

The Official National Collegiate Athletic Association

**2000
FOOTBALL
STATISTICIANS'
MANUAL**

*Including Special Interpretations
and Approved Rulings
Covering Unusual Situations*



THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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2000 RULES CHANGES

The NCAA Football Rules Committee approved rules changes for the 2000 season designed to protect defensive players from potentially harmful blocks and to curb offenses from gaining an advantage over defenses through the use of substitution practices.

The committee conducted its annual meeting February 14-15 in Indianapolis.

One of the approved changes expands the definition of an illegal block to include any high-low, low-high or low-low combination block by any two offensive players when the initial contact clearly occurs beyond the neutral zone. Previously, such a block could have been considered legal if the contacts were simultaneous.

The committee also approved changes regarding blocking below the waist by offensive players set wide in a formation or in motion. Previously, offensive players positioned more than seven yards in any direction from the middle offensive line-man at the snap, or in motion toward the ball at the snap, were prohibited from blocking below the waist toward the original position of the ball, commonly referred to as a crack-back block, behind the neutral zone and within five yards beyond the neutral zone.

Now, the prohibition includes offensive players in motion in any direction at the snap, and the area in which such a block is illegal increased to include the neutral zone and 10 yards beyond.

"These two changes are evidence of the importance the committee, and the NCAA as a whole, places on student-athlete safety," said committee Chair Chris Ault, athletics director at the University of Nevada. "Defensive players often do not see opponents preparing to deliver these kinds of blocks, which can leave them in a most vulnerable position."

Offensive teams, while in the process of substitution or simulated substitution, are now prohibited from rushing quickly to the line of scrimmage and snapping the ball with the obvious attempt to create a defensive disadvantage.

The first time officials detect such an action, play will be stopped when the ball is snapped and the offending team will be penalized five yards for delay of game. In addition, the head coach will be warned that any further use of the tactic will result in a stoppage of play and a 15-yard penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct.

"More offenses are using multiple substitutions, and those substitutes are coming onto the field just before the snap, which is not within the spirit of the rules," Ault said. "Defenses were at a distinct disadvantage because they had little opportunity to make necessary adjustments."

We anticipate that having the possibility of being penalized will encourage offenses to abide by the spirit of the rules and eliminate such last-second personnel changes."

Among the other rules approved by the committee are:

- Allowing any two defensive players to wear a four-inch by 12-inch white towel

without markings attached to the front belt;

- *Prohibiting a defensive player(s) aligned in a stationary position within one yard of the line of scrimmage from making quick and abrupt actions that are not part of normal player movement in an obvious attempt to cause an offensive player(s) to foul (false start);*
- *Allowing a passer who is five or more yards toward the sideline from the original position of the ball at the snap to throw the ball so that it lands beyond the neutral zone to avoid loss of yardage without penalty; and*
- *Eliminating the penalty for illegal fair catch signals.*

Basic Interpretations

(Indicated as "B.I." references throughout manual.)

STATISTICIAN'S NOTE: Beginning in the fall of 2000, the NCAA statistics staff will begin compiling defensive football statistics in various categories. The reporting procedures will be given on forms provided at least twice during the season plus a final report. Guidelines are offered to allow for consistency in the gathering and reporting of defensive statistics in basic interpretation No. 13.

- 1. APPROVED RULING**—Approved rulings (indicated as A.R.s) are designed to interpret the spirit of the application of the Official Football Rules. A thorough understanding of the rules is essential to understanding and applying the statistics rules in this manual.
- 2. DETERMINING THE YARD LINE AND SPOTTING THE BALL**—If any part of the football rests on or above any yard stripe, future action is to be computed from that yard line. However, if all of the football has been advanced beyond any yard stripe, future action is computed from the first yard line in advance of the football (or nearest the intended goal). (See Exception c below for determining yard lines and yardage when there is a change of possession.)

This principle is to be followed on all spotting situations, regardless of the down, with the following exceptions:

- a. In certain situations (any down but the first) where there is less than one yard to gain for a first down, it may be necessary to spot the ball back one yard to conform with the principle that there must always be, for statistical purposes, at least one yard remaining to be gained for a first down (or for a touchdown).

Examples:

- (1) First down and 10. A player carries the ball to within six inches of a first down. Credit him with nine yards gained because he has not advanced to a first down.
- (2) Third down and goal from the three. A player carries the ball to within an inch of the goal line. Credit him with two yards gained. The next ball carrier scores. Credit the latter with a one-yard gain.
- b. When, on a first down, the ball rests just outside a defensive team's 10-yard line, it will be necessary to designate the scrimmage line as the 11-yard line, inasmuch as it would be possible for the offensive

team to advance for a first down without scoring a touchdown.

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball, first down just outside Team B's 20. (The ball is spotted on the 20.) Adams rushes for sufficient yardage for a first down, just outside Team B's 10. Credit Adams with a rush of 10 yards and Team A with a first down by rushing. Spot the ball on Team B's 11.*

- c. When there is a change of possession, the yard line for one team may not be the same as that of the other team. **Example:** A fourth-down play by Team A ending on Team B's three-and-one-half yard line will be the three-yard line for the team giving up the ball but the four-yard line for the team taking over. When the stakes are moved, the other end of the ball now becomes the forward point for future measurements.
- d. The original spot of the ball is to be maintained if the official errs in respotting the ball after a play.

A.R. 2. *Team A's ball between its 39 and 40. (The ball is spotted on the 40.) After Adams' incomplete pass, the official places the ball on Team A's 39. Compute future action from Team A's 40.*

3. END ZONE YARDAGE—Only the yardage from goal line to goal line is recorded statistically, with the single exception of a field goal attempt. In this case, the 10 yards from the goal line to the goal post is added (see Section 10).

4. PENALTY YARDAGE—The amount of penalty yards recorded should at all times be the actual distance lost by penalty (not, however, to include the yards nullified by penalty), rather than the amount of yards assessed by the official. **Example:** The ball is on Team A's eight-yard line when Team A is penalized for holding. The penalty assessed by the official is 10 yards, but Team A cannot be penalized more than half the distance to its goal line. Thus, the number of penalty yards recorded is four.

5. FUMBLE RETURNS—An offensive fumble or backward pass recovery either behind or beyond the line of scrimmage recovered by the defensive team may be returned. A recovered fumble return is to be recorded on the front side of the NCAA Summary of Football Game Statistics. An intercepted fumble or backward pass recovery is treated as a fumble return regardless of the position on the field. Please list only those fumble returns in which return yardage is involved. Do not list fumble returns in which the player just falls on the ball.

6. POSTSEASON GAMES—Postseason playoff or bowl games cannot be considered as part of a season's schedule. Consequently, the

statistics of a postseason game, including Division I-AA, Division II and Division III championship playoff games, should not be added directly to any team's or player's season or career record, nor can such statistics affect single-game records. However, conference playoff games can be included in a team's record and statistics as part of the season's schedule. Sports information directors should guard against violation of this Basic Interpretation in their brochures and releases, since the distribution of figures padded by postseason participation (and thus, in conflict with official national records) creates confusion and distrust in the minds of both media and public.

- 7. GAME PLAYED**—The national per-game rankings are based on games an individual actually has played. It is a game played if a player is in the lineup for even one play, whether or not he touches the ball. But to be ranked, a player must appear in 75 percent of his team's games (i.e., six of eight, seven of nine, eight of 10, nine of 11).

Exception: If a player appears in a game only to hold the ball on kick attempts, he is not charged with a game played. If, however, he becomes statistically involved (e.g., runs, passes or kicks after an aborted kick attempt) he is charged with a game played. **Clarification:** If a player is in the game for one play and there is a penalty on the play, he is charged with a game played only if time had run off the clock. He is charged with a game played even if the penalty is accepted.

- 8. THIRD-DOWN EFFICIENCY**—Third-down efficiency is the success a team has in converting third-down rushing or passing plays to first downs or touchdowns. If a first down is obtained by penalty on a third-down play or if a field goal is attempted on third down, the offensive team is not credited with an attempt in determining efficiency.

Do not credit a third-down attempt when the offensive team commits a foul (and the penalty is accepted by the defense), the spot of enforcement is in advance of the line of scrimmage, and the down remains the same.

A.R. 1. *On third down and goal at Team B's three-yard line, Team A's Adams rushes for three yards and a touchdown. Credit Team A with a third-down attempt and conversion for efficiency determination.*

A.R. 2. *On third down and two at midfield, Team A's Adams rushes for three yards but Team B is offside. Team A elects to take the penalty for a first down at Team B's 45. No entry is made in the third-down efficiency category since the first down was awarded by penalty.*

A.R. 3. *On third down and 10 at midfield, Team A is ahead with 30 seconds remaining in the game. Team A quarterback Atkins falls*

to the ground after taking the snap, making no effort to gain yardage. Score as one third-down attempt.

A.R. 4. *On third down and two at midfield, Adams gains three yards, and Team B is charged with a face-mask foul (flagrant), moving the ball to Team B's 32. Score two first downs (one rushing, one by penalty) and credit a third-down attempt and conversion since Team A had made a first down without regard to the penalty.*

- 9. TIME OF POSSESSION**—Time of possession is computed from the first play initiated by Team A from the line of scrimmage until a scoring play is made or loss of possession occurs. After a change of possession (e.g., a fumble, interception or punt), consider Team A in possession until the ball next is declared dead. In order to account for 60 minutes, start the receiving team's time of possession at the time of kickoff. On all other returns (i.e., "transition time"—punt returns, blocked punts, blocked field goal attempts, fumble returns and interceptions, including scoring plays) start ball possession at the start of the next scrimmage play. Time of possession is computed for regulation periods only. Any overtime periods are untimed.
- 10. MEASURING A SCORING DRIVE**—Scoring-drive yardage is measured from the initial line of scrimmage at the start of possession to the goal line (in the event of a touchdown) or from the initial line of scrimmage to the last line of scrimmage for field goals, not the spot from which the kick was attempted. The yardage on a successful field goal is not included in the scoring drive. Penalty plays (where the down remains the same but the ball changes position) are not included in the total number of plays in a scoring drive. However, penalty plays in which the down changes and the ball moves forward are included in the total number of plays in a scoring drive. No scoring drive should exceed the total number of yards from the initial line of scrimmage to the goal line or to the last line of scrimmage for field goals. Field goals are to be counted as a play in a drive.
- 11. OVERTIME STATISTICS**—The individual and team statistics for all untimed overtime periods in NCAA football games will be recorded with the regulation statistics. Do not separate the statistics. Each attempt to score from the 25-yard line by both teams constitutes one overtime period. If neither team scores with a possession, record a zero for each team for that period. Be sure to fill in each overtime period score on both sides of the NCAA Summary of Football Game Statistics fax form.
- 12. TEAM STATISTICS**—In the fair application of statistical rules, there

are certain situations where individual losses should be absorbed by team statistics. In a clarification of previous policies, a team rush should be charged when a quarterback kneels down in order to run out the clock. Also, a team pass attempt should be charged when a quarterback throws a pass into the ground in order to stop the clock. In neither instance should the individual player be charged with the play.

13. NCAA GUIDELINES FOR DEFENSIVE FOOTBALL STATISTICS—

These guidelines have been prepared to provide some consistent standards for the keeping of national defensive football statistics. They were arrived at by using NCAA conference guidelines as a starting point, as well as the NFL guidelines. Modifications to these guidelines were then made per suggestions of sports information directors from member institutions as well as conference information directors.

The college game differs from the professional game in several respects statistically and changes were made to reflect that. Tackles for loss, for example, is not kept by the NFL, but is a part of the college game.

Defensive statistics should include those plays made on defensive scrimmage plays as well as tackles in kick coverage and tackles made by offensive players following turnovers.

TACKLE: If a ball carrier is stopped solely or primarily because of the efforts of one defensive player, that player should be credited with a tackle. No more than one tackle can be credited on any one play. Tackles for losses, pass sacks and forced fumbles should result in a player getting credit for that action and a tackle.

