

# Summary of penalties

Officials' signals (see pages 197 - 199), the numbers refer to numbered illustrations; R, Rule; S, Section; A, Article; P, Page. Where a signal is marked \*, the referee shall also give Signal 9.

## Index

		O	R	S	A	P
<b>LOSS OF A DOWN</b>						
1	Illegal scrimmage kick	31*	6	3	10	104
2	Illegally handing ball forward	35*	7	1	6	115
3	Planned loose ball play	19*	7	1	7	115
4	Intentionally throwing backward pass out of bounds	35*	7	2	1	116
5	Illegal forward pass by Team A	35*	7	3	2	117
6	Intentionally grounding forward pass	36*	7	3	2	117
7	Forward pass illegally touched by player out of bounds	16*	7	3	4	118
8	Illegally batting loose ball	31*	9	4	1	152
9	Illegally kicking ball	31*	9	4	4	153
<b>LOSS OF FIVE YARDS</b>						
1	Alteration of playing surface for an advantage	27	1	2	9	43
2	Improper numbering	23	1	4	2	46
3	Coin toss infractions	19	3	1	1	70
4	Illegal delay of game	21	3	4	2	83
5	Delay after three timeouts expended	21	3	4	2	83
6	Advancing a dead ball	21	3	4	2	83
7	Disconcerting offensive signals	21	3	4	2	83
8	Substitution rules infraction	22	3	5	2	85
9	Delay of game (substitutions)	21	3	5	2	85
10	More than 11 players in the formation or during the play	22	3	5	3	87
11	Putting ball in play before it is ready	19	4	1	4	91
12	Exceeding play clock count	21	4	1	5	91
13	Infraction of free kick formation	18, 19	6	1	2	97
14	Team B not behind restraining line	18	6	1	2	97
15	Player out of bounds when ball free-kicked	19	6	1	2	97
16	Team A player illegally goes out of bounds (free kick)	19	6	1	11	100
17	Team A blocking during a free kick	19	6	1	12	100
18	Free kick out of bounds [or 30-yard option]	19	6	2	1	100
19	Return kick	31	6	3	10	104
20	Illegal scrimmage kick (also loss of down)	31*	6	3	10	104
21	Marking spot of place kick	19	6	3	10	104
22	Team A player illegally goes out of bounds (scrimmage kick)	19	6	3	12	105
23	Defensive linemen 3-on-1 in field goal formation	19	6	3	14	106
24	Taking more than two steps after a fair catch	21	6	5	2	108
25	Illegal snap	19	7	1	1	111
26	Snapper's position and ball adjustment	19	7	1	3	112
27	Team A not within nine-yard marks after ready for play	19	7	1	3	112

**Index**

		<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
28	Encroachment (offense) at snap	19	7	1	3	112
29	False start or simulating start of a play	19	7	1	3	112
30	Player out of bounds when ball is snapped	19	7	1	4	113
31	Offensive player illegally in motion at the snap	20	7	1	4	114
32	Illegal formation	19	7	1	4	114
33	Illegal formation due to numbering exception	19	7	1	4	114
34	Illegal shift	20	7	1	4	114
35	Abrupt defensive actions	21	7	1	5	115
36	Interference with opponent or ball	18	7	1	5	115
37	Defensive player charging unabated toward a back	19	7	1	5	115
38	Offside (defense)	18	7	1	5	115
39	Defensive player out of bounds at snap	19	7	1	5	115
40	Illegally handing ball forward (also loss of down)	35*	7	1	6	115
41	Planned loose ball play (also loss of down)	19*	7	1	7	115
42	Intentionally throwing backward pass out of bounds (also loss of down)	35*	7	2	1	116
43	Player on scrimmage line receiving snap	19	7	2	3	116
44	Illegal forward pass by Team A (also loss of down)	35*	7	3	2	117
45	Ineligible receiver downfield	37	7	3	10	124
46	Forward pass illegally touched	16	7	3	11	125
47	Running into kicker or holder	30	9	1	16	143
48	Sideline-restraining line infraction (also 15 yards)	29	9	2	5	148
49	Interlocked interference or helping ball carrier	44	9	3	2	148

