	The referee notifies all other game officials when period-shortening procedures are in effect.	True	False	1	Page 17
24	The clock operator(s) should report to the game officials at the stadium at least 30 minutes before game time.	True	False	1	Page 12
25	Game officials should arrive at the site of the game at least 60 minutes before the scheduled game time.	True	False	2	Page 9
26	The head linesman should check the line-to-gain equipment and meet the crew before the game.	True	False	1	Page 9
27	In the pregame conference, the umpire should review starting time and be sure an auxiliary stopwatch, which records accumulated time, is available.	True	False	2	Page 10
28	Before the game, the umpire should accompany the referee as he/she visits with each head coach, and examine and rule on any player equipment about which the coach has a question of legality.	True	False	1	Page 9
29	Football game officials must have a football sense which supersedes the technical application of the rules so that the game goes smoothly.	True	False	1	Page 5
30	The head linesman shall furnish a clipping device for use in measuring first downs. Use of a second clip is recommended.	True	False	1	Page 9
31	The penalty marker shall be a light gold flag (30 inches x 30 inches) with a middle pouch weighted with sand or beans, etc.	True	False	2	Page 9

32	The game officials' appearance greatly affects the attitude of coaches, players and fans.	True	False	1	Page 8
33	Both arms crossed in front of the chest is the recommended crew communication signal for game officials to indicate 11 players in game when counting is complete.	True	False	2	Page 23
34	All game officials need to establish and maintain the same tempo throughout the game.	True	False	1	Page 18
35	While serving on the line-to-gain crew, the crew should refrain from using items that would distract them from their responsibilities (i.e., electronic devices).	True	False	1	Page 12
36	All game officials shall enter the field together at least 15 minutes before game time or at an earlier time if required by the state association.	True	False	2	Page 10
37	The game official must draw distinction between contact necessary to make a legal block or tackle, and that which targets defenseless players.	True	False	1	Page 7
38	Game officials who are familiar with the mechanics and understand their individual duties find the intangible requirements of good officiating usually follow naturally.	True	False	1	Page 5
39	Use of any replay or television monitoring equipment in making any decision related to the game is prohibited.	True	False	1	Page 9
40	The umpire, on a kickoff, if a short kick is anticipated, should be positioned on R's free-kick line.	True	False	1	Page 25
41	The referee, on a kickoff, before the kick, holds arm above his/her head to indicate he/she is ready.	True	False	2	Page 24
42	The umpire, on a kickoff, on a kick to his/her side, signals clock to start when the kick is touched, only if the ball is even or up field from the umpire.	True	False	1	Page 25
43	Before the kick on the kickoff, the umpire should count R players.	True	False	1	Page 25
44	The head linesman, on a kickoff, before the kick, should monitor bench area.	True	False	1	Page 25
45	The head linesman, on a kickoff, should maintain position-enabling coverage of the middle of the field.	True	False	2	Page 26
46	The head linesman, on a kickoff, on a kick to the opposite side of the field, should observe action of other players in vicinity of kicker.	True	False	2	Page 26
47	The head linesman should move cautiously with play along the sideline on a kick to the opposite side of field on a kickoff.	True	False	1	Page 26
48	The line judge, on a kickoff, should watch for any infractions involving K's free-kick line.	True	False	2	Page 26
49	The line judge, on a kickoff, if a short kick is anticipated, should observe legality of blocks and action away from the ball.	True	False	2	Page 26
50	After a kick on a kickoff, the line judge should be alert for first touching by K, and should mark spot with bean bag.	True	False	1	Page 26

