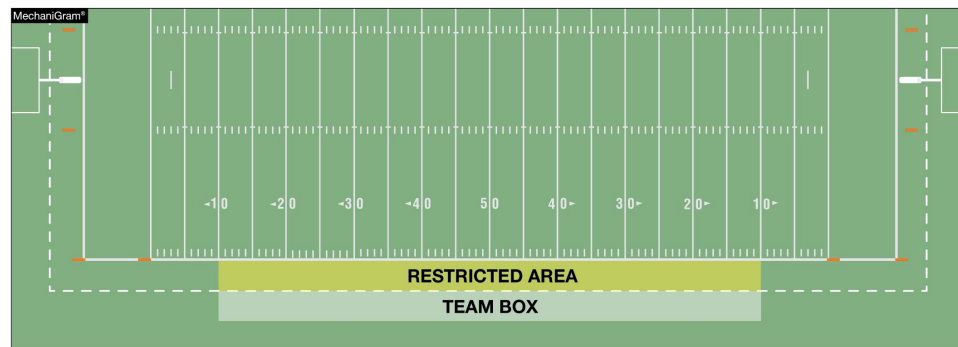


2023 NFHS FOOTBALL RULES REMINDERS



TEAM BOXES

RULE 1-2-3g NOTES 3. (NEW), TABLE 1-7 (3.) (NEW)



It is permissible for state associations to approve an extension of the team box and to determine the individuals who may be in the extended area, provided such extension is the same for both teams.



❖ Rules Reminder:

RULE 1 – SECTION 2 THE FIELD AND MARKINGS ...

ART. 3 . . . Lines and other markings: ...

g. Team boxes shall be marked on each side of the field outside the coaches' area between the 25-yard lines for use of coaches, substitutes, athletic trainers, etc., affiliated with the team. The coaches' area is a minimum of a 2-yard belt between the front of the team box and the sideline, and becomes a restricted area when the ball is live.

NOTES:

1. It is permissible for both team boxes to be on the same side of the field, provided each team box is marked between respective 20- and 45-yard lines.
2. It is recommended goal lines and the team box boundaries be marked in a color which contrasts with other field markings and the area between the sidelines and the team box boundaries be solid white or marked with diagonal lines.
3. It is permissible for state associations to approve an extension of the team box and to determine the individuals who may be in the extended area, provided such extension is the same for both teams.

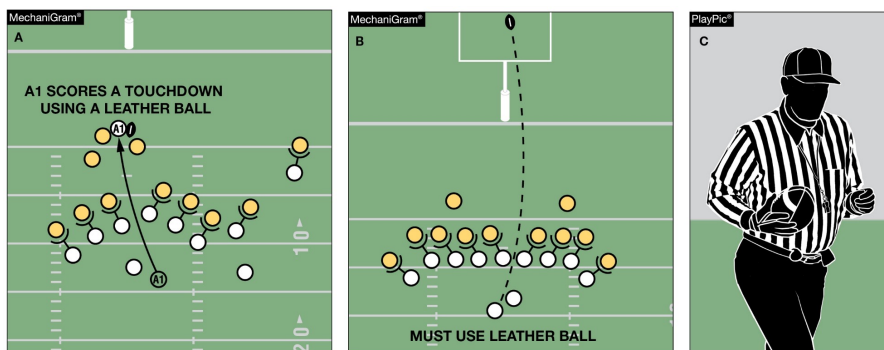
RULE 1 – TABLE 1-7 – TABLE OF STATE ASSOCIATION ADOPTIONS ...

3. Approve an extension of the team box if the same for both teams. (1-2-3g NOTE 3)

❖ Rationale for Change:

2022 Rule Change - By state association adoption, the team box may now be extended beyond the 25-yard line.

GAME BALLS RULE 1-3-3



Any game official may order the ball changed between downs. Unless the ball is ordered changed by the Referee or another game official, Team A scoring a touchdown with one ball (MechaniGram A) may not request a different ball for the try (MechaniGram B) but may use a different approved ball for the ensuing free kick (PlayPic C).



❖ **Rule Change:**

RULE 1 – SECTION 3 GAME EQUIPMENT ...

ART. 3 . . . The referee shall decide whether the ball meets specifications, and the referee or any other game official may order the ball changed between downs.