ASSIST: Assists may be credited in these ways:

(1) If a ball carrier has been stopped primarily (but not solely) by one defensive player, but a second defensive player stops the play more quickly and possibly prevents additional yardage gain, credit the second defensive player with an assist (the first defensive player is credited with a tackle).

(2) If two defensive players contribute equally to the stopping of a ball carrier, credit both players with an assist, but give neither a tackle.

Note: There should not be more than one assist credited when a tackle has been credited. In a situation where there is not an unassisted tackle, there should not be more than two assists credited. In other words, on any given play, one of the following may be credited: (1) one

tackle, (2) one tackle and one assist, or (3) two assists.

TACKLE FOR LOSS: Tackles behind the line of scrimmage resulting in lost yardage, either of a ball carrier or a quarterback attempting to pass, are tackles for loss. The same principles noted above apply. A player who is credited with a tackle for a loss also should be credited with a tackle. A player credited with an assist as the secondary tackler is not credited with a tackle for loss. In the case of two players getting an assist for the tackle (with no player being credited with an unassisted tackle), each player should also be credited with one-half tackle for loss.

Lost yardage on tackles for loss is not split between more than one player, but given equally to each player.

Examples:

- (1) Player A is solely or primarily responsible for a tackle resulting in lost yardage by the ball carrier. Player A is credited with a tackle and a tackle for loss.
- (2) Player A is primarily responsible for a tackle resulting in lost yardage by the ball carrier and Player B is credited with an assist. Player A receives credit for a tackle and a tackle for loss. Player B receives credit for an assist.
- (3) Players A and B are equally responsible for a tackle resulting in lost yardage by the ball carrier. Each is credited with an assist (not a tackle) and with one-half tackle for loss. Also, give each player the total yards lost on the play.

PASS SACKS: If the defensive team is credited with the sack of a player who is attempting to pass, the same principles outlined above again apply. A player credited with an unassisted tackle on the play is also credited with a sack and a tackle for loss on the play. In the case of two players getting credit for an assist on the tackle (with no player being credited for an unassisted tackle), each player would also be credited with one-half sack and one-half tackle for loss.

In determining pass sacks, take into consideration a case when a quarterback or another offensive player makes an apparent attempt to pass while being chased and goes out-of-bounds, either behind or at the line of scrimmage. In that case, give the unassisted tackle, sack and a tackle for loss to the primary chasing player who, in the opinion of the official statistician, caused the passer to go out-of-bounds.

If a potential passer fumbles the ball before contact by the defense, no pass sack is credited to any individual player. Also, lost yardage on pass sacks is not split between more than one player but given equally to each player.

Examples:

- (1) Player A is solely or primarily responsible for a pass sack. He is credited with a tackle, a tackle for loss and a sack, and all yards lost.
- (2) Player A is primarily responsible for a pass sack and Player B receives an assist. Player A is credited with a tackle, a tackle for loss and a sack, and all of the yards lost. Player B is credited with an assist.
- (3) Players A and B are equally responsible for a pass sack. Each is credited with an assist (not a tackle), one-half tackle for loss and one-half sack. Also, give each player the total yards lost.
- (4) Player A chases the opposing quarterback, who shows that he intends to pass, and runs him out-of-bounds behind the line of scrimmage. Credit Player A with a tackle, a tackle for loss and a sack, and all yards lost.

PASSES DEFENSED: If a pass falls incomplete because of the defensive efforts of one player, that player should be credited with a pass defended. This may come about in two major ways: (1) A defensive player who makes contact with the football, thus preventing the intended receiver from making the catch, should be credited with a pass defended; and (2) a defensive player who tackles the intended receiver simultaneously with the arrival of the football, thus preventing the reception, should also be credited with a pass defended.

A defensive player who neither touches the football nor tackles the receiver simultaneously with the arrival of the football should not be credited with a pass defended. No pass defended credit should be given on plays in which the football is overthrown, thrown out-of-bounds or is otherwise uncatchable.

In rare instances, it may be possible for two defensive players to play such equal roles in the defending of a forward pass that it is not possible to determine which player was more responsible. In such a rare instance, credit both players with a pass defended.

Note: A defensive player making an interception should also be credited with a pass defended. When a first defensive player defends against a pass in such a manner that he normally would be credited

with a pass defended and a second defensive player intercepts that pass, the first defensive player should still be credited with a pass defended and the second defensive player credited with both an interception and a pass defended.

FUMBLES: In the compilation of fumbles recovered, only one player shall be determined to have recovered a fumble for defensive statistical purposes. However, for the compilation of forced fumbles, more than one player may be credited with causing a fumble by a ball carrier.

Examples:

- (1) Player A is solely or primarily responsible for recovering a fumble. Even though several players may jump off of the pile after a fumble, Player A is credited with the fumble recovery by the determination of the official statistician.
- (2) Player A is solely or primarily responsible for causing a fumble by the ball carrier. Player A is credited with a forced fumble and a tackle.
- (3) Players A and B are equally responsible for causing a fumble by the ball carrier. Each is credited with one-half forced fumble and an assist.

14. PASS EFFICIENCY—To determine pass-efficiency rating points, multiply a player's yards per attempt by 8.4, add his completion percentage, add his touchdown percentage multiplied by 3.3, then subtract his interception percentage multiplied by 2. It is recommended that you use a calculator for computations. Maintain the decimal point selector in the floating position and carry out all final percentages to two decimal places.

SAMPLE COMPILATION OF NCAA PASS-EFFICIENCY FORMULA

Sample Statistics:

Games Played	—	9
Pass Attempts	—	166
Pass Completions	—	98
Yards Passing	—	1,567
Touchdown Passes	—	16
Interceptions	—	7

Note: To qualify for national ranking, individuals must average 15.0 pass attempts per game played.

Factor One—Completion Percentage

Pass Completions divided by Pass Attempts times 100

$$98 \div 166 = .5904 \times 100 = 59.04$$

Factor Two—Yards Per Attempted Pass

Yards Passing divided by Pass Attempts times 8.4

$$1,567 \div 166 = 9.44 \times 8.4 = 79.30$$

Factor Three—Touchdowns Per Attempted Pass

Touchdown Passes divided by Pass Attempts times 100 times 3.3

$$16 \div 166 = .0964 \times 100 = 9.64 \times 3.3 = 31.81$$

Factor Four—Interceptions Per Attempted Pass

Interceptions divided by Pass Attempts times 100 times 2.0

$$7 \div 166 = .0422 \times 100 = 4.22 \times 2.0 = 8.44$$

Add Factors One, Two and Three

$$59.04 + 79.30 + 31.81 = 170.15$$

Subtract Factor Four from Subtotal

$$170.15 - 8.44 = 161.71$$

Pass-Efficiency Rating is 161.71

Note: The pass-efficiency formula is computed to make 100.0 the average quarterback or team rating by using the multipliers 8.4, 3.3 and 2.0 with factors two, three and four, respectively.

Official Football Statistics Rules

With Approved Rulings and Interpretations

(Throughout this manual, Team A players have last names starting with "A" and Team B players have last names starting with "B.")

► SECTION 1—FIRST DOWNS

Article 1. A first down shall be recorded whenever the yardsticks are ordered forward and/or when a touchdown is scored from scrimmage (rushing or passing) within a series of downs starting from 10 yards or more from the goal line, or when a dead-ball foul results in an automatic first down (see Section 1, Article 6).

A.R. 1. *A first down when made (and other statistical data) is recorded for all plays in progress when the half (or game) ends.*

A.R. 2. *A first down is recorded when the offensive team is awarded a first down because of penalty, even though the yardsticks might be moved backward.*

Article 2. When a team satisfies the requirement for a first down (rushing or passing) and, after the whistle has blown to end the play, is awarded penalty yardage of sufficient distance for an additional first down, two first downs are recorded, one rushing (or passing) and one by penalty (see Section 1, Article 6 and Section 14, Articles 1-4).

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams rushes for 20 yards to Team B's 20 and Team B is penalized 10 yards from that point to Team B's 10. Credit Adams with a rush of 20 yards. Charge Team B with a penalty of 10 yards. Credit Team A with a first down by rushing and with a first down by penalty.*

A.R. 2. *Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams rushes for 10 yards to Team B's 10 and Team B is penalized five yards from that point to Team B's five. Credit Adams with a rush of 10 yards. Charge Team B with a penalty of five yards. Credit Team A with a first down by rushing. Do not credit Team A with a first down by penalty.*

Article 3. A first down is not recorded on any runback (i.e., kickoff, punt, intercepted pass), regardless of the distance.

Article 4. A first down is not recorded when a resultant loss of team possession occurs on a scrimmage play, even though the gain provides yardage necessary for a first down.

A.R. Team A's ball on Team B's 40, second and five. Adams rushes for 10 yards, fumbles and Team B recovers on its 30. Credit Adams with a rush of 10 yards, but do not credit Team A with a first down by rushing. Charge Team A with a fumble lost.

Article 5. If the resultant recovery by Team A of a fumble on a scrimmage play provides the yardage necessary for a first down, the first down is credited to the category initiating the action.

A.R. Team A's ball on Team B's 40, second and five. Adams rushes for 10 yards, fumbles and Allen recovers on Team B's 30. Credit Adams with a rush of 10 yards. Credit Team A with a first down by rushing and with a fumble not lost.

Article 6. A first down is recorded when a dead-ball foul results in a first down.

A.R.1. Team A's ball on Team B's eight, second and goal. Adams advances to the four. Team B is charged with a dead-ball foul at the four. The ball is moved to the two. Credit Adams with a rush of four yards. Credit Team A with a first down by penalty and charge Team B with a penalty of two yards.

A.R.2. After a kick return (or an interception) by Team A, Team B commits a dead-ball foul at Team A's 30, which results in an automatic first down. Team B is penalized to Team A's 45. Credit Team A with a first down by penalty and charge Team B with a penalty of 15 yards.

A.R. 3. Team A's ball, first and 10 at Team B's 14. Team B commits a dead-ball personal foul. Team B is penalized half the distance to the goal line with first down and goal to gain. The penalty for a Team B personal foul requires a first down and 10 yards to gain. Credit Team A with a first down by penalty and charge Team B with a penalty of seven yards.

Article 7. On the last play of the second or fourth quarter, if, in the scorer's judgment, the offensive team advanced the ball to a first down, credit should be given whether or not the officials so signify.

► SECTION 2—RUSHING

Article 1. All offensive running plays are to be termed "rushing plays," not as "plays from scrimmage," since any play started with a snapback from center actually is a play from scrimmage.

Article 2. Rushing yardage is measured from the line of scrimmage to the point where the ball is declared dead (including when the ball carrier's

helmet comes completely off) or is recovered by opponents (in the case of a fumble or backward pass recovery).

Article 3. The rushing total is a net figure. All rushing losses must be recorded so as to account for the net figure.

Article 4. The ball carrier is charged with the loss of yardage regardless of the reason for the loss (e.g., fumble, loss of footing, missed blocks by teammates). **Exceptions:** Errant pitches or handoffs (see Section 2, Article 8), losses while attempting to pass (see Section 3, Article 3), losses by quarterbacks kneeling down to run out the clock, and wild passes from the center (see Section 15).

Article 5. On a run-option play involving a pitch to the trailing back, credit the trailing back with the rush attempt and total yardage gained or lost, regardless of where he obtains the pitch, measured from the line of scrimmage. The player who pitches is not credited with a rush attempt or yardage. **Exception:** See Section 2, Article 8.

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams, on an option play, advances to the 28 and pitches to Allen, who receives the ball on the 29 and advances to the 20. Credit Allen with a rush of 10 yards.*

A.R. 2. *Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams, on an option play, advances to the 28 and pitches to Allen, who receives the ball on the 31 and advances to the 25. Credit Allen with a rush of five yards.*

Article 6. When a lateral (a backward pass or one that travels parallel to the line of scrimmage) occurs beyond the line of scrimmage under circumstances other than Article 5 above (i.e., when the lateral is not the result of a run-option play, or is not the original design or intent of the play), credit the ball carriers in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.