**LOSS OF 10 YARDS**

1	Home team delay	21	3	4	1	82
2	Illegal use of hands or arms (offense)	42	9	3	3	149
3	Locked hands	42	9	3	3	149
4	Holding or obstruction (offense)	42	9	3	3	149
5	Illegal block in the back (offense)	43	9	3	3	149
6	Holding or obstruction (defense)	42	9	3	4	151
7	Illegal use of hands (defense)	42	9	3	4	151
8	Illegal block in the back (defense)	43	9	3	4	151
9	Holding or obstruction (loose ball)	42	9	3	6	152
10	Illegally batting loose ball (also loss of down)	31*	9	4	1	152
11	Illegally batting a backward pass	31	9	4	2	153
12	Batting a ball in possession by player in possession	31	9	4	3	153
13	Illegally kicking ball (also loss of down)	31*	9	4	4	153
14	Game management delay of game	21	13	5	3	179
15	Field needs improvement delay of game	21	13	5	4	180

**LOSS OF 15 YARDS**

1	Marking ball	27	1	3	3	45
2	Numbers changed	27	1	4	2	46
3	Illegal signal devices (also disqualification)	27	1	4	10	50

**Index**

		<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
4	Team not ready to play at start of either half	21	3	4	1	82
5	Rapid substitution to opponent's disadvantage	27	3	5	2	86
6	Blocking a free kicker	40	6	1	9	99
7	Illegal wedge	27	6	1	10	100
8	Interference with opportunity to catch kick	33	6	4	1	106
9	Illegal block by fair catch signaller	40	6	5	4	109
10	Tackling or blocking fair catcher	38	6	5	5	110
11	Offensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	121
12	Defensive pass interference (first down)	33	7	3	8	122
13	Personal foul (first down)	38	9	1	0	135
14	Striking an opponent (first down)	38	9	1	2	135
15	Tripping (first down)	46	9	1	2	135
16	Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet (first down)	38	9	1	3	136
17	Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player (first down)	38	9	1	4	136
18	Clipping (first down)	39	9	1	5	137
19	Blocking below the waist (first down)	40	9	1	6	138
20	Late hit (first down)	38	9	1	7	139
21	Action out of bounds (first down)	38	9	1	7	139
22	Helmet/face mask fouls (first down)	38, 45	9	1	8	140
23	Roughing the passer (first down)	34	9	1	9	140
24	Chop blocking (first down)	41	9	1	10	141
25	Leverage/Leaping (first down)	38	9	1	11	141
26	Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play (first down)	38	9	1	12	141
27	Hurdling (first down)	38	9	1	13	142
28	Illegal contact against the snapper (first down)	38	9	1	14	142
29	Horse collar tackle (first down)	38, 31	9	1	15	142
30	Roughing kicker or holder (first down)	38, 30	9	1	16	143
31	Simulating roughed or run into	27	9	1	16	143
32	Blocking a free kicker	40	9	1	16	143
33	Unsportsmanlike conduct	27	9	2	1	144
34	Obscene or vulgar language	27	9	2	1	144
35	Persons illegally on the field	27	9	2	1	144
36	Engendering ill will	27	9	2	1	144
37	Persons illegally on the field	27	9	2	1	144
38	Player not returning ball to official	27	9	2	1	144
39	Persons leaving team area	27	9	2	1	145
40	Noise by persons subject to the rules	27	9	2	1	145
41	Concealing the ball	27	9	2	2	146
42	Simulated replacements or substitutions	27	9	2	2	146
43	Equipment to confuse opponents	27	9	2	2	146
44	Intentionally contacting an official (also disqualification)	27	9	2	4	147
45	Sideline-restraining line infraction (also 5 yards)	29	9	2	5	148
46	Continuous contact to opponent's helmet (first down)	38	9	3	4	151

Index		O	R	S	A	P
47	Defensive restrictions	27	9	3	5	151
48	Fighting [also disqualification] (first down)	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	153