❖ **Rationale for Change:**

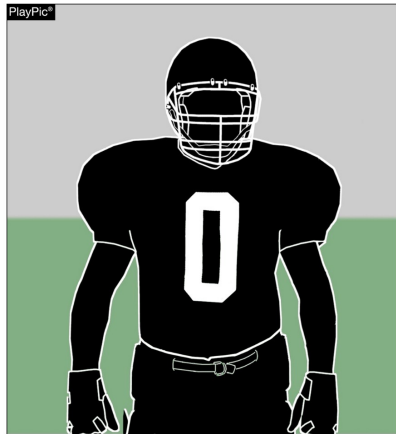
2022 Rule Change - Any game official may order the ball changed between downs.

❖ **Case Book:** See SITUATIONS 1.3.3A, 1.3.3B

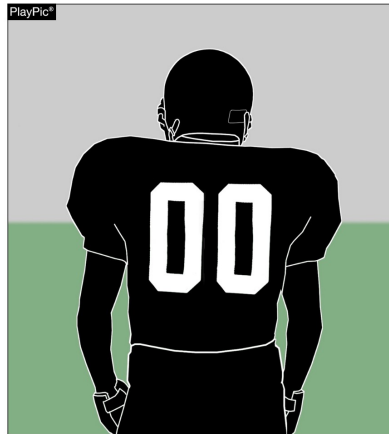
Rules Reminder

JERSEY NUMBERS

RULE 1-4-3, FIGURE 1-4-2, RULE 1-5-1c(1), RULE 7-2-5b EXCEPTIONS, RULE 7-5-6a



Legal



Illegal

Each player shall be numbered 0 through 99 inclusive. Any number preceded by the digit zero such as "00" is illegal.



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❖ **Rule Change:**

RULE 1 – SECTION 4 PLAYER DESIGNATIONS ...

ART. 3 . . . Each player shall be numbered 0 through 99 inclusive. Any number preceded by the digit zero is illegal. See 7-2-5.

RULE 1 – SECTION 5 PLAYER EQUIPMENT ...

ART. 1 . . . Mandatory equipment. Each player shall participate while wearing the following pieces of properly fitted equipment, which shall be professionally manufactured and not altered to decrease protection: ...

c. Numbers

1. The numbers shall be clearly visible and legible using Arabic numbers 0-99 inclusive and shall be on the front and back of the jersey.

RULE 7 – SECTION 2 FORMATION/POSITION, NUMBERSING AND ACTION AT THE SNAP ...

ART. 5 . . . Player formation and numbering requirements include:

- a. No more than four A players may be backs and only one A player
- b. At the snap, at least five A players on their line of scrimmage must be numbered 50-79.

EXCEPTIONS:

1. On first, second or third down, when A sets or shifts into a scrimmage-kick formation as in 2-14-2a, the snapper may be a player numbered 0 to 49 or 80 to 99. If Team A has the snapper in the game under this exception, Team A shall have four players wearing numbers 50-79 on its line of scrimmage. The snapper in the game under this exception must be between the ends and is an ineligible forward-pass receiver during that down unless the pass is touched by B (7-5-6b).
2. On fourth down or during a kick try, when A sets or shifts into a scrimmage-kick formation, any A player numbered 0 to 49 or 80 to 99 may take the position of any A player numbered 50 to 79. A player in the game under this exception must assume an initial position on his line of scrimmage between the ends and he remains an ineligible forward-pass receiver during that down unless the pass is touched by B (7-5-6b).

RULE 7 – SECTION 5 FORWARD-PASS CLASSIFICATION ...