A.R. *Team A's ball on its 40. Adams advances to Team B's 40 and laterals to Allen, who receives the ball on the 42 and advances to the 20. Credit Adams with a rush of 18 yards. Credit Allen with no rush but with 22 yards under "Rushing."*

Article 7. When a lateral pass occurs behind the line of scrimmage, credit the ball carrier in accordance with the provisions of Section 4.

A.R. *Team A's ball on its 20. After receiving the snap at Team A's 17, Adams laterals to Allen at the 15. Allen advances to the 34. Credit Allen with a rush of 14 yards.*

Article 8. If, in the scorer's opinion, an errant pitch or handoff precludes the intended receiver an opportunity to advance, or results in no gain or a loss on the play, charge the original ball handler with a rush attempt and yardage lost. An errant pitch or handoff is one that cannot be handled with ordinary effort or impedes the normal flow of movement of the recipient.

A.R.1. Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams' pitch to Allen, in the scorer's opinion, is errant and Allen is downed on Team B's 32. Charge Adams with a rush of minus two yards.

A.R.2. Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams advances to the 26 and, in the scorer's opinion, makes an errant pitch to Allen, who is downed on the 29. Credit Adams with a rush of one yard.

A.R. 3. Team A's ball on its 40. On a pitchout, Adams tosses the ball behind Allen. Allen recovers the ball on Team A's 30 and advances to Team A's 34. Charge Adams with a rush of minus six yards. Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.

A.R. 4. Team A's ball on its 40. On a pitchout, Adams tosses the ball to Allen, who drops it at the 35. Brown picks up the ball and advances to Team A's 30. Charge Allen with a rush of minus five yards and Team A with a fumble lost. Credit Brown with a fumble return of five yards and Team B with a fumble recovery.

Article 9. If the errant pitch occurs beyond the line of scrimmage and the intended receiver advances the ball past the original ball handler's furthest advance (or gains substantial yardage up to that point), credit the recipient with a rush attempt and yardage gained.

A.R.1. Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams advances to the 26 and, in the scorer's opinion, makes an errant pitch to Allen, who picks up the ball at the 28 and advances to the 20. Credit Allen with a rush of 10 yards.

A.R. 2. Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams advances to the 23 and, in the scorer's opinion, makes an errant pitch to Allen, who picks up the ball at the 29 and advances to the 24. Credit Allen with a rush of six yards.

►SECTION 3—FORWARD PASSING

Article 1. Forward passing gains or losses are measured from the scrimmage line to the point where the ball is declared dead (or is recovered by opponents in the case of a fumble), so as to include both the length of pass and running advance after completion. All yards gained or lost on each completed pass play are credited to both passer and receiver. A shovel pass is considered a forward pass assuming it meets all of the criteria of a forward pass. Yards gained or lost on a shovel pass are credited to both passer and receiver.

A.R. Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams completes a pass to Allen on Team B's 30. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 10 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of 10 yards.

Article 2. Loss from a completed forward pass that did not advance the ball to the scrimmage line is yardage charged against passing gain.

A.R. Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams completes a pass to Allen on Team B's 42. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of minus two yards. Credit Allen with a reception of minus two yards.

Article 3. Any loss by a player apparently intending to pass, but downed behind the line of scrimmage, is recorded as "Loss by Rushing." He is not a passer until he has thrown the ball, since he retains at all times the option of running.

Article 4. When a deflected or batted pass by a defender is caught by the passer, credit the passer with an attempt, a completion to himself and passing yardage gained or lost.

A.R. Team A's ball on its 40. Adams' pass attempt is batted by Team B and caught by Adams on Team A's 35, where he is downed. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion to Adams of minus five yards.

Article 5. Interception returns are measured from the point of interception to the point where the ball is declared dead (or is recovered by opponents in the case of a fumble).

A.R. 1. Adams intercepts a pass on his 20, circles to his 10 and is tackled. Credit Adams with an interception of minus 10 yards.

A.R. 2. In the same situation as A.R. 1, Adams, after circling back to his 10, advances to his 30. Credit Adams with an interception of 10 yards.

A.R. 3. Adams intercepts in his end zone and downs the ball for a touchback. Credit Adams with an interception of zero yards.

A.R. 4. Team A's ball on its two-yard line. Adams' pass is deflected off Brown and caught in the air by Benton in the end zone for a touchdown. Charge Adams with a pass attempt and an interception. Credit Benton with an interception of zero yards and a touchdown.

Article 6. There is no pass completed by penalty. A gain through interference on a passing play is a penalty against the defending team and an automatic first down if the penalty is accepted by Team A. The passer is not charged with a pass attempt, is not credited with a pass completed or yards gained, and the intended receiver (or the player interfered with) is not credited with a pass caught. The passing team is credited only with a first down by penalty. The defensive (offending) team is charged with a

penalty, and the distance from the line of scrimmage to the spot of the penalty is recorded under "Yards Penalized."

Article 7. A major rules change in 1984 modified the penalty for defensive pass interference. On pass interference by Team B: Team A's ball at the spot of the foul and a first down if the foul occurs less than 15 yards beyond the previous spot. If the foul occurs 15 or more yards beyond the previous spot, Team A's ball, first down and a 15-yard penalty from the previous spot.

No penalty enforced from outside the two-yard line may place the ball inside the two-yard line. If the previous spot was on or inside the two-yard line, it is a first down halfway between the previous spot and the goal line. When the ball is snapped between the 17-yard line and the two-yard line and the spot of the foul is inside the two-yard line or in the end zone, the penalty shall place the ball at the two-yard line.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on Team B's 40. On Adams' pass attempt, Team B is charged with pass interference at Team B's 30. The enforcement spot is Team B's 30. Charge Team B with a penalty of 10 yards (to Team B's 30) and credit Team A with a first down by penalty. Do not charge Adams with a pass attempt.

A.R. 2. Team A's ball on Team B's 40. On Adams' pass attempt, Team B is charged with pass interference at Team B's 20. The enforcement spot is Team B's 40. Charge Team B with a penalty of 15 yards (to Team B's 25) and credit Team A with a first down by penalty. Do not charge Adams with a pass attempt.

A.R. 3. Team A's ball on Team B's 15. On Adams' pass attempt, Team B is charged with pass interference in the end zone. The enforcement spot is Team B's 15. Charge Team B with a penalty of 13 yards (to Team B's two-yard line) and credit Team A with a first down by penalty. Do not charge Adams with a pass attempt.

A.R. 4. Team A's ball on Team B's 15. On Adams' pass attempt, Team B is charged with pass interference at Team B's one-yard line. The enforcement spot is Team B's 15. Charge Team B with a penalty of 13 yards (to Team B's two-yard line) and credit Team A with a first down by penalty. Do not charge Adams with a pass attempt.

A.R. 5. Team A's ball on Team B's two-yard line. On Adams' pass attempt, Team B is charged with pass interference in the end zone. The enforcement spot is Team B's two-yard line. Charge Team B with a penalty of one yard (to Team B's one-yard line) and credit Team A with a first down by penalty. Do not charge Adams with a pass attempt.

A.R. 6. Team A's ball on Team B's 12. On Adams' pass attempt, Team B is charged with pass interference at Team B's three-yard line. The enforcement spot is Team B's three-yard line. Charge Team B with a penalty of nine yards (to Team B's three-yard line) and credit Team A with a first down by penalty. Do not charge Adams with a pass attempt.

Article 8. When a pass is completed despite an interference foul by Team B and Team A declines the penalty, record the play in the usual manner (i.e., pass attempt, completion, yards gained).

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams completes a pass to Allen, who is interfered with by Benton at Team B's 30. Allen still manages to advance to Team B's 20. Team A declines the interference penalty. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 20 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of 20 yards. Credit Team A with a first down by passing.

A.R. 2. Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams completes a pass to Allen on the 30, sufficient for a first down. Simultaneously, Archer is interfered with inches short of the 30-yard line. Given the option, Team A declines the interference penalty. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 10 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of 10 yards. Credit Team A with a first down by passing.

Article 9. The passer is charged with a pass attempt when a forward pass is ruled intentionally grounded. Do not charge the passer with a pass attempt when he deliberately throws the ball to the ground to stop the clock. Officials are instructed to apply the principle of "reasonable opportunity" to catch the pass to intentional grounding situations. It is intentional grounding when a passer, to prevent a loss of yardage, intentionally throws a ball where no eligible offensive player has a reasonable opportunity to catch it.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams fades back to Team B's 28 and intentionally grounds a pass. A loss of down is assessed against Team A from Team B's 28. Credit Adams with a pass attempt. Charge Team A with a penalty of 8 yards (see B.I. 4).

A.R. 2. Team A's ball on its five-yard line. Adams drops back to pass, is trapped in the end zone and intentionally grounds a pass. Team B is awarded a safety and Team A has a free kick from its 20. Credit Adams with a pass attempt. Charge Team A with a penalty for five yards.

A.R. 3. Team A's ball on Team B's 30 with passer Adams in a shotgun formation. The center's pass is wild, Adams picks up the ball at Team B's 45 and runs to Team B's 40 where he intentionally

grounds a pass. The ball is spotted at Team B's 40. Credit Adams with a pass attempt. Charge Team A with a penalty of 10 yards and a fumble not lost.

A.R. 4. *Team A's ball on Team B's 40 with time running out. Team A's passer deliberately throws the ball to the ground at the line of scrimmage to stop the clock. **Do not** charge Team A's passer with a pass attempt.*

Article 10. The passer is not charged with a pass attempt on a penalty for an ineligible receiver downfield. The penalty is five yards, enforced from the previous spot.

Article 11. When the passer throws an illegal forward pass from beyond the line of scrimmage and the penalty is accepted (five yards from the spot of the foul and a loss of a down), do not charge him with a pass attempt. Credit him with a rush attempt and yards gained to the spot of the foul and the team with a penalty of five yards (see Section 3, Article 12).

A.R. *Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams advances beyond the line of scrimmage and attempts a forward pass from Team B's 38. Team A is charged with an illegal forward pass and Team B accepts the penalty. Credit Adams with a rush of two yards. Charge Team A with a penalty of five yards (and a loss of a down), to be assessed from Team B's 38 (the spot where the run ended).*

Article 12. When the passer throws an illegal forward pass from beyond the line of scrimmage and the illegal forward pass penalty is declined, record the play in the usual manner (i.e., pass attempt, completion or interception, and yards gained, if any).

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams advances beyond the line of scrimmage and, from Team B's 38, attempts a forward pass, which is intercepted. Charge Adams with a pass attempt and an interception.*

A.R. 2. *Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams advances beyond the line of scrimmage and attempts a forward pass from Team B's 38. The pass is completed to Allen, who fumbles, but Brown recovers at Team B's 20. Team B declines the penalty. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 20 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of 20 yards. Charge Team A with a fumble lost.*

Article 13. When the passer throws an illegal forward pass from behind the line of scrimmage (a second forward pass by Team A during the same down), charge him with a pass attempt. Charge Team A with a penalty of five yards, enforced from the spot of the foul.

A.R. Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams attempts a pass that is tipped or batted by a Team B player. Adams recovers the ball in the air and attempts another pass from Team B's 45. Charge Adams with a pass attempt. Charge Team A with a penalty of 10 yards (five yards from the line of scrimmage to the point of the foul, plus five additional yards).

Article 14. When offensive pass interference occurs (whether in the field of play or in Team B's end zone), **do not** charge the passer with an attempt. Charge Team A with a penalty of 15 yards from the previous spot.

