



## Umpire Mechanics Test

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>KEY:</b> R - Referee; U - Umpire; L - Linesman; LJ - Line Judge; BJ - Back Judge; LOS - Line of Scrimmage; NZ - Neutral Zone; LTG - Line To Gain; OOB - Out of Bounds; GL - Goal Line; A - Offensive Player; B - Defensive Player; K - Kicking Team; R - Receiving Team</p>
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**True/False**    **Directions: Place a “T” for True or an “F” for False in the space provided.**

### **Pre-Game Responsibilities**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. For varsity contests, officials should arrive at least 1 ½ hrs. before scheduled game time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. A pre-game conference is optional.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The U has primary responsibility for instructing the ball persons.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Prior to the start of the game, the head coach shall be responsible for verifying to the R in the presence of the U, that all of his players are legally equipped and in compliance with the rules.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. No player shall participate while wearing illegal equipment. This applies to any equipment, which in the opinion of the umpire is dangerous, confusing or inappropriate.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The Umpire has authority to declare equipment illegal if he determines it is inappropriate equipment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Only legal game balls, approved by the Referee, may be used during a contest.

### **Free-Kicks: Kick-Offs**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. On a kickoff, the U should position himself on R’s 20 yd. line opposite side of the L.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. The U is also responsible for counting R.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. If an on-side kick is anticipated, the U will move to R’s free-kick line.

- \_\_\_\_\_11. On a kick out-of-bounds, untouched by R, the nearest official must throw his flag.
- \_\_\_\_\_12. On a free-kick following a safety, all officials assume same relative positions and responsibilities as they would for a free-kick after a try-for-point.
- \_\_\_\_\_13. On pooch kicks towards his sideline, the U must cover the catch and watch for Fair Catch and Fair Catch infractions.

### **Scrimmage Kicks: Punts**

- \_\_\_\_\_14. There is no provision in the NFHS football rules for a player with an ineligible number to report to the Referee and become eligible.
- \_\_\_\_\_15. On scrimmage kick formations, the U is responsible for action on the snapper.
- \_\_\_\_\_16. After the snap, the U should step toward the neutral zone and be alert for roughing the snapper.
- \_\_\_\_\_17. Following the punt, the U should pivot to observe blocks and move toward return area observing players away from the ball.

### **Prior To The Snap**

- \_\_\_\_\_18. The U is responsible for illegal snaps.
- \_\_\_\_\_19. On scrimmage plays, the R/U are responsible for counting the offense, while the BJ/LJ are responsible for counting the defense.
- \_\_\_\_\_20. Each official should be responsible for: Down, Distance, LTG, and Clock Status.
- \_\_\_\_\_21. The U may rule on a false start by a restricted lineman.
- \_\_\_\_\_22. The U should not rule on encroachment by either the offense or the defense.
- \_\_\_\_\_23. The U should verify 5 players numbered 50-79 on the offensive line and ineligible receivers.

### **Running Plays**

- \_\_\_\_\_24. The U should always find one position and remain there so defensive players know where he is.
- \_\_\_\_\_25. After the snap the U should key the center and guards. If they block aggressively, then read run. If they pass block, then read pass.
- \_\_\_\_\_26. The U is not responsible for reading the point of attack.

## **Forward Progress**

- \_\_\_\_\_27. When a runner's forward progress has been stopped and he is being driven backwards or sideways, a fumble may still occur if B "strips" the ball from A.
- \_\_\_\_\_28. Forward progress is determined by the wings. The primary whistle should come from either the L or LJ.

## **Pass Plays**

- \_\_\_\_\_29. The U assists the R to determine whether the passer's feet were in or behind the neutral zone when the ball is released.
- \_\_\_\_\_30. On pass plays the U should remain 5 -7 beyond the expanded neutral zone.
- \_\_\_\_\_31. On passes over the middle, the U will turn with the ball and assist in ruling on completion.

## **Goal Line Mechanics**

- \_\_\_\_\_32. The U should refrain from giving the Touchdown signal.

## **Penalty Administration & Enforcement**

- \_\_\_\_\_33. There are only two types of plays: loose ball plays and running plays.
- \_\_\_\_\_34. On the first sideline warning, the covering official sounds whistle, drops penalty marker, gives proper signal, then reports infraction to referee.
- \_\_\_\_\_35. The L is primarily responsible for and proceeds to the succeeding spot.

## **Overtime**

- \_\_\_\_\_36. Unused 2<sup>nd</sup> half time-outs may not be carried over into an overtime period. Each team will start the overtime period with one (1) time out.

## **Inadvertent Whistle**

- \_\_\_\_\_37. One of the keys to avoiding inadvertent whistles is to avoid blowing the whistle unless the ball can be actually seen in possession of a runner who is down or forward progress stopped..

## **Recommended Crew Communication Signals & Mechanics**

- \_\_\_\_\_38. After the ball is spotted, remain over the ball until the R gives the Read For Play Signal or released by the R.
- \_\_\_\_\_39. Signal: Fist at (slightly above) shoulder level – This signal indicates of 11 players on offense or defense when counting complete.
- \_\_\_\_\_40. False Start Signal – Used to communicate between R & U that this play requires protection for snapper in accordance with the rules.

**Questions #'s 41 - 50 Penalty Enforcement Yardage Summary**

In the place provided, place a 5, 10 or 15 for the appropriate loss of yardage for penalty enforcement. In addition, if the penalty includes Loss of Down, place: LOD in the space provided also.

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|---|---|
| _____ 41. Illegal block below waist                       | _____ 46. Invalid or illegal fair-catch signal    |
| _____ 42. Illegal Substitution                            | _____ 47. Illegal touching                        |
| _____ 43 Clipping   | _____ 48. Intentional Grounding                   |
| _____ 44. Illegal block in the back                       | _____ 49. Kick-catching interference              |
| _____ 45. Sideline interference (2 <sup>nd</sup> offense) | _____ 50. Ineligible receiver illegally downfield |