ART. 6 . . . Pass eligibility rules apply only to a legal forward pass. The following players are eligible pass receivers:

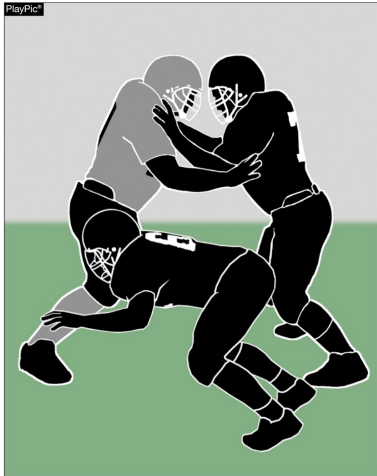
- a. All A players eligible by position and number including those who, at the time of the snap, are on the ends of their scrimmage line or legally behind the line (possible total of six) and are numbered 0-49 or 80-99. (7-2-5b EXCEPTION 2)

❖ **Rationale for Change:**

2022 Rule Change - The single digit number "0" is now a legal number.

❖ **Case Book:** See SITUATION 1.4.3

CHOP BLOCK RULE 2-3-8



A chop block is combination block by two or more teammates against an opponent other than the runner, with or without delay, where one of the blocks is below the waist and one of the blocks is above the waist.



❖ **Rule Change:**

RULE 2 – SECTION 3 BLOCKING ...

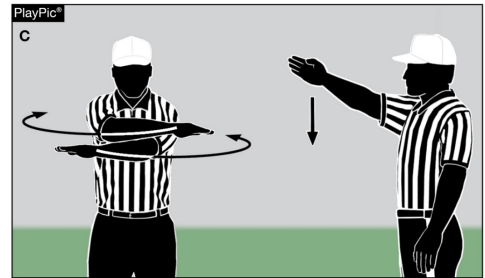
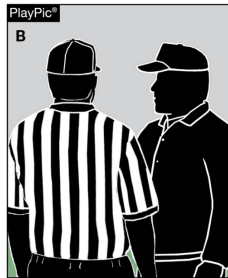
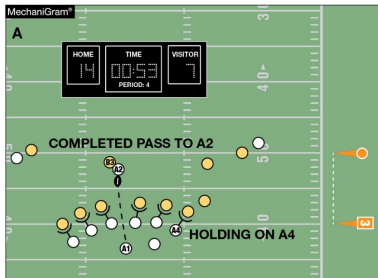
ART. 8 . . . Chop block is a combination block by two or more teammates against an opponent other than the runner, with or without delay, where one of the blocks is below the waist and one of the blocks is above the waist.

❖ **Rationale for Change:**

2022 Rule Change - A chop block has been redefined as an illegal combination block where contact is made above and below the waist.

❖ **Case Book:** See SITUATION 9.3.2F

GAME CLOCK OPTION RULE 3-4-7



When a foul is committed with less than two minutes remaining in either half, the offended team has the option to start the game clock on the snap. In MechaniGram A, Team B trails when Team A fouls. Team B's coach is consulted (PlayPic B), choosing to decline the penalty and have the clock started on the snap (PlayPic C).



❖ Rule Change:

RULE 3 – SECTION 4 STARTING AND STOPPING THE GAME CLOCK ...

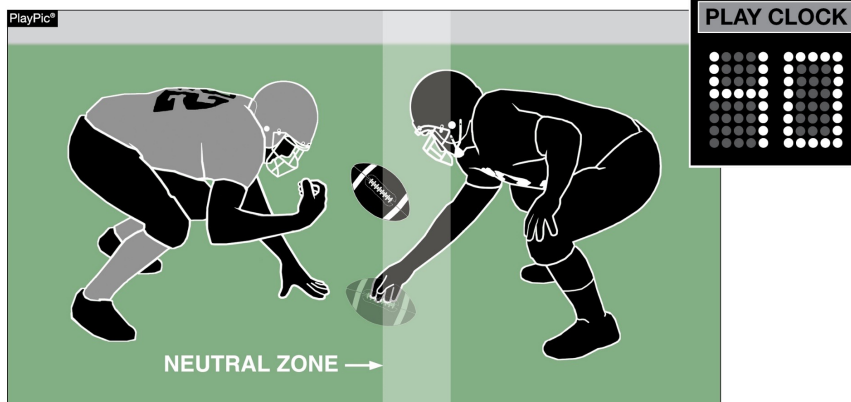
ART. 7 . . . When a foul is committed with less than two minutes remaining in either half, the offended team will have the option to start the game clock on the snap.

❖ Rationale for Change:

2022 Rule Change - Changed the offended team's game clock options following a foul committed with less than two minutes remaining in either half.