Article 15. When the passer is fouled on a completed pass, the penalty is enforced from the spot at which the play ends. If the play results in a touchdown, the penalty is enforced on the subsequent kickoff. If the passer is fouled on an incomplete pass, **do not** charge the passer with an attempt. Team B is charged with a penalty enforced from the previous spot.

A.R. Team A's ball on its 40, second and five. Adams is fouled after completing a pass to Allen on the 50. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 10 yards. Credit Allen with a pass reception of 10 yards. Team B is charged with a penalty of 15 yards to Team B's 35. Credit Team A with two first downs, one by passing and one by penalty.

Article 16. Tackling or running into a receiver when a pass is obviously overthrown is a personal foul, not pass interference. The penalty is enforced 15 yards from the previous spot and Team A is awarded a first down.

A.R. Team A's ball on its 20. Allen, the receiver, turns back toward the line of scrimmage at Team A's 40. Adams throws the ball over Allen's hands, which are extended over his head. The ball obviously is overthrown, and Brown tackles Allen while he is off the ground. Charge Team B with a penalty of 15 yards from Team A's 20. Do not charge Adams with a pass attempt.

Article 17. An eligible receiver who is blocked or pushed out of bounds by an opponent may legally touch or catch a forward pass after immediately returning to the field of play.

A.R. Team A's ball on the 50. Pass receiver Allen is pushed out of bounds by Brown at Team B's 45, returns to the field of play and catches a pass from Adams at Team B's 40. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 10 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of 10 yards.

Article 18. A play that results in a legally thrown forward pass (i.e., when the passer is in or behind the neutral zone) after the ball has been carried beyond the neutral zone is credited as a forward pass play.

A.R. Team A's ball on Team B's 10. Adams rushes to the five where, unable to advance, he turns and throws a backward pass to Allen on the 12. Allen throws a forward pass to Adler for a touchdown. Credit Allen with a pass attempt, a completion of 10 yards and a touchdown by passing. Credit Adler with a reception of 10 yards and a touchdown by passing. Do not credit Adams with a play.

Article 19. A fake field goal attempt that results in the holder passing the ball forward to an eligible receiver is credited as a passing play.

A.R. Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams kneels, apparently to hold for a place kick. On receipt of the snap, he shovel-passes the ball forward to wing back Allen, who advances for a touchdown. Credit Adams with a pass attempt, a completion of 20 yards and a touchdown by passing. Credit Allen with a reception of 20 yards and a touchdown by passing. Note: If the ball is passed laterally or is handed forward, credit Allen with a rushing attempt.

Article 20. When an aborted rushing play occurs behind the line of scrimmage and is followed by a forward pass, score the play as a pass and credit the final ball handler with a pass attempt.

A.R. Team A's ball on its 37. Allen rushes to the 35 where, hemmed in, he attempts a lateral. However, the ball bounces free and is picked up by Adams at the 34. Adams retreats and throws a forward pass to Archer, who is downed on Team A's 31. Charge Team A with a fumble not lost. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of minus six yards. Credit Archer with a reception of minus six yards.

► SECTION 4—LATERAL PASSING

Article 1. The recipient of a lateral pass (a backward pass or one that travels parallel to the line of scrimmage) is credited with the yardage he gains from the point he received the lateral, but he is not credited with an attempt, reception or return on the play. **Exceptions:** Run-option plays (see Section 2, Article 5) and laterals or handoffs by a player making no attempt to advance a kick (see Section 8, Article 4). (See also Section 2, Article 6.)

A.R.1. Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams advances to the 20 and laterals to Allen, who receives the ball on the 22 and scores. Credit Adams with a rush of 18 yards. Credit Allen with no rush but with 22 yards under "Rushing" and a touchdown scored by rushing.

A.R. 2. Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams passes to Allen on the 20. Allen laterals to Adler, who obtains the ball on the 21 and advances to the 15. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a

completion of 15 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of nine yards. Credit Adler with no reception but with six yards under "Receiving."

A.R. 3. Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams completes a forward pass to Allen on Team B's 35. Allen laterals to Adler, who obtains the ball on the 36 and is downed on the 37. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of minus seven yards. Credit Allen with a reception of minus six yards. Credit Adler with no reception but with minus one yard under "Receiving."

A.R. 4. Adams receives a kick (or intercepts) on the 10, advances to the 30 and laterals to Allen, who obtains the ball on the 28 and returns to the 50. Credit Adams with a return of 18 yards. Credit Allen with no return but with 22 yards under the appropriate returns category (i.e., punt, kickoff, interception).

Article 2. When a player receives a backward pass beyond the line of scrimmage and in turn throws a backward pass, he is responsible for the yardage from the point he obtained the ball and the point the next player receives the ball, but neither player is credited with an attempt (see Section 4, Article 1).

A.R. Team A's ball on its 30. Adams forward passes to Allen on Team A's 40. Allen laterals to Adler on the 37. Adler laterals to Archer on the 33 and he advances to Team A's 42. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 12 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of seven yards. Credit Adler with no reception but with minus four yards under "Receiving." Credit Archer with no reception but with nine yards under "Receiving."

Article 3. Incomplete lateral passes, pitchouts or pitches are scored as fumbles, and yards lost (if any) are charged against the player who, in the scorer's opinion, was primarily responsible for the failure of the pass (see Section 2, Article 8).

Article 4. Intercepted backward passes are scored as fumbles, the offensive team being charged with the fumble lost.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams advances five yards rushing, laterals and the ball is intercepted by Brown on Team B's 27. Brown is downed on Team B's 35. Credit Adams with a rush of three yards. Credit Brown with a fumble return of eight yards. Charge Team A with a fumble lost (see B.I. 5).

A.R. 2. In the same situation as A.R. 1, Brown, avoiding tacklers, retreats and is downed on Team B's 23. Credit Adams with a rush of three yards. Charge Team A with a fumble lost. Credit Brown with a fumble return of minus four yards (see B.I. 5).

Article 5. A backward pass in flight shall not be deliberately batted forward by the passing team in an attempt to gain yardage.

A.R. Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams receives the snap from center and tosses a backward pass up to a volleyball-spiking position for Allen. Allen leaps in the air and bats the ball downfield to Team B's 10, where it is recovered by Adler. The play is nullified. Team A is penalized 15 yards from the basic spot to Team B's 45. There is no loss of down.

Article 6. The official scorer rules on whether a completed pass to a flanker or man-in-motion is a forward or lateral pass. If the latter, the play is recorded under rushing. If the pass is incomplete, the subsequent action of the officials reveals whether the pass was forward or lateral (officials will return the ball to the original scrimmage line only if the incomplete pass was a forward).

► SECTION 5—TOTAL OFFENSE AND ALL-PURPOSE RUNNING

Article 1. Total offense is the combined result of rushing and forward passing only, since these two are the only methods by which legal advance can be initiated while retaining possession of the ball.

Article 2. Total offense is the total of net gain rushing and net gain forward passing. Receiving and runback yards are not included in total offense.

Article 3. All-purpose running is the combined net yards gained by rushing, receiving, interception returns, punt returns, kickoff returns and runbacks of field goal attempts. All-purpose running does not include forward passing yardage.

► SECTION 6—PUNTS

Article 1. Punts are measured from the line of scrimmage to the point where the receiving team first gains or loses possession of the ball; or, if untouched by the receiving team, to the point where the ball is downed by the kicking team, is declared dead or goes out of bounds. **Exceptions:** See Section 6, Article 2 and Section 7, Article 2.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on the 50. Adams punts to Brown, who receives the ball on Team B's 15 and retreats to Team B's five where he is tackled. Credit Adams with a 35-yard punt. Charge Brown with a return of minus 10 yards.

A.R. 2. *In the same situation as above, except that Brown, after retreating to the five, returns the ball to Team B's 20. Credit Adams with a 35-yard punt. Credit Brown with a return of five yards.*

A.R.3. *Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams punts to Brown, who receives the ball on Team B's 10. Brown circles behind the goal line and is downed in the end zone. Credit Adams with a 30-yard punt. Credit Team A with a safety. Charge Brown with a return of minus 10 yards.*

Article 2. When a punt is declared dead on or behind the goal line (a touchback), the distance of the punt is measured from the line of scrimmage to the goal line.

A.R. *Team A's ball on the 50. Adams punts into Team B's end zone, where the ball is downed by a Team A player. Credit Adams with a 50-yard punt.*

Article 3. When there is a penalty assessed against Team B on a punt declared dead on or behind the goal line, measure the distance of the punt from the line of scrimmage to the goal line.

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on the 50. Adams punts into Team B's end zone for a touchback. During the play, Brown makes an illegal fair catch signal at Team B's 10. Credit Adams with a 50-yard punt.*

A.R. 2. *Team A's ball on the 50. Adams punts into Team B's end zone for a touchback, after which Team B commits a dead-ball personal foul at its 25. Credit Adams with a 50-yard punt. Charge Team B with a 10-yard penalty (from the 20-yard line, which is the succeeding spot).*

Article 4. If there is a penalty to be assessed against Team A for illegal interference with Team B's opportunity to catch a kick while in flight, measure the distance of the punt to the point of infraction or where the ball is declared dead (if Team B declines the penalty), whichever is the shorter distance.

A.R.1. *Team A's ball on the 50. Adams punts and Allen interferes with Brown's opportunity to catch the kick on Team B's 10. The ball bounces back to Team B's 27 and Team B declines the penalty. Credit Adams with a 23-yard punt.*

A.R.2. *Team A's ball on the 50. Adams punts and Allen interferes with Brown's opportunity to catch the kick on Team B's 20. The ball bounces back to Team B's 30 and Team B accepts a 15-yard penalty to the 35. Credit Adams with a 30-yard punt.*

A.R.3. *Team A's ball on the 50. Adams punts and Allen interferes with Brown's opportunity to catch the kick on Team B's 20. The ball*

rolls to Team B's five. Team B accepts a 15-yard penalty to the 35. Credit Adams with a 30-yard punt.

Article 5. If there is a penalty to be assessed against Team B for a personal foul against the kicker (or holder for a field goal try) while the kick is in flight, a 15-yard penalty is to be assessed from the previous spot and it is an automatic first down.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on the 50, fourth down and 14. Adams punts the ball dead on Team B's five, but Benton commits a personal foul at Team B's 20 while the kick is in flight. Team A elects to accept the penalty. Charge Team B with a 15-yard penalty to Team B's 35 and credit Team A with a first down by penalty. Do not credit Adams with a punt.

A.R.2. Team A's ball on its 40, fourth down and 20. Adams punts the ball dead on Team B's two, but Benton commits a roughing-the-kicker foul. Team A declines the penalty. Credit Adams with a 58-yard punt.

Article 6. A ball loose on an unblocked punt that does not cross the line of scrimmage can be advanced by either team. The loss on the punt is minus yardage charged against punting. If a player of the kicking team recovers the ball and advances it, credit him with a rush and rushing yardage from the point of recovery. If a player of the receiving team advances the ball, credit him with a punt return and yardage from the point of recovery.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on its 30. Adams' punt glances off his foot. He (or a teammate) picks the ball up at the 20 and advances to the 35. Charge Adams with a punt of minus 10 yards. Credit the player advancing the ball with a rush of 15 yards.

A.R.2. In the same situation as A.R. 1, Brown picks up the ball at Team A's 20 and advances to the 10. Charge Adams with a punt of minus 10 yards. Credit Brown with a punt return of 10 yards.

Article 7. A loss on an unblocked punt due to an improperly centered ball that prevents the punter from carrying out his assignment is recorded as a "Team" entry.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on its 30. In a punting situation, the center pass goes over Adams' head. Adams recovers the ball and, under duress, punts. The ball goes out of bounds at Team A's 20. Do not charge Adams with a punt. Charge Team A with a "Team" punt of minus 10 yards.

A.R. 2. In the same situation as A.R. 1, Adams recovers the ball and is downed on Team A's 10. Charge Team A with a "Team" rush of minus 20 yards.

