



RULE 5

WHOSE BALL IS IT?

WHAT DOWN IS IT?



Our Mission

- ▶ Go over key parts of rule 5



5-1-1 Series

- ▶ A series of downs consists of 4 consecutively numbered downs
 - They are numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4 (1-1-2)
 - That means that all new series start with down #1
 - Fundamental II.6: No series can **ever** start on a down other than 1st down
- ▶ For each new series, there is a new line to gain (LTG)
 - 2-26-5: Normally 10 yards from the foremost point of the ball when placed for the 1st down of the series
 - 2-26-5: If the LTG extends into the end zone, the goal line is the LTG



5-1-2a: Awarding a New Series

- ▶ After a 1st, 2nd or 3rd down:
 - Take into account any act during the down, other than non-player or USC fouls by A, and any dead ball foul by B
 - Example: 5.1.2C: A 3/10 @ B-40. A1 gains 10 yards and is downed @ B-30. A2 taunts B1 during the run.
 - Ruling: Since the live-ball action gave A a new series, the LTG shall be established after A is penalized for A2's USC. A 1/10 @ B-45.



5-1-2b: Awarding a New Series

- ▶ After a 4th down:
 - Take into account any act during the down, other than non-player or USC fouls
 - Example: 5.1.2D: A 4/5 @ B-20. A1 is downed @ B-16. During the down, B's coach is on the field arguing with a game official. After the down, A1 uses profanity.
 - Ruling: Since A did not gain a 1st down on the 4th down run by A1, B has a new series. Enforcement of the penalties for the foul on the coach of B and on A1, B 1/10 @ B-23. (B-16, half the distance to B-8, then 15 to B-23). The LTG is established and the equipment set following the administration of the last penalty.



5-1-3 Awarding a New Series

Award a new series to:	If the following occurs:
A	The ball belongs to A beyond the LTG
B	The ball belongs to B at the end of any down
B	At the end of 4 th down, the ball belongs to A behind the LTG
Team in possession at the end of the down	There is a change of team possession during the down, unless the penalty is accepted for a non-PSK foul which occurred before the change of possession (example: A 4/10 @ A-10. A illegal shift, A punts, B fair catch @ 50).
R	K legally kicks during any scrimmage down and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ball is recovered by R The ball is in joint possession of opponents Goes out of bounds Becomes dead with no player in possession



5-1-3 Awarding a New Series

Award a new series to:	If the following occurs:
Team in possession at the end of the down	R is the first to touch a scrimmage kick while it is beyond the ENZ, unless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The penalty is accepted for a non-PSK foul which occurred before the kick ended or 6-2-7 applies, in which case R gets a new series: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kick goes out of bounds Kick becomes dead with no player in possession Kick becomes dead in joint possession of opponents
R at the spot of 1 st touching by K*	K is first to touched the kicked ball beyond the ENZ before it is touched beyond the ENZ by R and before it has come to rest

*The right of R to take the ball @ the spot of 1st touching is cancelled if:
 R touches the kick, and then commits a foul; or
 The penalty is accepted for any foul committed during the down



5-1-5 Awarding a New Series (Free Kicks)

Award a new series to:	If the following occurs:
R @ the inbounds spot	R touches the kicked ball before it goes out of bounds
Team in possession when the down ends	The ball is recovered beyond R's free kick line with no 1 st touching by K
R @ the spot of recovery	K recovers the kicked ball before it travels the 10 yards to R's free-kick line and before R has touched the ball
R	There is joint possession of a recovered kick
R @ the spot of 1 st touching*	K is the first to touch the kicked ball before it has gone 10 yards

*The right of R to take the ball @ the spot of 1st touching is cancelled if:
 R touches the kick, and then commits a foul; or
 The penalty is accepted for any foul committed during the down



5-2-1: Downs & Penalties

- ▶ When a penalty is declined, the number of the next down is the same as if the foul had not occurred
 - A 4/5 @ B-20. A1 runs to B-16 and is downed. A2 held @ B-20. B declines the penalty. RULING: We ignore the foul, so A is in possession behind the LTG at the end of 4th down. B 1/10 @ B-16.
- ▶ When a double foul occurs during a down, the number of the next down is the same as that of the down in which the foul occurred
 - A 2/10 @ A-20. Prior to A1's legal forward pass, A2 holds B3. While the ball is in flight, B4 commits defensive pass interference. The pass falls incomplete. RULING: Double foul. Repeat A 2/10.
- ▶ After a distance penalty, the ball belongs to the team in possession at the time of the foul unless the foul is a PSK foul. Team possession may then change if a new series is awarded.



