

## **News – September 27, 2007**

### **Mike Lobert**

Mike Lobert is now home from the hospital after a stay during the week of September 17<sup>th</sup>. I talked to Mike today and he said that he incurred internal bleeding associated with an injury he sustained in a Week One football game which led to him collapsing at the midget league game on September 15th. His doctor has ordered him home for rest and he has a follow-up visit scheduled for tomorrow. His officiating has been put on hold by doctor's orders pending his examination. Mike plans to be at our October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. We continue to wish Mike a speedy recovery.

### **Pete Bowles**

Pete Bowles is at home and doing well, according to Fred McPherson. We certainly continue to wish Pete the best in his recovery from heart surgery.

### **Banged-Up**

David McVicker told me about his Dad in the Pt. Pleasant-Winfield game on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Roger got hit in the shoulder in the first half and couldn't move his arm. David said he spent much of Saturday in the ER and has to get an MRI. David said nothing was broken, but it may be a pinched nerve. We certainly hope Roger is feeling better.

### **View from the Sidelines**

There are some things I have seen which I thought I might pass along from viewing some HS varsity and JV games. All of these actually happened. Some are unusual, some are not. However I think they all merit some thought before going into that next game.

Illegal Substitution – Situation: During a dead ball, the LM tells the coach that he has only ten defensive players on the field. The coach sends in another player. The ball is then snapped from A's 40 and A1 runs to B's 10. When the ball is blown dead, the covering official throws a flag for illegal substitution (the defense actually had 12 players). Next, the official assesses a half-the-distance penalty against B, stating the penalty assessment is from the basic spot. Comment: Review the assessments for illegal participation (9-6-4) as they do differ according to the nature of the foul. If 12 or more are on the field when the ball is snapped, it is a previous spot foul. If a player coming onto the field of play during the down or A/K stepping out of bounds, it is a basic spot enforcement (or all-but-one).

Also, if 12 or more are detected before the snap, make it illegal substitution and don't allow the ball to become live.

From Mike Webb: **“As an official never, I repeat never, tell a team how many players are out there prior to the snap.”**

Kick Catch Interference – Situation: On a 4<sup>th</sup> down from K's 40, the punt is partially blocked and goes high in the air and hits K's shoulder on R's 40 and bounces back to the 50 where it is downed. Is this kick catch interference? Comment: Maybe or maybe not. If there is a member of R in position to field the kick, then there is interference. If no member of R in position to field the kick, there is no interference (same as if K would catch the ball in flight). So the covering official has an important judgment call to make. Also remember, you could have multiple spots of first touching.

Illegal Kick – Situation: On a 4<sup>th</sup> down in scrimmage kick formation, the snap comes back to the punter skimming along the ground. The ball is loose on the near side hash and the punter can't seem to pick up the ball. As the punter sees the rushing defense, tries to kick the ball out of bounds. Comment: Remember that enforcement is basic spot, or in this case, “all but one” because it was a foul during a loose ball play and the foul was behind the basic spot (which is the previous spot). Don't forget, an illegal kick is not a “loss of down” penalty. Also, an illegal kick is treated as a fumble, that is K or R can recover and advance.

Foul by K on a Try – Situation: On a try by kick, a motion penalty was called against K in which the kick was successful. R accepts the penalty (decline would result in a score) and K was penalized 5 yards and the down is repeated. The second try is good. Comments: This is correct. If the K foul involves a loss of down, there is no score and we proceed to the kickoff. The penalty yardage in this event “could” be assessed on the kickoff.

An observation from a college game.

Dead Ball on a FG Attempt – Situation: In LSU vs. South Carolina, LSU is attempting a field goal. The snap comes back to the holder who, with his knee on the ground, flips it to the kicker who runs for a TD. Is this legal in NF rules? Comment: No. If the holder would rise, then run or pass, it would be legal. In our situation, the ball is dead when the holder passes it (with his knee on the ground) to the kicker at the spot where the holder caught it.

### **Banquet Time in December**

At our September 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting, slips were passed out to get a count for the KVFOA Banquet on December 14<sup>th</sup> at the Dunbar Bingo Building. If you missed that meeting and plan to go, please contact Fred McPherson and let him know.

### **Check your Meeting Attendance**

If you are close on the number of meetings attended, please refer to the website to check your attendance. If you have any problems in accessing this, please click on Webmaster on the homepage and send me an e-mail. If you have attendance questions, please contact Fred McPherson.

### **By the Way**

57 members of the Association have received website access. Many have commented on the ability to use the website to find open officials and to contact people has been a definite plus.

I continue to ask for members' contribution to their website because it's our website, not my personal website. Anything you have who could help our members is more than welcome, and encouraged.

Whenever I receive comments from Mike Webb, I publish them.