A.R. 3. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, Adams' punt travels to Team A's 40. Charge Team A with a "Team" punt of 10 yards.*

Article 8. When a player fumbles a properly centered ball preventing him from punting and there is a loss on the play, charge the punter with a rush and minus yardage rushing. If there is a gain on the play (measured from the line of scrimmage), credit the appropriate player with a rush. In each case, charge Team A with a fumble.

A.R.1. *Team A's ball on its 40. Adams, back to punt, fumbles. He, a teammate or an opponent recovers the ball on Team A's 28. Charge Adams with a rush of minus 12 yards. Charge Team A with a fumble and the appropriate team with the recovery.*

A.R. 2. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, Allen recovers on Team A's 28 and advances to the 35. Charge Adams with a rush of minus five yards. Charge Team A with a fumble.*

A.R. 3. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, Allen recovers on Team A's 28 and advances to the 45. Credit Allen with a rush of five yards. Charge Team A with a fumble.*

A.R. 4. *Team A's ball on its five. Adams, back to punt, fumbles and falls on the ball in the end zone for a safety (or intentionally downs the ball for a safety). Charge Adams with a rush of minus five yards. Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.*

A.R.5. *Team A's ball on its 15. Adams, back to punt, retreats into the end zone for an intentional safety. Charge Adams with a rush of minus 15 yards.*

A.R. 6. *Team A's ball on its five. Adams, back to punt, fumbles a good snap and the ball bounces out of the end zone for a safety. Charge Adams with a rush of minus five yards. Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.*

► SECTION 7—BLOCKED PUNTS

Article 1. A blocked punt is recorded as a "Team" entry (except when a properly centered ball is fumbled) and not charged against the individual kicker. Also, charge one punt for zero yards to assure that the blocked punt is included under "Times Kicked" in team totals.

If the ball travels toward the kicker's goal and is recovered by the blocking team, the yardage is treated as a punt return by the player who blocked the kick. If the ball travels toward the kicker's goal and is recovered by the kicking team, the yardage is treated as a punt return by the player who blocked the kick; and the blocking team is charged with a fumble lost,

except on fourth down. Remember that yardage for a blocked punt by an opponent **cannot** be a negative figure, but is listed as zero yards and the difference shall be listed as punt return yardage for the team blocking the punt.

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on the 50. Adams' punt is blocked by Brown and recovered by Team A on its own 40. Charge Team A (not Adams) with a blocked punt of zero yards. Credit Brown with a punt return of 10 yards. Charge Team B with a fumble lost, except on fourth down.*

A.R. 2. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, the ball is recovered by Brown. Charge Team A with a blocked punt of zero yards. Credit Brown with a punt return of 10 yards.*

A.R.3. *Team A's ball on its 30. Adams' punt is blocked by Brown. Benton picks the ball up on Team A's 20 and runs for a touchdown. Charge Team A with a blocked punt of zero yards. Credit Brown with a punt return of 10 yards. Credit Benton with no punt return but with 20 yards under "Punt Returns" and a touchdown. Credit Team B with a punt return of 30 yards and a touchdown.*

A.R.4. *In the same situation as A.R. 3, Adams' punt is blocked by Brown, who picks the ball up on Team A's 20 and runs for a touchdown. Charge Team A with a blocked punt of no yards. Credit Brown with a punt return of 30 yards and a touchdown. Credit Team B with a punt return of 30 yards and a touchdown.*

Article 2. When a Team A punt is blocked behind the neutral zone (line of scrimmage), Team A retains the privileges it had before the blocked kick (i.e., it may kick the ball, pass the ball or advance it by rushing). If punted, measure the yardage from the point where the player punts. If passed, measure the yardage involved from the line of scrimmage. If advanced by rushing, measure the yardage from the point Team A's player gains possession. **Exception:** If advanced or punted from the end zone, yardage is measured from the goal line.

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on its 30, fourth down and 10. Adams' punt is blocked by Brown and recovered by Adams on Team A's 20. Adams punts again to Team B's 40. Charge Team A (not Adams) with a blocked punt of zero yards. Credit Brown with a punt return of 10 yards and credit Team B with a fumble lost. On the second punt, credit Adams with a 40-yard punt.*

A.R. 2. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, Adams picks up the ball on Team A's 20 and runs to Team A's 40 for a first down. Charge Team A (not Adams) with a blocked punt of zero yards. Credit Brown*

with a punt return of 10 yards and Team B with a fumble lost. Credit Adams with a rush of 20 yards and Team A with a first down by rushing.

A.R. 3. In the same situation as A.R. 1, Adams picks up the ball on Team A's 20 and throws an incomplete pass. Charge Team A (not Adams) with a blocked punt of zero yards. Credit Brown with a punt return of 10 yards and Team B with a fumble lost. Credit Adams with a pass attempt.

A.R. 4. In the same situation as A.R. 1, Adams, after picking up the ball on Team A's 20, completes a pass to Allen on Team A's 40 for a first down. Charge Team A (not Adams) with a blocked punt of zero yards. Credit Brown with a punt return of 10 yards and Team B with a fumble lost. Credit Adams with a completion for 10 yards and Allen with a pass reception of 10 yards. Credit Team A with a first down by passing.

Article 3. When a punt is blocked and recovered by the kicking team beyond the neutral zone, credit that team with a punt and yardage measured from the line of scrimmage. Do not credit the player who blocked the punt or the other team with a punt return.

A.R. Team A's ball on its 30, fourth down and three. Adams' punt is blocked by Brown and recovered by Allen on Team A's 35. Credit Team A (not Adams) with a blocked punt of five yards. Do not credit Brown or Team B with a punt return.

Article 4. A punt that is blocked as a result of the kick striking the punter's teammate behind the line of scrimmage is treated as a "Team" punt. The ball may be advanced by the defense from any point on the field.

A.R. Team A's ball on its 20. Adams attempts a punt but Allen backs (or is pushed) into the kick and it is recovered by Team B on Team A's five. Charge Team A (not Adams) with a blocked punt of minus 15 yards.

Article 5. Blocked punts that pass the neutral zone are recorded as blocked punts and charged to "Team" if, in the scorer's opinion, the distance of the punt is materially affected.

► SECTION 8—KICK RETURNS

Article 1. Only the number of punts and kickoffs that the receiving team attempts to return are included under "Kick Returns." **Exception:** Blocked kicks that travel toward the kicker's goal (see Section 7, Article 1).

A.R. 1. Team A kicks off and is offside. Team A is penalized five

yards and kicks off again from its 30. Charge Team A with a penalty of five yards.

A.R. 2. Team A kicks off from its 35 and the ball travels only 10 yards and goes out of bounds before touching any member of Team B. Team B retains the option of taking the ball where it went out of bounds on Team A's 45 or Team B may elect to take the ball 30 yards downfield from the spot of the kickoff according to a provision approved in 1991. In either case, there is no penalty assessed and no return is recorded.

A.R. 3. On a kickoff, a Team B player falls on the ball without attempting a return. Do not charge the player with a kickoff return. However, if he fumbles or does make a clear attempt to return, then give the player an attempt and yardage gained or lost.

A.R. 4. There is no credit on any kickoff recovered by the kicking team beyond the receiving team's restraining line. Do not charge a fumble unless the kick has been touched by a member of the receiving team.

A.R. 5. Do not credit a player with a kickoff return when he catches the ball in the end zone and grounds it. If he fumbles it and recovers it himself in the end zone, do not charge him with a fumble and recovery. The ball is still alive until it is grounded.

Article 2. Returns are measured from the point where the returning player first gained or lost possession of the ball (using the back foot as a starting point) to the point where the ball is declared dead or is lost by a fumble. **Note:** A muff is an unsuccessful attempt to catch or recover a ball that is touched in the attempt. **Exception:** On kickoffs that go over the goal line, the return is measured from the goal line to the point where the ball is declared dead.

Article 3. A player making a fair catch is not charged with a return unless he loses possession, in which case he is credited with a return and the team is credited with a fumble. At the discretion of the official scorer, a player will not be charged with a punt return if he does not signal for a fair catch but makes **no** effort to advance the ball or the player is tackled by the kicking team without allowing the returner a two-yard space to field the kick.

A.R. 1. Adams signals for a fair catch on his 30, fumbles and the ball rolls to his 20 where it is recovered by Brown. Charge Adams with a return of minus 10 yards. Charge Team A with a fumble lost.

A.R. 2. Adams signals for a fair catch at his 30, muffs the ball, is hit by Brown and then recovers the ball at his 28. Charge Adams with a return of minus two yards.

A.R. 3. If, during a scrimmage kick, the receiving team commits a legal block after signaling for a fair catch, the foul is to be enforced from the spot of the foul (see A.R. 4 below).

A.R. 4. Team A's ball on its 30. Adams punts, Brown signals for a fair catch at Team B's 32, then Benton blocks Allen above the waist at Team B's 35. Brown receives the punt on his 32 and advances to the 34. Credit Adams with a 38-yard punt. Do not credit Brown with a punt return. Charge Team B with a penalty of 15 yards (to be enforced from Team B's 35).

A.R. 5. Team A's ball on its 30. Adams punts, Brown does not signal for a fair catch because he is having difficulty catching the ball. He finally catches the punt near the sideline and goes out of bounds at his 25. Do not credit Brown with a punt return if it is determined he made no effort to advance the ball.

A.R. 6. Team A's ball on its 30. Adams punts. Brown does not signal for a fair catch but is tackled by Allen, who does not allow a two-yard space to field the kick. Do not give Brown a return but record penalty yardage for Team A from spot of foul.

Article 4. On a multiplayer kick return exchange when there is no attempt by the first player (or the second if more than two are involved) to advance the kick (even though there may be an advance in order to effect a handoff or a lateral), credit the last player handling the ball with the return and yardage. Compute his yardage from the point nearest the receiving team's goal line where he gained possession.

A.R. 1. Adams receives the kick on the goal line, advances to the five and hands off to Allen. Allen laterals to Adler on the three, who returns to the 25. Do not credit either Adams or Allen with a return or return yardage. Credit Adler with a return of 22 yards.

A.R. 2. Adams receives the kick on the 15, makes no attempt to advance, but laterals to Allen on the 10, who returns to the 25. Do not credit Adams with a return. Credit Allen with a return of 15 yards.

A.R. 3. Adams receives the kick on the 15, runs laterally and hands off to Allen on the 13, who returns to the 25. Do not credit Adams with a return. Credit Allen with a return of 12 yards.

Article 5. When a player advances a kick, laterals and a loss of yardage occurs on the play (determined from the point of the original possession), credit the first returnee with the return and minus yardage.

A.R. Adams receives the kickoff on the 10, advances to the 12 and laterals to Allen on the seven. Allen is tackled on the eight. Credit Adams with a return of minus two yards. Do not credit Allen with a return or yardage.

Article 6. When, after a lateral, the second player contributes to an additional loss of yardage on the return, credit him with no return and minus yardage.

A.R. Adams receives the kickoff on the 10, advances to the 12 and laterals to Allen on the seven. Allen retreats and is tackled on the four. Credit Adams with a return of minus three yards. Credit Allen with no return of minus three yards.

Article 7. When a player on the receiving team, who is trying to gain possession, muffs or touches a kick, credit him with a return and yardage gained or lost from the point where the ball was first touched. Charge the receiving team with a fumble. Measure the distance of the punt to that point, not to the point of ultimate recovery by either team.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on its 30. Brown misjudges Adams' punt at Team B's 30, the ball grazes his fingertips and rolls to the 20, where Allen recovers. Charge Brown with a punt return of minus 10 yards. Credit Adams with a 40-yard punt. Charge Team B with a fumble lost.

A.R. 2. Team A's ball on Team B's 45. Brown tries to catch Adams' punt on Team B's 10 and the ball bounces off (or through) his hands and is recovered by Allen in the end zone for a touchdown. Credit Adams with a 35-yard punt. Credit Brown with a punt return of minus 10 yards. Credit Allen with a touchdown scored on a fumble recovery (do not credit him with a punt return). Charge Team B with a fumble lost.