**LOSS OF HALF DISTANCE TO GOAL LINE**

1	If distance penalty exceeds half the distance (except on defensive pass interference)	-	10	2	6	163
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**OFFENDED TEAM'S BALL AT SPOT OF FOUL****CHARGED TIMEOUT FOR A VIOLATION**

1	Illegal jersey numbers	23	1	4	5	48
2	Not wearing mandatory equipment	23	1	4	8	50
3	Wearing illegal equipment	23	1	4	8	50
4	Head coach's conference	21	3	3	4	79
5	Illegal cleats (also disqualification)	23	9	2	2	146
6	Head coach's challenge	21	12	5	1	171

**VIOLATION**

1	Illegal touching of free kick by kicking team	16	6	1	3	98
2	Illegal touching of scrimmage kick by kicking team	16	6	3	2	102
3	Scrimmage-kick-batting exception	16	6	3	11	104

**DISQUALIFICATION**

1	Prohibited signal devices	47	1	4	10	50
2	Flagrant fouls	47	9	1	1	135
3	Two unsportsmanlike fouls	47	9	2	1	144
4	Illegal cleats	23	9	2	2	146
5	Contacting an official	47	9	2	4	147
6	Fighting	47	9	5	1	153

**AUTOMATIC FIRST DOWNS (DEFENSIVE FOULS)**

1	Defensive pass interference	33	7	3	8	122
2	Personal foul	38	9	1	0	135
3	Striking an opponent	38	9	1	2	135
4	Tripping	46	9	1	2	135
5	Targeting/forcible contact with crown of helmet	38	9	1	3	136
6	Forcible contact to head/neck area of a defenseless player	38	9	1	4	136
7	Clipping	39	9	1	5	137
8	Blocking below the waist	40	9	1	6	138
9	Late hit	38	9	1	7	139
10	Action out of bounds	38	9	1	7	139
11	Helmet/face mask fouls	38, 45	9	1	8	140
12	Roughing the passer	34	9	1	9	140
13	Chop blocking	41	9	1	10	141
14	Leverage/Leaping	38	9	1	11	141
15	Fouling an opponent obviously out of the play	38	9	1	12	141

Index		O	R	S	A	P
16	Hurdling	38	9	1	13	142
17	Illegal contact against the snapper	38	9	1	14	142
18	Horse collar tackle	38, 31	9	1	15	142
19	Roughing kicker or holder	38, 30	9	1	16	143
20	Continuous contact to opponent's helmet	38	9	3	4	151
21	Fighting [also disqualification]	27, 38, 47	9	5	1	153

### REFEREE'S DISCRETION

1	Penalty for unfair acts	-	9	2	3	147
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### WHEN IN QUESTION RULES

1	Block below waist	-	2	3	2	53
2	Chop block	-	2	3	3	53
3	Block in the back	-	2	3	4	53
4	Catch, recovery or interception not completed	-	2	4	3	54
5	Ball accidentally touched rather than batted	-	2	11	3	57
6	Ball not touched on kick or forward pass	-	2	11	4	57
7	Ball is accidentally kicked (touched)	-	2	16	1	59
8	Forward pass rather than backward pass	-	2	19	2	61
9	Forward pass and not fumble	-	2	19	2	61
10	It is a catchable forward pass	-	2	19	4	61
11	Stop clock for injured player	-	3	3	5	79
12	Forward progress stopped	-	4	1	3	90
13	Kick-catch interference	-	6	4	1	106
14	It is a catchable forward pass	-	7	3	8	121
15	Touchback rather than safety	-	8	5	1	131
16	Forcible contact and targeting defenseless opponent at or above the shoulders	-	9	1	3	136
17	Twisting, turning or pulling face mask (helmet opening)	-	9	1	8	140
18	Roughing kicker rather than running into	-	9	1	16	143