❖ Case Book: See SITUATIONS 3.4.7A, 3.4.7C, 3.4.7D

PLAY CLOCK RULE 3-6-1a(1)e EXCEPTION 2. (NEW)



When the clock is stopped due to Rule 3-5-7i and Team B is the only team to foul, the play clock will be set to 40 seconds.



❖ **Rule Change:**

RULE 3 – SECTION 6 PLAY CLOCK, BALL READY FOR PLAY AND DELAY ...

ART. 1 . . . Play clock and ready-for-play:

a. Play clock:

1. 25 seconds will be on the play clock and start on the ready-for-play signal:

- (a) Prior to a try following a score;
- (b) To start a period or overtime series;
- (c) Following administration of an inadvertent whistle;
- (d) Following a charged time-out;
- (e) Following an official's time-out as in 3-5-7 or 3-5-10.

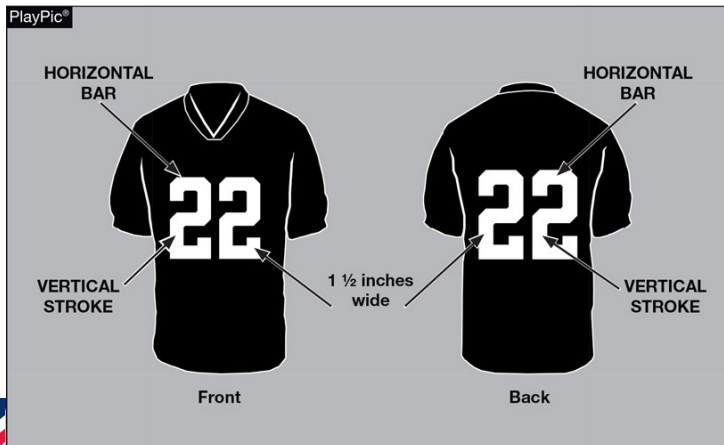
EXCEPTIONS:

- 1. 3-5-7b;
- 2. 3-5-7e, 3-5-7i or 3-5-10 if related to a defensive player.

❖ **Rationale for Change:**

2022 Rule Change - Added a new exception to the play clock administration following a foul committed only by the defensive team.

FOOTBALL JERSEY NUMBERS RULE 1-5-1c(3)



The entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) exclusive of any border(s) shall be approximately 1 1/2 – inches wide.



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❖ Rules Reminder:

RULE 1 – SECTION 5 – PLAYER EQUIPMENT

ART. 1 . . . Mandatory equipment. Each player shall participate while wearing the following pieces of properly fitted equipment, which shall be professionally manufactured and not altered to decrease protection: ...

c. Numbers

1. The numbers shall be clearly visible and legible using Arabic numbers 0-99 inclusive and shall be on the front and back of the jersey.
2. The numbers, inclusive of any border(s), shall be centered horizontally at least 8 inches and 10 inches high on front and back, respectively.
3. The entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) exclusive of any border(s) shall be approximately 1½-inches wide.
4. The color and style of the number shall be the same on the front and back.
5. **Through the 2023 season**, the body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be either:
 - (a) a continuous color(s) contrasting with the jersey color; or
 - (b) the same solid color(s) as the jersey with a minimum of one border that is at least ¼-inch in width of a single solid contrasting color.
6. **Effective with the 2024 season**, the entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.

❖ Comment on Slide:

Rule change in 2019. The purpose of numbers on jerseys is to provide clear identification of players. In order to enhance the ability to easily identify players, the committee has clarified the size requirements for jersey numbers through the 2023 season. The committee also added a new requirement that, effective in the 2024 season, jersey numbers must be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.

2024 - FOOTBALL JERSEY NUMBERS RULES 1-5-1c; 1-5-1c(6)



Effective with the 2024 season, the entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.



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❖ Rules Reminder:

❖ Comment on Slide:

See comments on slide.

2024 – FOOTBALL JERSEY NUMBERS RULES 1-5-1c; 1-5-1c(6)



The style of the numbers on all four of these jerseys are legal now and will be in 2024 too.