Article 8. When the ball touches a player on the receiving team who is not trying to gain possession, charge a "Team" return for yardage gained or lost from the point where the ball first touched the player. Charge the receiving team with a fumble.

A.R.1. Team A's ball on its 40. Adams' punt bounces at Team B's 25 where it strikes the leg of Brown, who is trying to avoid the ball. The ball then rolls to the 20, where it is recovered by Allen. Credit Adams with a 35-yard punt. Charge Team B with a "Team" punt return of minus five yards and a fumble lost.

A.R. 2. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, Benton picks up the ball at the 20 and advances to the 24. Credit Adams with a 35-yard punt. Charge Team B with a "Team" punt return of minus five yards and a fumble not lost. Credit Benton with no punt return but with four yards under "Punt Returns."*

Article 9. When an onside kickoff that has traveled at least 10 yards strikes a player on the receiving team (who may or may not be trying to gain possession), charge a "Team" return for yardage gained or lost (if any) from the point where the ball first touched the player if the kicking team recovered the kick. Charge the receiving team with a fumble lost. When an onside kickoff that has traveled at least 10 yards strikes a player on the kicking team before striking any member of the receiving team and is recovered by the kicking team, this is a point of possession only. Do not charge a fumble, fumble recovery, kick return or kick return yardage to either team. The ball is dead as soon as it is caught or recovered by the kicking team.

Article 10. When a player receives a kickoff and muffs it or touches it and it goes into the end zone, he retains the option of downing it for a touchback or returning the kickoff.

A.R.1. *Adams muffs the kickoff at Team A's two-yard line and the ball rolls into the end zone. Adams gains possession in the end zone and downs the ball for a touchback and therefore, he gets no return.*

A.R. 2. *In the identical situation to A.R. 1, Adams attempts to return the ball by breaking the plane of the goal line and is tackled at the four-yard line. Give Adams a return of four yards.*

A.R. 3. *In the identical situation to A.R. 2, Adams attempts to return the ball by breaking the plane of the goal line and changes his mind and tries to stay in the end zone. Give Adams a return of zero yards and score a safety to Team B.*

Article 11. When a foul occurs behind the point where the kick return began, do not credit the returnee with a return or return yardage.

A.R. *Brown fields a punt on Team B's 40 and advances to the 50, but a clipping foul occurs on Team B's 35. Do not credit Brown with a punt return or punt return yardage. Charge Team B with a penalty of 20 yards.*

Article 12. A kickoff untouched by the receiving team before striking the ground on or behind the goal line is a dead ball when it touches the ground in the end zone if it has not touched a member of the receiving team. The

play is a touchback. However, if the ball touches a player of the receiving team, it is not a touchback in the end zone until it is downed by the receiving team.

A.R. *Team A kicks off to Team B with a low line-drive kick that hits at the 10-yard line and goes into the end zone. It does not touch any member of the receiving team before going into the end zone, where it comes to rest. No Team B player attempts to down, recover or advance the ball, and a Team A player falls on the ball in the end zone. The play is a touchback and Team B puts the ball in play at the 20-yard line.*

► SECTION 9—FREE KICKS

Free kicks are recorded as kickoffs, regardless of whether they are made from placement or punted. The receiver is credited with a kickoff return in all cases.

► SECTION 10—FIELD GOALS

Article 1. Field goal attempts are measured from the spot where the ball is kicked to the goal posts (to the goal line plus 10 yards, since the posts are 10 yards behind the goal line). The spot of the attempt is dictated by the same principle as used in determining the line of scrimmage (see B.I. 2). **Example:** If any part of the ball when kicked rests on or above any yard stripe, credit distance from that yard stripe. If all of the ball rests between yard stripes, credit distance from the yard line nearest the intended goal.

Article 2. The distance of all successful and unsuccessful field goal attempts are recorded under “Scoring Summary” and on the front of the statistics summary form. All unsuccessful attempts are recorded under “Missed Field Goal Attempts” on the reverse side of the appropriate statistics summary form provided by the national office.

Article 3. The kicker is not charged with a field goal attempt if he does not actually kick (e.g., if it is due to a bad pass from center or if the player holding the ball muffs or juggles it long enough to prevent an opportunity to kick). Such an unsuccessful attempt is charged to “Team” rather than to the kicker. However, if the ball is momentarily fumbled and then kicked, an attempt is charged to the kicker, regardless of the success or failure of the effort.

Article 4. The kicker is charged with a field goal attempt that is blocked. **Exception:** If, in the judgment of the scorer, an error in the center snap or placement of the ball by the holder is the direct cause of a blocked

attempt, the kicker shall not be charged with an attempt. Such an unsuccessful attempt is charged to "Team" rather than to the kicker.

Article 5. When a bad pass from center occurs or the player holding the ball muffs or juggles it long enough to prevent the kicker from making an attempt and a loss occurs on the play, charge "Team" with a rush and minus yardage. If the ball is advanced beyond the line of scrimmage, credit the ball carrier with a rush and yardage.

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 20. On Adams' field goal attempt, the ball holder fumbles and Adams falls on the ball on the 30. Do not charge Adams with a field goal attempt. Charge Team A with a rush of minus 10 yards and a fumble.*

A.R. 2. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, Adams recovers the ball at the 30 and advances to the 25. Do not charge Adams with a field goal attempt or a rush. Charge Team A with a rush of minus five yards and a fumble.*

A.R.3. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, Adams recovers the fumble at the 30 and advances to the 15. Credit Adams with a rush of five yards and charge Team A with a fumble.*

Article 6. Because of its effect on a team's net punting average, the return by an opposing player of an attempted field goal that is blocked or falls short is not recorded as a punt return. The player(s) and yardage gained in returning an unsuccessful field goal attempt is recorded under "Miscellaneous Yardage." Likewise, if a field goal attempt on third down is blocked and recovered by the kicking team, the yardage gained or lost is recorded under "Miscellaneous Yardage."

A.R.1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams attempts a field goal from the 27 and it is blocked by Brown. Benton picks up the ball on the 30 and advances to Team B's 45. Credit Brown with 10 yards and Benton with 15 yards of miscellaneous yardage.*

A.R.2. *Team A has the ball at Team B's 20. On third down, Team A attempts a field goal that is blocked by Team B and recovered by Team A at Team B's 25. The loss of five yards between the previous line of scrimmage and the new one is recorded under "Miscellaneous Yardage."*

Article 7. When a field goal attempt is blocked behind the line of scrimmage, Team A retains the privileges it had before the blocked kick (i.e., Team A may kick, pass or advance the ball by rushing, as in the case of a blocked punt). (See Section 7, Article 2 and A.R.s 1-4.)

► SECTION 11—EXTRA POINTS

In 1988, the NCAA Football Rules Committee adopted a rule that gives the defensive team an opportunity to score two points on point-after-touchdown tries. The two points will be awarded to the defensive team for returning an interception [or an opponent's fumble (see B.I. 5)] for a touchdown or for advancing a blocked extra-point kick attempt for a touchdown.

The rules committee instructed the NCAA statistics service to record defensive extra-points attempted and made (in addition to offensive extra points) for purposes of recording trends. Accordingly, the football statistics report forms for Divisions I-A, I-AA, II and III were revised to include separate categories for "Offensive Extra Points" and "Defensive Extra Points." The recording of offensive extra points is unchanged, however.

OFFENSIVE EXTRA POINTS

Article 1. The kicker is not charged with an extra-point attempt if he does not actually kick (e.g., if it is due to a bad pass from center or if the player holding the ball muffs or juggles it long enough to prevent an opportunity to kick). Such an unsuccessful attempt is charged to "Team" rather than to the kicker. However, if the ball is momentarily fumbled and then kicked, an attempt is charged to the kicker, regardless of the success or failure of the effort.

Article 2. The kicker is charged with an extra-point attempt that is blocked. **Exception:** If, in the judgment of the scorer, an error in the center snap or placement of the ball by the holder is the direct cause of a blocked attempt, the kicker shall not be charged with an attempt. Such an unsuccessful attempt is charged to "Team" rather than to the kicker.

Article 3. A player is not charged with an attempt when, after an error in the center snap or placement of the ball, he attempts an unsuccessful two-point try. Rather, charge a "Team" attempt by kicking.

A.R. 1. *On a kick attempt, the snap from center bounces past Adams. Adams recovers the ball and throws an incomplete forward pass. Charge Team A with a "Team" attempt by kicking.*

A.R. 2. *On a kick attempt, the kick is blocked and Adams, the holder, recovers and throws an incomplete forward pass attempting to complete a two-point conversion. Allen, the kicker, is charged with an unsuccessful kick attempt.*

A.R. 3. *On a kick attempt, the kick is blocked and Adams, the holder, recovers and throws a complete pass for a two-point conversion. Allen, the kicker, is not charged with a kick attempt but*

Adams gets credit for a successful conversion attempt and Ames, the receiver, is credited under "Scoring" with the conversion and the points scored.

A.R. 4. *On a kick attempt, the kick is blocked and Adams, the holder, picks up the ball and attempts to run into the end zone for a two-point conversion but is stopped short. Give Allen, the kicker, an unsuccessful kick attempt.*

A.R. 5. *On a kick attempt, the kick is blocked and Adams, the holder, picks up the ball and runs it into the end zone for a two-point conversion. Allen, the kicker, is not charged with a kick attempt but Adams gets credit for a successful conversion attempt and is credited under "Scoring" with the points scored.*

Article 4. The extra point is attempted while time is out and is not to be recorded as a play from scrimmage (i.e., rush, pass, interception or kick).

Exception: Penalties against Team A and Team B are recorded.

A.R. 1. *When the extra-point attempt is by forward passing, the passer is charged with the attempt (under "Scoring"), whether successful or not. If successful, the receiver is credited under "Scoring" with the conversion and the points scored, and the passer is credited with a conversion under "Forward Passing." A conversion effort by passing is recorded as a "PAT Attempt" and is not recorded as a pass reception.*

A.R. 2. *When the extra-point attempt is by rushing, the ball carrier is charged with a "PAT Attempt" and is credited with the points. He is not charged with a rushing attempt and is not credited with yards gained. When such an attempt is unsuccessful, the ball carrier is charged with the PAT attempt only.*

A.R. 3. *Team A's extra-point attempt is unsuccessful, but Team B is offside and the ball is moved from the three- to the 1 1/2-yard line (half the distance to the goal) for another attempt. Charge Team B with a penalty of two yards.*

A.R. 4. *Team A's extra point is successful, but Team A is offside and the ball is moved from the three- to the eight-yard line for another attempt. Charge Team A with a penalty of five yards.*

A.R. 5. *Team A's extra-point attempt is successful, but Team B is called for unsportsmanlike conduct. On the ensuing kickoff, Team A kicks off from the 50-yard line instead of its 35. Charge Team B with a penalty of 15 yards.*

DEFENSIVE EXTRA POINTS

There are two defensive extra-point categories: (a) Interceptions—An opponent's two-point pass attempt intercepted and made (i.e., returned for a touchdown), and including an opponent's fumble on an extra-point attempt (see B.I. 5); and (b) Kick Returns—An opponent's extra-point kick attempt that is blocked or returned and made (i.e., advanced for a touchdown).

A defensive extra-point attempt is to be credited only when a defensive player has gained possession. However, the defensive player is not to be credited with a play (only an attempt) or any yardage as is the case in offensive extra-point attempts.

Article 1. Defensive extra-point interceptions (and fumble returns).