5-2-2: Downs & Penalties

- ▶ When a foul occurs during a scrimmage down, and
- ▶ Before any change of team possession, and
- ▶ Before a receiver commits 1st touching of a scrimmage kick,
 - The ball belongs to A or K after enforcement unless it is a PSK foul.
 - The number of the next down is the same as that of the down during which the foul occurred unless:
 - Penalty acceptance includes a first down or loss of down, or
 - Enforcement or the advance results in a first down
- ▶ **Loss of down aspect of a penalty has no significance following a change of possession or if the LTG is reached after enforcement.**



5-2-3 Downs & Penalties

- ▶ When a foul occurs prior to a scrimmage down, or simultaneously with the snap, the number of the next down after enforcement is the same as the number before the foul occurred, unless enforcement for a B foul results in a 1st down
 - A 2/5 @ A-20. A1 commits a false start prior to the snap.
 - RULING: A 2/10 @ A-15.
 - A 2/5 @ A-20. B1 encroaches prior to the snap.
 - RULING: A 1/10 @ A-25.



5-2-4 Downs & Penalties

- ▶ When a foul occurs prior to or during a free kick down and
- ▶ Before any change of team possession,
- ▶ The down which follows enforcements is a free kick down, unless
 - Following a fair catch or an awarded fair catch, a scrimmage down is chosen for the replay
- ▶ K kickoff @ K-40. K1 encroaches.
 - RULING: R's choices: K kickoff @ K-35 or K kickoff @ K-40.



5-2-5 End of a Series

- ▶ Following a foul, a series of downs ends when:
 - The acceptance of the penalty includes the award of a 1st down (OPI's Hand Pass Touches the Ground)
 - Acceptance or declination of any penalty leaves A in possession beyond the LTG
 - Declination of any penalty leaves A in possession behind the line to gain after 4th down
 - Declination of any penalty leaves B in possession
 - Acceptance or declination for any foul which occurs after a change in team possession during the down
 - R is the first to touch a scrimmage kick while it is beyond the neutral zone, unless a non-PSK foul occurs before the kick ends and the penalty is accepted
 - Acceptance of a penalty on 4th down which carries a loss of down leaves A in possession behind the LTG



5-3 LTG

- ▶ LTG is established when a new series is awarded
- ▶ Unless there is a penalty following the RFP, the LTG is 10 yards in advance of the foremost point of the ball when placed for the first down of the new series (2-26-5, 5-3-1).
- ▶ Penalties for all fouls, including non-player and USC fouls, committed prior to the RFP shall be administered before the LTG is established
- ▶ Once established, the LTG remains fixed until the series ends and a new LTG is established (5-3-1).
- ▶ If the LTG extends into the end zone, the LTG is the goal line (2-26-5).



5-3 Measurements

- ▶ Referee may call for the linesman to bring the official LTG equipment (the chains) onto the field for a measurement.
- ▶ Measurement will be parallel to the sideline
- ▶ The inside edge of the forward rod marks the LTG
- ▶ A captain may request a measurement, but it may be denied if the Referee is of the opinion that it is obvious the LTG has or has not been reached



5-4 Ball Coming Out of the End Zone

- ▶ If any part of the ball is in the end zone, it is in the end zone: that is good both ways
- ▶ So, if A has the ball, and they are coming out of their own end zone, A has to make sure the whole ball is across the goal line or it is a safety



Our Mission

- ▶ Go over key parts of rule 5