51	After a kick on a kickoff, the line judge should be in position to take over coverage of runner in his/her area on long return.	True	False	1	Page 26
52	Before a kick on a kickoff, the back judge should take charge of the ball.	True	False	1	Page 27
53	The back judge, on a kickoff, should count R players.	True	False	2	Page 27
54	The back judge, on a kickoff, should be in position to take over coverage of the runner in his area on a long return.	True	False	1	Page 27
55	Before the kick on the kickoff, if the ball falls or blows off the tee, the back judge should not sound whistle to prevent action.	True	False	2	Page 27
56	Only the head linesman shall assist the referee with halftime intermission responsibilities.	True	False	2	Page 56
57	All game officials should leave the field together between halves.	True	False	1	Page 56
58	The umpire should signal time to start clock to time intermission.	True	False	2	Page 56
59	The back judge should secure the game ball, hand it to the kicker, and instruct him/her to wait for referee's signal before he/she kicks.	True	False	1	Page 27
60	The referee determines which team has choice for second half.	True	False	1	Page 56
61	All game officials should return to the field at least five minutes before the second half is to begin.	True	False	1	Page 56
62	Between halves, all game officials should discuss the overtime procedure, if applicable.	True	False	1	Page 56
63	Between periods, the head linesman quickly takes the ball to a corresponding point on the other half of field and reverses directions.	True	False	2	Page 56
64	Between periods, the line judge will check number of down and distance to gain.	True	False	2	Page 56
65	If play is in progress and time expires for the period, the horn should not be sounded.	True	False	1	Page 55
66	On a scrimmage kick out of bounds in flight, the referee lines up the covering official at the spot where the ball crossed the sideline by using an outstretched arm.	True	False	1	Page 43
67	During an injury time-out, the referee will summon appropriate health-care professional(s) and/or coaches onto the field.	True	False	1	Page 54
68	During an injury time-out, the head linesman makes sure summoned appropriate health-care professional(s) and/or coaches are not on the field for coaching purposes.	True	False	2	Page 54
69	The umpire will attempt to keep players a significant distance away from the seriously injured player(s) during an injury time-out.	True	False	2	Page 54
70	When time expires and ball becomes dead at the end of the period, the referee will sound whistle and repeat time-out signal twice.	True	False	1	Page 55

71	If the field clock is used and if time expires prior to the snap, the referee will sound his/her whistle to prevent snap, if possible.	True	False	1	Page 55
72	When the field clock is not used, the line judge will notify the referee approximately four minutes before the end of the second and fourth periods.	True	False	2	Page 55
73	If the ball is snapped immediately after time has expired at the end of the period, the head linesman will sound his/her whistle loud and long.	True	False	2	Page 55
74	During a time-out, the umpire will observe Team A until the referee is ready to start play.	True	False	1	Page 53
75	All game officials, during a time-out, should confirm number of remaining time-outs.	True	False	1	Page 54
76	The line judge, during a time-out, should time 60-second interval and notify referee at 45 seconds and again when 60-second interval expires.	True	False	2	Page 54
77	During a time-out, the umpire should maintain position over ball.	True	False	1	Page 53
78	The head linesman, during a time-out, should check number of time-outs remaining for each team.	True	False	2	Page 53
79	During a time-out, the referee will inform each team's huddle of down and time remaining in period.	True	False	1	Page 53
80	When measuring for a first down, the back judge will place foot just behind yard line where clip is to be placed to align linesman so that chains are parallel to sidelines.	True	False	2	Page 53
81	The referee, when measuring for a first down, will rotate the ball so the long axis is parallel to sideline.	True	False	1	Page 52
82	When measuring for a first down, the umpire will take the forward indicator from crew members at place of measurement.	True	False	1	Page 52
83	The head linesman will mark foremost point of ball for down-marker operator on all first downs.	True	False	1	Page 53
84	When measuring for a first down, the referee will spot the ball at the proper place when measurement is completed.	True	False	1	Page 52
85	In administering penalties, the line judge will make note of enforcement spot for penalty.	True	False	2	Page 50
86	Only the back judge, in administering penalties, will record unsportsmanlike penalties.	True	False	2	Page 51
87	The umpire will assist in relaying foul information to appropriate sideline.	True	False	2	Page 51
88	The head linesman should be ready to have line-to-gain equipment moved after penalty administration.	True	False	1	Page 50
89	When there is a double foul, the referee will signal each foul, facing the press box.	True	False	1	Page 49
90	After a safety, try or field goal, the back judge will begin timing one-minute interval after the head linesman signals score or no score.	True	False	2	Page 49

91	All game officials should hustle up sidelines to free-kick position and then fill out game cards after a safety, try or field goal.	True	False	1	Page 49
92	The referee, on a running play, should move behind play toward side of field to which play advances to cover runner if he/she is downed near line.	True	False	1	Page 36
93	On a running play, the umpire should check for disconcerting signals by B.	True	False	1	Page 36
94	The referee, on a running play, should assist with relay of ball in side zone from wing official to umpire.	True	False	2	Page 39
95	In an unbalanced formation, the strength of the formation is not determined by the number of eligible receivers outside of the offensive tackles.	True	False	2	Page 29
96	If motion occurs, the strength of the formation is not determined until the snap.	True	False	1	Page 29
97	The head linesman and umpire should be ready to adjust coverage if potential passer decides to run.	True	False	2	Page 41
98	The line-to-gain indicator shall be set to establish a 10-yard neutral zone before a field-goal attempt by free kick, after a fair catch or awarded fair catch.	True	False	1	Page 28
99	When the offensive formation shows trips to one side (three receivers), the back judge has the two outside receivers.	True	False	1	Page 32
100	The umpire should verbally alert defenders when passer has released the ball.	True	False	2	Page 40