A.R. 1. *Brown intercepts Adams' extra-point pass attempt in the end zone and returns it for a touchdown. Credit Brown with a defensive extra-point interception attempt and attempt made, and with two points scored. Do not credit Brown with an interception of 100 yards, but indicate the yardage in the "Scoring Summary" and the play-by-play. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point pass attempt only.*

A.R. 2. *Brown intercepts Adams' extra-point pass attempt in the end zone and downs the ball. Credit Brown with a defensive extra-point interception attempt only. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point pass attempt only.*

A.R. 3. *Brown, instead of intercepting Adams' extra-point pass attempt in the end zone, knocks the ball to the ground. Do not credit Brown with a defensive extra-point interception attempt, as he did not have possession. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point pass attempt only.*

A.R. 4. *Brown intercepts Adams' extra-point pass attempt in the end zone and returns to Team B's 30, where he is downed. Credit Brown with a defensive extra-point interception attempt only. Do not credit Brown with an interception of 30 yards, but indicate the yardage in the "Scoring Summary" and the play-by-play. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point pass attempt only.*

A.R. 5. *Brown intercepts Adams' extra-point pass attempt in the end zone, returns to Team B's 20, where he laterals to Benton. Benton then advances to Team B's 30, where he is downed. Credit only Brown with a defensive extra-point interception attempt. Do not credit either Brown or Benton with yardage nor credit Benton with an attempt. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point pass attempt only.*

A.R.6. Adams attempts a run on an extra-point attempt and fumbles. Brown recovers the ball at Team B's two-yard line and returns it for a two-point touchdown. Credit Brown with a defensive extra-point interception attempt and attempt made, and with two points scored. Do not credit Brown with interception yardage of 98 yards, but indicate the yardage in the "Scoring Summary" and the play-by-play. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point run attempt only.

Article 2. Defensive extra-point kick returns.

A.R. 1. Adams attempts an extra-point kick. Brown blocks the kick, recovers the ball at Team B's 10 and advances for a two-point touchdown. Credit Brown with a defensive extra-point kick return attempt and attempt made, and with two points scored. Do not credit Brown with blocked kick (punt return) yardage of 90 yards, but indicate the yardage in the "Scoring Summary" and the play-by-play. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point kick attempt.

A.R.2. Adams attempts an extra-point kick. Brown blocks the kick at Team B's seven-yard line, and Benton recovers at Team B's 15 and advances for a two-point touchdown. Credit Benton with a defensive extra-point kick return attempt and attempt made, and with two points scored. Do not credit Benton with blocked kick (punt return) yardage of 85 yards, but indicate the yardage in the "Scoring Summary" and the play-by-play. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point kick attempt.

A.R.3. Adams attempts an extra-point kick. Brown blocks the kick at Team B's 10 and falls on the ball at Team B's 15. Credit Brown with a defensive extra-point kick return attempt. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point kick attempt.

A.R.4. Adams attempts an extra-point kick. Brown blocks the kick at Team B's 10 and Benton falls on the ball at Team B's 15. Credit Benton (who gained possession) with a defensive extra-point kick return attempt. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point kick attempt.

A.R. 5. Adams' extra-point kick attempt is shanked. Brown catches the ball in the air in the end zone and returns it for a two-point touchdown. Credit Brown with a defensive extra-point kick return attempt and attempt made, and with two points scored. Do not credit Brown with kick return (punt return) yardage of 100 yards, but indicate the yardage in the "Scoring Summary" and the play-by-play. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point kick attempt.

A.R.6. *Adams' extra-point kick attempt is blocked and strikes the ground in the end zone. Brown picks up the ball and advances it. The ball is dead when it strikes the ground in the end zone. Therefore, do not credit Brown with a defensive kick return attempt. Charge Adams with an offensive extra-point attempt.*

► SECTION 12—SAFETIES

No individual credit is recorded for any player on either team when a safety is scored. The team benefiting from the score is credited. On a scrimmage play, however, the ball carrier is charged with a rush attempt and with a yardage loss from the line of scrimmage to the goal line.

► SECTION 13—FUMBLES

Article 1. A fumble is an act that results in an individual's loss of possession of the ball or his failure to handle a ball that has been properly centered or handed to him. **Exceptions:** No fumble should be charged (a) on a momentary bobble of the ball at the point of reception if, in the scorer's judgment, the bobble had no effect on the continuing action, or (b) on a point-after-touchdown try. A fumble also is charged in certain instances in which a player muffs (or is touched by) a ball punted to him (see Section 8, Articles 7 and 8) and on blocked punts (see Section 7, Article 1). On any play terminated by a fumble, the yards involved to the point of recovery are credited to the player who fumbled, regardless of which team recovers the fumble.

A.R.1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams runs to the 25, fumbles, and Brown recovers at the 24. Credit Adams with a rush of six yards. Charge Team A with a fumble lost.*

A.R.2. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, Allen recovers the fumble at Team B's 32. Charge Adams with a rush of minus two yards. Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.*

Article 2. An offensive fumble advanced by a teammate from beyond the line of scrimmage is recorded in the category of the originating play and the yardage is measured from the point of recovery of the fumble.

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams runs to the 15 and fumbles. Allen recovers the ball at the 15 and gains an additional 10 yards. Credit Adams with a rush of five yards. Credit Allen with no rush but with 10 yards under "Rushing." Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.*

A.R. 2. Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams runs to the 15 and fumbles. Allen recovers the ball at the 17 and runs to the 10. Credit Adams with a rush of three yards. Credit Allen with no rush but with seven yards under "Rushing." Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.

A.R. 3. Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams runs to the five, fumbles and the ball rolls into the end zone where Allen recovers for a touchdown. Credit Adams with a rush of 20 yards. Credit Allen with no rush and zero yards. Do credit Allen with a touchdown by rushing. Credit Team A with a touchdown by rushing and with a fumble not lost.

A.R. 4. Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams completes a pass to Allen, who fumbles at the 10. The ball rolls into the end zone, where Adler recovers for a touchdown. Credit Adams with a pass attempt, a completion of 20 yards and a touchdown pass. Credit Allen with a reception of 20 yards. Credit Adler with no reception and zero yards, but with a touchdown by receiving. Credit Team A with a touchdown by passing and with a fumble not lost.

Article 3. An offensive fumble recovered by a teammate on or behind the line of scrimmage is recorded as follows:

(a) If advanced beyond the line of scrimmage, charge the player who fumbled with a rush. Credit the teammate with no rush and yardage, determined from the line of scrimmage.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams fumbles at the 26. Allen recovers at the 25 and advances for a touchdown. Charge Adams with a rush of zero yards. Credit Allen with no rush but with 20 yards under "Rushing" and a touchdown. Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.

(b) If the play results in no gain or a loss, charge the player who fumbled with a rush and minus yardage, if any.

A.R. 2. Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams fumbles at the 26. Allen recovers at the 25 and advances to the 22. Charge Adams with a rush of minus two yards. Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.

(c) If the play results in a loss and the teammate contributes to an additional loss, also charge the latter with minus yardage.

A.R. 3. Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams fumbles at the 26. Allen recovers the ball at the 27, retreats and is tackled at the 30. Charge Adams with a rush of minus seven yards. Charge Allen with

no rush but with minus three yards under "Rushing." Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.

Article 4. According to separate rulings (1992 and 1998), any offensive fumble or backward pass either behind or beyond the line of scrimmage recovered by the defensive team may be advanced. Previously, only fumbles or backward passes recovered beyond the line of scrimmage could be returned by the defense. Record only those fumbles and backward passes returned for yardage and not just fallen on by the player. All fumble returns are recorded on the front side of the NCAA Summary of Football Game Statistics fax form.

Article 5. A fumble that occurs near the sidelines, whether or not it appears intentional (for the purpose of getting the ball out of bounds to stop the clock) is recorded as a fumble.

Article 6. When two players apparently contribute equally to a fumble and there is a resultant gain or loss of yardage, the player who, in the scorer's judgment, was in possession of the ball at the time of the fumble is credited with the gain or charged with the loss.

A.R.1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 40. During an attempted hand-off from Adams to Allen, the ball is fumbled and recovered by Team A on the 50. Charge Adams or Allen (based on the scorer's judgment) with a rush of minus 10 yards. Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.*

A.R. 2. *In the same situation as A.R. 1, the ball is recovered by Team A on Team B's 35. Credit Adams or Allen (based on the scorer's judgment) with a rush of five yards. Charge Team A with a fumble not lost.*

Article 7. An intercepted fumble or backward pass recovery is charged against the team as a fumble lost (see B.I. 5). Record an intercepted fumble recovery return just like any fumble return with yardage involved in the return on the front side of the NCAA Summary of Football Game Statistics fax form.

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams runs to the 15 and fumbles. Brown recovers the ball in midair at the 13 and returns to Team B's 20. Credit Adams with a rush of seven yards. Credit Brown with a fumble return of seven yards. Charge Team A with a fumble lost.*

A.R.2. *Team A's ball on Team B's 20. Adams hits into the line and fumbles. Brown recovers the ball in midair at the 23 and runs for a touchdown. Charge Adams with a rush of minus three yards. Credit*

Brown with a fumble return touchdown of 77 yards. Charge Team A with a fumble lost.

Article 8. An offensive fumble on fourth down recovered by the opponent is recorded as a fumble lost.

Article 9. When, after an offensive fumble behind the line of scrimmage, a defensive player unintentionally kicks the ball in an attempt to obtain possession, charge the player who fumbled with a rush and yardage to the point where the ball was kicked. Charge the team with no rush and yardage to the point where the ball was recovered.

A.R. Team A's ball on its 40. Adams fumbles at Team A's 35 and Brown unintentionally kicks the ball in an attempt to obtain possession. Benton recovers the ball at Team A's 25. Charge Adams with a rush of minus five yards. Charge Team A with no rush but with minus 10 yards under "Rushing" and a fumble lost.

► SECTION 14—PENALTIES

The following are the basic spots in enforcement of penalties that occur during a running play. A running play is defined as the action in the interval between the snap and the time that the ball is kicked or a forward pass is thrown; and the action after a kick has come into possession and action after a legal pass has been completed or intercepted.

(a) The basic enforcement spot for fouls in the field of play or in the end zone on a running play is where the run ends beyond the line of scrimmage. **Exception:** If the foul is by the team in possession and it occurs behind the spot where the run ends, the enforcement is from the spot of the foul.

(b) The spot of the foul is the basic enforcement spot when the run ends behind the line of scrimmage before a change of possession.

(c) This includes clipping, illegal use of hands and holding fouls when the play ends behind the line of scrimmage (whether the play was a run, pass or kick).

Article 1. When yardage gained by rushing, passing or runbacks is involved with penalty yardage to be assessed, the point at which the official declares the run ends determines the point of legal advance. It also determines where a run begins (e.g., when Team B catches a fumble in the air and returns it). If the foul is by Team A and occurs behind the spot where the run ends, the enforcement is from the spot of the foul [see (a) above].

A.R.1. Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams rushes for 15 yards to Team B's 25. A clipping penalty is called against Team A on Team B's 30. The enforcement spot is the 30 and Team A is penalized 15 yards to Team B's 45. Credit Adams with a rush of 10 yards and charge Team A with a penalty of 15 yards.

A.R.2. Team A's ball on Team B's 30. Adams rushes for 10 yards to Team B's 20. A clipping penalty is called against Team A on Team B's 15. The enforcement spot is the 20 (where the run ended) and Team A is penalized 15 yards to Team B's 35. Credit Adams with a rush of 10 yards and charge Team A with a penalty of 15 yards.

A.R.3. Team A's ball on its 30. Adams rushes for 20 yards to the 50. A clipping penalty is called against Team A on Team A's 47. The enforcement spot is the 47 (where the foul occurred) and Team A is penalized 15 yards to its 32. Credit Adams with a rush of 17 yards and charge Team A with a penalty of 15 yards. This accounts for the forward movement of the ball by a net of two yards.

Note: When a penalty occurs within the framework of a play and there is both yardage gained as well as penalty yardage assessed, the play is recorded in order to account for the change in ball position. Do not be confused by the fact that the down does not change in the above circumstances unless the net yardage of the play and the penalty exceeds that needed for a first down.

