



# ROUGHING THE KICKER: WEEK #2 SITUATION

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# SITUATION

- ▶ A 4/10 @ B-23.
- ▶ A lines up for a field goal attempt, kicker A1 is @ B-30.
- ▶ Snap is good, kick is away, when the nose guard (B64...on the line of scrimmage), puts his hand up and tips the ball (seen by the BJ who is under the post) and not the R.
- ▶ After the kick is away, B78 makes hard contact with the A1, and the R has a flag for Roughing the Kicker. The crew gets together to discuss the tip and the contact/roughing.



# RULE REVIEW: 9-4-5

- ▶ **Running into or roughing the kicker or holder.** A defensive player shall...[not] block, tackle or charge into the kicker of a scrimmage kick, or the place-kick holder, other than when
  - a) Contact is unavoidable because it is not reasonably certain that a kick will be made.
  - b) The defense touches the kick **near the kicker and contact is unavoidable.**
  - c) Contact is slight and is partially caused by movement of the kicker.
  - d) Contact is cause by R being blocked into the kicker or holder by K.



# CASE BOOK REVIEW: 9.4.5A

- ▶ K1 punts and R1 touches and partially blocks the kick. R2 does not touch the ball, but firmly contacts K1.
- ▶ RULING: If R1 partially blocked the kick near the kicker/holder and R2 was near the kicker/holder at the time R1 touched the ball and R2 had already started his charge at the time the kick was touched, there would be no foul as a result of the contact by R2, unless it was unnecessarily rough.



# CASE BOOK REVIEW: 9.4.5A

- ▶ COMMENT: The defense is responsible to avoid the kicker/holder whenever possible. In any situation, if the defense is to be excused for contacting the kicker/holder as a result of touching the kick, the ball must be touched near the spot of the kick.



# SPIRIT OF THE RULE

- ▶ It is to allow B players to make a good faith effort to block the kick
- ▶ It is recognized that sometimes, when they do block the kick, there may then be contact with the kicker/holder
- ▶ The exception was put in the rule to allow the defense to make that block, however, “near the spot of the kick” means players who are in the offensive backfield, within a step or so from the kicker/holder.
- ▶ A tip near the line of scrimmage does not have any impact on a roughing the kicker/holder call.



# THE NEXT STEP: PIAA 2011 PRE-SEASON BULLETIN

- ▶ Officials are cautioned to the handling of a player vomiting
  - The reasons for this can be numerous and it is not an immediate indicator of a serious injury
  - If a player is vomiting and this is seen by an official, it would be prudent to request the team's sideline/medical personnel take a look at this player before any official renders a decision on the player's health status
- ▶ Allow the medical staff to do what they are trained to do and stay out of making decisions on players of which officials have limited knowledge and history



# CONCLUSIONS

- ▶ Vomiting, if by a player on the field, is something that we just call a time out for, and we treat the player as “injured”
- ▶ We are cautioned about “making medical decisions”





# CURRENTLY

- ▶ “Nausea or vomiting” is listed as one of the 20 “Common Signs and Symptoms of Concussion”
- ▶ If you see a player on the field vomiting:
  - Call time out
  - Have the medical staff/trainer deal with the player
  - Consider the player to be injured, meaning that he must sit out one down
  - Since we have brought his condition to the attention of the medical staff, we have fulfilled our obligation
  - We should note on our game cards that we had the player taken out of the game for injury