### REPORT TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY

1	Field markings inadequate	-	1	2	1	39
2	Limit lines or coaching lines inadequate	-	1	2	3	40
3	Team area inadequate	-	1	2	4	40
4	Goals inadequate	-	1	2	5	41
5	Coaches agree to play without goals	-	1	2	5	42
6	Pylons inadequate	-	1	2	6	42
7	Line-to-gain or down indicator inadequate	-	1	2	7	42
8	Sideline markers inadequate	-	1	2	8	43
9	Field surface inadequate	-	1	2	9	43
10	Balls inadequate	-	1	3	2	45
11	Colour of jerseys clash	-	1	4	5	48
12	Prohibited field equipment used	-	1	4	11	51
13	Playing time shortened due to darkness	-	3	2	1	73
14	Persons removed from the field	-	9	2	7	148

**Index**

		<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
15	Changing room inadequate	-	13	2	1	175
16	Security inadequate	-	13	2	2	175
17	Clock malfunction	-	13	3	3	176
18	Officials' assistants provided later than 30 minutes before kickoff	-	13	4	1	178
19	Bad weather	-	13	5	6	180
20	Game abandoned	-	13	5	8	181
21	Game suspended for more than 5 minutes	-	13	5	9	181
22	Unauthorised access to officials' changing room	-	13	6	1	182
23	Public address announcer infraction	-	13	6	2	182

**COMPETITIONS MAY APPLY SANCTIONS**

1	One or both sidelines is incomplete	-	1	2	1	39
2	One or both goal lines is incomplete	-	1	2	1	39
3	One or both end lines is incomplete	-	1	2	1	39
4	One or more yard lines across the field at least every 10 yards is incomplete	-	1	2	1	39
5	One or more yard lines across the field every 5 yards is incomplete	-	1	2	1	39
6	The hash marks are incomplete	-	1	2	1	39
7	The short yard-line extensions at the sideline are incomplete	-	1	2	1	39
8	Absence of any mandatory marking (sideline, end line, goal line, yard lines at 5-yard intervals, hash marks)	-	1	2	1	39
9	End zones smaller than 7 yards or bigger than 13 yards in depth, or where the end zones are not of equal size	-	1	2	1	39
10	Field of play less than 90 yards in length or not a multiple of 10 yards	-	1	2	1	39
11	Field of play not 160 feet in width	-	1	2	1	39
12	White field markings closer than four feet to an end zone line	-	1	2	1	39
13	Absence of nine-yard marks if the field is not numbered according to Rule 1-2-1-j	-	1	2	1	39
14	Game management fail to enforce rule regarding persons outside the team area	-	1	2	3	40
15	Limit lines closer than six feet to any boundary line	-	1	2	3	40
16	Absence of coaching line, team area markings, or team area not marked to 25-yard lines	-	1	2	4	40
17	Media personnel in team area or coaching box	-	1	2	4	40
18	Persons in team area not wearing proper credentials	-	1	2	4	40
19	Game management failure to remove unauthorised persons from team area	-	1	2	4	40
20	Practice kicking nets outside the team area (except where permitted)	-	1	2	4	40
21	Goal posts inbounds	-	1	2	5	41

**Index**

		<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
22	Uprights less than 20 feet in height	-	1	2	5	41
23	Crossbar not 10 feet above ground	-	1	2	5	41
24	Goal not 18 feet six inches wide	-	1	2	5	42
25	Goal not in plane of end line	-	1	2	5	42
26	Decorative material on the posts or crossbar (other than streamers)	-	1	2	5	42
27	Padding on goal posts absent or less than six feet in height	-	1	2	5	42
28	One or both goals missing or taken down	-	1	2	5	42
29	Illegal pylons that had to be removed	-	1	2	6	42
30	Rods not of minimum height or not with flat ends	-	1	2	7	42
31	Repeated breakages of the line-to-gain or down indicators	-	1	2	7	42
32	Failure to provide line-to-gain or down indicators	-	1	2	7	42
33	Markers that are not constructed and/or placed to avoid hazard and had to be removed	-	1	2	8	43
34	Trip hazard(s)	-	1	2	9	43
35	Markings or facilities inadequate for game to proceed	-	1	2	9	43
36	Home team provides fewer than three legal balls	-	1	3	2	45
37	No towels are provided when conditions warrant it	-	1	3	2	45
38	Balls do not have white stripes	-	1	3	2	45
39	Both teams are playing in the same predominant jersey colour	-	1	4	5	48
40	Players of a team not wearing jerseys of the same colour and design	-	1	4	5	48
41	Prohibited field equipment used	-	1	4	11	51
42	Prohibited media equipment used	-	1	4	11	51
43	Artificial sound amplification used	-	1	4	11	51
44	Recording opponent's signals	-	1	4	11	51
45	Minimum medical requirement not met	-	13	1	1	174
46	Changing rooms not provided, not separate, not large enough, or without seating	-	13	2	1	175
47	Changing rooms not secured	-	13	2	2	175
48	Stadium clock malfunctions or operator is inadequate	-	13	3	3	176
49	Officials' assistants under age 14	-	13	4	1	178
50	Fewer than minimum number of assistants provided	-	13	4	1	178
51	Officials' assistants provided later than 30 minutes before kickoff	-	13	4	1	178
52	Unauthorised access to officials' changing room	-	13	6	1	182
53	Infractions by public address announcers	-	13	6	2	182
54	BAFA game requirements not met	-	13	9	6	185