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❖ Rules Reminder:

RULE 1 – SECTION 5 – PLAYER EQUIPMENT

ART. 1 . . . Mandatory equipment. Each player shall participate while wearing the following pieces of properly fitted equipment, which shall be professionally manufactured and not altered to decrease protection: ...

c. Numbers

1. The numbers shall be clearly visible and legible using Arabic numbers 0-99 inclusive and shall be on the front and back of the jersey.
2. The numbers, inclusive of any border(s), shall be centered horizontally at least 8 inches and 10 inches high on front and back, respectively.
3. The entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) exclusive of any border(s) shall be approximately 1½-inches wide.
4. The color and style of the number shall be the same on the front and back.
5. **Through the 2023 season**, the body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be either:
 - (a) a continuous color(s) contrasting with the jersey color; or
 - (b) the same solid color(s) as the jersey with a minimum of one border that is at least ¼-inch in width of a single solid contrasting color.
6. **Effective with the 2024 season**, the entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.

❖ Comment on Slide:

Rule change in 2019. The purpose of numbers on jerseys is to provide clear identification of players. In order to enhance the ability to easily identify players, the committee has clarified the size requirements for jersey numbers through the 2023 season. The committee also added a new requirement that, effective in the 2024 season, jersey numbers must be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.

2024 – FOOTBALL JERSEY NUMBERS RULES 1-5-1c; 1-5-1c(6)



The style of the numbers on these jerseys are legal through the 2023 season. **The following four types of number designs will be illegal in 2024.**



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❖ **Rules Reminders:**

RULE 1 – SECTION 5 – PLAYER EQUIPMENT

ART. 1 . . . Mandatory equipment. Each player shall participate while wearing the following pieces of properly fitted equipment, which shall be professionally manufactured and not altered to decrease protection: ...

c. Numbers

1. The numbers shall be clearly visible and legible using Arabic numbers 0-99 inclusive and shall be on the front and back of the jersey.
2. The numbers, inclusive of any border(s), shall be centered horizontally at least 8 inches and 10 inches high on front and back, respectively.
3. The entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) exclusive of any border(s) shall be approximately 1½-inches wide.
4. The color and style of the number shall be the same on the front and back.
5. **Through the 2023 season**, the body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be either:
 - (a) a continuous color(s) contrasting with the jersey color; or
 - (b) the same solid color(s) as the jersey with a minimum of one border that is at least ¼-inch in width of a single solid contrasting color.
6. **Effective with the 2024 season**, the entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.

❖ **Comment on Slide:**

Rule change in 2019. The purpose of numbers on jerseys is to provide clear identification of players. In order to enhance the ability to easily identify players, the committee has clarified the size requirements for jersey numbers through the 2023 season. The committee also added a new requirement that, effective in the 2024 season, jersey numbers must be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.

2024 – FOOTBALL JERSEY NUMBERS RULES 1-5-1c, 1-5-1c(6)



- ✓ The style of the numbers on these jerseys are legal through the 2023 season.
- ✓ The dark number without the border do not clearly contrast with the jersey and thus will not be legal come 2024.



❖ Rules Reminders:

RULE 1 – SECTION 5 – PLAYER EQUIPMENT

ART. 1 . . . Mandatory equipment. Each player shall participate while wearing the following pieces of properly fitted equipment, which shall be professionally manufactured and not altered to decrease protection: ...

c. Numbers

1. The numbers shall be clearly visible and legible using Arabic numbers 1-99 inclusive and shall be on the front and back of the jersey.
2. The numbers, inclusive of any border(s), shall be centered horizontally at least 8 inches and 10 inches high on front and back, respectively.
3. The entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) exclusive of any border(s) shall be approximately 1½-inches wide.
4. The color and style of the number shall be the same on the front and back.
5. **Through the 2023 season**, the body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be either:
 - (a) a continuous color(s) contrasting with the jersey color; or
 - (b) the same solid color(s) as the jersey with a minimum of one border that is at least ¼-inch in width of a single solid contrasting color.
6. **Effective with the 2024 season**, the entire body of the number (the continuous horizontal bars and vertical strokes) shall be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.

❖ Comment on Slide:

Rule change in 2019. The purpose of numbers on jerseys is to provide clear identification of players. In order to enhance the ability to easily identify players, the committee has clarified the size requirements for jersey numbers through the 2023 season. The committee also added a new requirement that, effective in the 2024 season, jersey numbers must be a single solid color that clearly contrasts with the body color of the jersey.