Article 2. Penalties against the defense on running plays when the run ends beyond the line of scrimmage are enforced from the spot where the run ends.

A.R. 1. Team A's ball on its 40. Adams rushes to the 45 and Brown holds at Team A's 43. The enforcement spot is the 45. Credit Adams with a rush of five yards and charge Team B with a penalty of 10 yards.

A.R. 2. Team A's ball on its 40. Adams rushes for five yards and Brown holds at Team A's 37. The enforcement spot is the 45. Credit Adams with a rush of five yards and charge Team B with a penalty of 10 yards.

A.R.3. Team A's ball on its 40. Adams rushes for three yards and Brown holds at Team A's 44. The enforcement spot is the 43. Credit Adams with a rush of three yards and charge Team B with a penalty of 10 yards.

A.R. 4. Team A's ball on its 40. Adams rushes for no gain and Brown holds at Team A's 43. The enforcement spot is the 40. Do not

charge Adams with a rush. Charge Team B with a penalty of 10 yards.

Article 3. Penalties against the defense on running plays when the run ends behind the line of scrimmage are enforced from the previous spot. The play is nullified. Do not charge the ball carrier with a rush.

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on its 40. Adams loses two yards rushing. Brown holds at Team A's 37. The enforcement spot is the 40. Charge Team B with a penalty of 10 yards. Do not charge Adams with a rush.*

A.R. 2. *Team A's ball on its 40. Adams loses five yards rushing and Brown holds at Team A's 37. The enforcement spot is the 40. Charge Team B with a penalty of 10 yards. Do not charge Adams with a rush.*

Article 4. The basic enforcement spot for a 15-yard roughing-the-passer foul on a completed forward pass is from the end of the last run when the run ends beyond the line of scrimmage. It also is an automatic first down (see Section 1, Articles 2 and 6).

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on Team B's 45. Adams completes a pass to Allen, who runs to Team B's 30. A roughing-the-passer foul is called against Team B. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 15 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of 15 yards. Credit Team A with a first down by passing and a first down by penalty. Charge Team B with a penalty of 15 yards to Team B's 15.*

A.R. 2. *Team A's ball on Team B's 45. Adams completes a pass to Allen, who runs to Team B's 10. A roughing-the-passer foul is called against Team B. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 35 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of 35 yards. Credit Team A with a first down by passing and a first down by penalty. Charge Team B with a penalty of five yards (half the distance to the goal line from Team B's 10).*

A.R. 3. *Team A's ball on Team B's 25. Adams completes a pass to Allen in the end zone for a touchdown. A roughing-the-passer foul is called against Team B. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 25 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of 25 yards. Credit Team A with a first down by passing and a first down by penalty. Charge Team B with a penalty of 15 yards, which will be enforced on the ensuing kickoff.*

A.R. 4. *Team A's ball on Team B's 45. Adams completes a pass to Allen on Team B's 40. Allen runs to Team B's 35, throws a lateral*

pass to Archer on Team B's 39 and Archer runs to Team B's 30. A roughing-the-passer foul is called against Team B. Credit Adams with a pass attempt and a completion of 15 yards. Credit Allen with a reception of six yards and Archer with no reception but with nine yards under "Receiving." Credit Team A with a first down by passing and a first down by penalty. Charge Team B with a penalty of 15 yards, which will be enforced from Team B's 30 (the end of the last run).

Article 5. A penalty on a foul by Team A behind the neutral zone (when the run ends behind the line of scrimmage) is enforced from the spot of the foul, except in the case of holding behind the neutral zone, which is penalized 10 yards from the previous spot of the ball. The play is nullified and is not recorded (unless Team B declines the penalty).

A.R. 1. *Team A's ball on its 40. Adams rushes for 10 yards but a clipping penalty is called against Team A on its 37. The enforcement spot is the 37. Charge Team A with a penalty of 18 yards. Play is nullified. Do not credit Adams with a rush of 10 yards.*

A.R. 2. *Team A's ball on its 40. Adams loses three yards rushing but a clipping penalty is called against Team A on its 36. The enforcement spot is the 36. Charge Team A with a penalty of 19 yards. Play is nullified. Do not charge Adams with a rush of minus three yards.*

A.R. 3. *In the same situation as A.R. 2, Team B declines the penalty. Charge Adams with a rush of minus three yards.*

A.R. 4. *Team A's ball on its 40. Adams attempts a pass but, during the play, a holding penalty is called against Team A on its 30. The enforcement spot is the 40. Charge Team A with a penalty of 10 yards. Play is nullified. Do not charge Adams with a pass attempt.*

A.R. 5. *Team B holds an eligible receiver before a forward pass crosses the neutral zone. Charge Team B with a penalty of 10 yards from the previous spot and credit Team A with a first down. There is no first down credited if the foul occurred after the ball was thrown.*

A.R. 6. *Team B pushes an eligible receiver illegally before a forward pass crosses the neutral zone. Charge Team B with a penalty of five yards from the previous spot and credit Team A with a first down. There is no first down credited if the foul occurred after the ball was thrown.*

Article 6. On a foul by Team A such as offside, delay of the game, illegal motion, etc., the play is nullified and is not recorded. If Team B declines the penalty, the play is recorded but the penalty yardage is not recorded.

A.R. *Team A's ball on Team B's 40. Adams rushes for five yards but an offside penalty is called against Team A. Team A is penalized to Team B's 45. Play is nullified. Charge Team A with a penalty of five yards.*

Article 7. When a kickoff goes out of bounds and is kicked again, charge Team A with a penalty of five yards from the previous spot.

Article 8. If a foul occurs on the last timed down of a period, the period is extended if the penalty is accepted by either team during a running play or a pass play, or if the penalty is canceled when the most advantageous choice is obvious to the referee.

Article 9. If the official overpenalizes or underpenalizes with yardage, record the actual yardage stepped off and not the yardage specified for the infraction. For clarification in the play-by-play, asterisk or otherwise denote the improper yardage.

A.R. *Team A's ball on Team B's 45. Team B is offside, and the official steps off a penalty to Team B's 39. Charge Team B with a six-yard penalty and denote in the play-by-play.*

► SECTION 15—WILD PASS FROM CENTER

Any loss resulting from an obvious wild pass from center is charged to "Center Pass" and not to any individual player. Team A is charged with a team rush, the loss and with a fumble.

Any gain resulting from a wild pass from center is recorded as though the wild pass had not occurred.

► SECTION 16—DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

The following articles and approved rulings provide some consistent standards for the keeping of national defensive football statistics. Defensive statistics should include those plays made on defensive scrimmage plays as well as tackles in kick coverage and tackles made by offensive players following turnovers.

Article 1. If a ball carrier is stopped solely or primarily because of the efforts of one defensive player, that player should be credited with a tackle. No more than one tackle can be credited on any one play. Tackles for losses, pass sacks and forced fumbles should result in a player getting credit for that action and a tackle.

Article 2. Assists may be credited in these ways:

- (a) If a ball carrier has been stopped primarily (but not solely) by

one defensive player, but a second defensive player stops the play more quickly and possibly prevents additional yardage gain, credit the second defensive player with an assist (the first defensive player is credited with a tackle).

(b) If two defensive players contribute equally to the stopping of a ball carrier, credit both players with an assist, but give neither a tackle.

Note: There should not be more than one assist credited when a tackle has been credited. In a situation where there is not an unassisted tackle, there should not be more than two assists credited. In other words, on any given play, one of the following may be credited: (1) one tackle, (2) one tackle and one assist, or (3) two assists.

Article 3. Tackles behind the line of scrimmage resulting in lost yardage, either of a ball carrier or a quarterback attempting to pass, are tackles for loss. The same principles noted above apply. A player who is credited with a tackle for a loss also should be credited with a tackle.

A player credited with an assist as the secondary tackler is not credited with a tackle for loss. In the case of two players getting an assist for the tackle (with no player being credited with an unassisted tackle), each player should also be credited with one-half tackle for loss.

Lost yardage on tackles for loss is not split between more than one player, but given equally to each player.

A.R. 1. Player A is solely or primarily responsible for a tackle resulting in lost yardage by the ball carrier. Player A is credited with a tackle and a tackle for loss.

A.R. 2. Player A is primarily responsible for a tackle resulting in lost yardage by the ball carrier and Player B is credited with an assist. Player A receives credit for a tackle and a tackle for loss. Player B receives credit for an assist.

A.R. 3. Players A and B are equally responsible for a tackle resulting in lost yardage by the ball carrier. Each is credited with an assist (not a tackle) and with one-half tackle for loss. Also, give each player the total yards lost on the play.

Article 4. If the defensive team is credited with the sack of a player who is attempting to pass, the same principles outlined above again apply. A player credited with an unassisted tackle on the play is also credited with a sack and a tackle for loss on the play. In the case of two players getting credit for an assist on the tackle (with no player being credited for an unassisted tackle), each player would also be credited with one-half sack and one-half tackle for loss.

In determining pass sacks, take into consideration a case when a quarterback or another offensive player makes an apparent attempt to pass while being chased and goes out-of-bounds, either behind or at the line of scrimmage. In that case, give the unassisted tackle, sack and a tackle for loss to the primary chasing player who, in the opinion of the official statistician, caused the passer to go out-of-bounds.

If a potential passer fumbles the ball before contact by the defense, no pass sack is credited to any individual player. Also, lost yardage on pass sacks is not split between more than one player but given equally to each player.

A.R. 1. *Player A is solely or primarily responsible for a pass sack. He is credited with a tackle, a tackle for loss and a sack, and all yards lost.*

A.R. 2. *Player A is primarily responsible for a pass sack and Player B receives an assist. Player A is credited with a tackle, a tackle for loss and a sack, and all of the yards lost. Player B is credited with an assist.*

A.R. 3. *Players A and B are equally responsible for a pass sack. Each is credited with an assist (not a tackle), one-half tackle for loss and one-half sack. Also, give each player the total yards lost.*

A.R. 4. *Player A chases the opposing quarterback, who shows that he intends to pass, and runs him out-of-bounds behind the line of scrimmage. Credit Player A with a tackle, a tackle for loss, and a sack, and all yards lost.*

Article 5. If a pass falls incomplete because of the defensive efforts of one player, that player should be credited with a pass defended. This may come about in two major ways:

(a) A defensive player who makes contact with the football, thus preventing the intended receiver from making the catch, should be credited with a pass defended.

(b) A defensive player who tackles the intended receiver simultaneously with the arrival of the football, thus preventing the reception, should be credited with a pass defended.

A defensive player who neither touches the football nor tackles the receiver simultaneously with the arrival of the football should not be credited with a pass defended. No pass defended credit should be given on plays in which the football is overthrown, thrown out-of-bounds or is otherwise uncatchable.

In rare instances, it may be possible for two defensive players to play such equal roles in the defending of a forward pass that it is not possible

to determine which player was more responsible. In such a rare instance, credit both players with a pass defended.

Note: A defensive player making an interception should also be credited with a pass defended. When a first defensive player defends against a pass in such a manner that he normally would be credited with a pass defended and a second defensive player intercepts that pass, the first defensive player should still be credited with a pass defended and the second defensive player credited with both an interception and a pass defended.

Article 6. In the compilation of fumbles recovered, only one player shall be determined to have recovered a fumble for defensive statistical purposes. However, for the compilation of forced fumbles, more than one player may be credited with causing a fumble by a ball carrier.

A.R. 1. *Player A is solely or primarily responsible for recovering a fumble. Even though several players may jump off of the pile after a fumble, Player A is credited with the fumble recovery by the determination of the official statistician.*

A.R. 2. *Player A is solely or primarily responsible for causing a fumble by the ball carrier. Player A is credited with a forced fumble and a tackle.*

A.R. 3. *Players A and B are equally responsible for causing a fumble by the ball carrier. Each is credited with one-half forced fumble and an assist.*