**GAME CANNOT PROCEED RULES**

1	Inadequate field markings	-	1	2	1	39
2	Goal posts inbounds	-	1	2	5	41
3	Trip hazards	-	1	2	9	43
4	Markings and facilities inadequate for game to proceed	-	1	2	9	43

**Index**

		<b>O</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>
5	Medical facilities inadequate for game to proceed	-	13	1	1	174
6	Officials' assistants inadequate	-	13	4	1	178
7	Circumstances do not permit play to proceed	-	13	5	1	179
8	Number of officials below minimum	-	13	5	5	180
9	Any appointed official not present or becomes incapacitated	-	13	5	5	180
10	BAFA game requirements not met	-	13	9	6	185

**Summary of foul codes**

By code:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>	
ATR	Assisting the runner	NEW
BAT	Illegal batting	
DEH	Holding, defense	NEW
DOD	Delay of game, defense	
DOF	Offside, defense	
DOG	Delay of game, offense	
DPI	Pass interference, defense	
DSQ	Disqualification	
ENC	Encroachment (offense)	
EQV	Equipment violation	
FGT	Fighting	
FST	False start	
IBB	Illegal block in the back	
IBP	Illegal backward pass	NEW
IDP	Ineligible downfield on pass	
IFD	Illegal formation, defense (3-on-1)	NEW
IFH	Illegal forward handing	NEW
IFK	Illegal free kick formation	
IFP	Illegal forward pass	
IKB	Illegally kicking ball	
ILF	Illegal formation	
ILM	Illegal motion	
ILP	Illegal participation	
ILS	Illegal substitution	
ING	Intentional grounding	
ISH	Illegal shift	
ISP	Illegal snap	
ITP	Illegal touching of a forward pass	
IUH	Illegal use of hands	RENEWED
IWK	Illegal wedge on kickoff	
KCI	Kick catch interference	
KIK	Illegal kick	
KOB	Free kick out of bounds	
OFH	Holding, offense	
OFK	Offside, kicking team	
OPI	Pass interference, offense	

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>	
PF/BOB	Personal foul, blocking out of bounds	
PF/BBW	Personal foul, blocking below the waist	
PF/BTH	Personal foul, blow to the head	
PF/CHB	Personal foul, chop block	
PF/CLP	Personal foul, clipping	
PF/FMM	Personal foul, face mask	
PF/HCT	Personal foul, horse collar tackle	
PF/HDR	Personal foul, hit on defenseless receiver	
PF/HTF	Personal foul, hands to the face	
PF/HUR	Personal foul, hurdling	
PF/ICS	Personal foul, illegal contact with snapper	
PF/LEA	Personal foul, leaping	
PF/LEV	Personal foul, leverage	
PF/LTO	Personal foul, late hit out of bounds	
PF/LTP	Personal foul, late hit/piling on	
PF/RFK	Personal foul, roughing free kicker	
PF/RPS	Personal foul, roughing the passer	
PF/RRK	Personal foul, roughing the kicker/holder	
PF/SKE	Personal foul, striking/kneeling/elbowing	
PF/TGT	Personal foul, targeting	NEW
PF/TRP	Personal foul, tripping	
PF/UNR	Personal foul, other unnecessary roughness	
RNH	Running into the kicker/holder	
SLI	Sideline interference, 5 yards	
SLM	Sideline interference, 15 yards	
UC/ABL	Unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language	
UC/BCH	Unsportsmanlike conduct, bench	
UC/DEA	Unsportsmanlike conduct, delayed/excessive act	
UC/FCO	Forcibly contacting an official	NEW
UC/RHT	Unsportsmanlike conduct, removal of helmet	
UC/STB	Unsportsmanlike conduct, spiking/throwing ball	
UC/TAU	Unsportsmanlike conduct, taunting/baiting	
UC/UNS	Unsportsmanlike conduct, other	
UFT	Unfair tactics	

