

The Kicking Game

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What can be said about kicking downs that affect the FJ

Position, mechanics and duties are all different from scrimmage downs

Kicks are more likely on fourth down, thus, don't forget to give signal 19

There are typically substitutions prior to a scrimmage kick

We must count players and confirm number of defensive players before the snap

The kicking team can **NEVER** advance a kick

We probably need a new ball after a kick down ends

No one from team A or B can block below the waist during a kick down

We must know what was the impetus that caused the kick to go into the EZ

If a live ball is caught or recovered in the EZ, is it a touch back, safety, TD, still alive?

If a kicked ball threatens a pylon, you **MUST** be there to make a ruling

Kicked ball is not considered to be in the end zone until it touches the ground in the end zone

When is it a foul when a kicking team player goes out of bounds on their own?

When any kick down ends, stop the clock. Help with new timing rule if B gets a first down

When does a kick play become a running play? Must know for penalty enforcement purposes

Don't forget the fumble rule for a try down or fourth down

FJ involvement for free kicks

No concern for position of team B players other than they must be behind their restraining line

New 2006 rule requires us to wind the clock when the ball meets the foot

Which kicking team players you are initially watching and for how long?

You must know when a team B player can be blocked by a team A player

You must know when the kicker can be blocked by a team B player

How far do you go downfield after the kick is made?

You have opposite goal line coverage when there is a long return run

You must know when there will be a possible on-side kick attempt (have beanbag in hand)

Check with SJ before game, who watches touching, who watches blocking for on-side kick

FJ involvement for punts

At what yard line will you initially line up at the pylon (confirm this in pregame)

After snap, your primary focus is on the gunner, what he does and what is done to him

Mechanics when BJ faces you or faces away from you near goal line

Do you ever use your beanbag to mark illegal touching or end of kick?

Help observe which team first touched punt downfield and if there was forced touching

You have runner's forward progress for punt return (square off and stop at even yard line)

You must know all the ingredients of a PSK foul. If so, report it as a PSK foul to Referee

Help crew to remember new 2006 rule to tact on 5 yards to where the punt return ended

FJ involvement for tries and field goals

Anticipate that a field goal or a kick try will be attempted so you can get under the goal posts

Don't be under goal post if team A lines up in a regular scrimmage formation

Talk to BJ in the pregame so the two of you are in sync when giving good or no good signal

What do you do and where do you go when there is a fake attempt or blocked kick?

(ball snapped inside or outside what yard line to determine what mechanic to use)

Must know when a kick is alive or dead when it hits in the EZ

Can the kick touch a team A or B player before going over the crossbar and between uprights?