By foul:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>	
ATR	Assisting the runner	NEW
DOD	Delay of game, defense	
DOG	Delay of game, offense	
DSQ	Disqualification	
ENC	Encroachment (offense)	
EQV	Equipment violation	
FST	False start	
FGT	Fighting	
UC/FCO	Forcibly contacting an official	NEW
KOB	Free kick out of bounds	
DEH	Holding, defense	NEW

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>	
OFH	Holding, offense	
IBP	Illegal backward pass	NEW
BAT	Illegal batting	
IBB	Illegal block in the back	
ILF	Illegal formation	
IFD	Illegal formation, defense (3-on-1)	NEW
IFH	Illegal forward handing	NEW
IFP	Illegal forward pass	
IFK	Illegal free kick formation	
KIK	Illegal kick	
IKB	Illegally kicking ball	
ILM	Illegal motion	
ILP	Illegal participation	
ISH	Illegal shift	
ISP	Illegal snap	
ILS	Illegal substitution	
ITP	Illegal touching of a forward pass	
IUH	Illegal use of hands	RENEWED
IWK	Illegal wedge on kickoff	
IDP	Ineligible downfield on pass	
ING	Intentional grounding	
KCI	Kick catch interference	
DOF	Offside, defense	
OFK	Offside, kicking team	
DPI	Pass interference, defense	
OPI	Pass interference, offense	
PF/BBW	Personal foul, blocking below the waist	
PF/BOB	Personal foul, blocking out of bounds	
PF/BTH	Personal foul, blow to the head	
PF/CHB	Personal foul, chop block	
PF/CLP	Personal foul, clipping	
PF/FMM	Personal foul, face mask	
PF/HTF	Personal foul, hands to the face	
PF/HDR	Personal foul, hit on defenseless receiver	
PF/HCT	Personal foul, horse collar tackle	
PF/HUR	Personal foul, hurdling	
PF/ICS	Personal foul, illegal contact with snapper	
PF/LTO	Personal foul, late hit out of bounds	
PF/LTP	Personal foul, late hit/piling on	
PF/LEA	Personal foul, leaping	
PF/LEV	Personal foul, leverage	
PF/UNR	Personal foul, other unnecessary roughness	
PF/RFK	Personal foul, roughing free kicker	
PF/RRK	Personal foul, roughing the kicker/holder	
PF/RPS	Personal foul, roughing the passer	
PF/SKE	Personal foul, striking/kneeing/elbowing	
PF/TGT	Personal foul, targeting	NEW
PF/TRP	Personal foul, tripping	

<b>Code</b>	<b>Foul</b>
RNH	Running into the kicker/holder
SLI	Sideline interference, 5 yards
SLM	Sideline interference, 15 yards
UFT	Unfair tactics
UC/ABL	Unsportsmanlike conduct, abusive language
UC/BCH	Unsportsmanlike conduct, bench
UC/DEA	Unsportsmanlike conduct, delayed/excessive act
UC/UNS	Unsportsmanlike conduct, other
UC/RHT	Unsportsmanlike conduct, removal of helmet
UC/STB	Unsportsmanlike conduct, spiking/throwing ball
UC/TAU	Unsportsmanlike conduct, taunting/baiting