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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

MEMORANDUM

July 19, 2010

TO: Divisions I, II and III Supervisors of Football Officials, Conference
Commissioners and Head Football Coaches.

FROM: Rogers Redding, secretary-rules editor
NCAA Football Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: NCAA Football Bulletin No. 1.

Enclosed with this memorandum are new rules interpretations for the 2010 season. The committee hopes this information assists with the understanding of NCAA Football rules.

If you have any questions, please contact Rogers Redding, secretary-rules editor of the NCAA Football Rules Committee, via e-mail at (footballrules@ncaa.org).

RR:emh

Enclosure

cc: NCAA Football Rules Committee
Selected NCAA Staff Members

N a t i o n a l C o l l e g i a t e A t h l e t i c A s s o c i a t i o n

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NCAA FOOTBALL RULES

2010 INTERPRETATIONS BULLETIN NO. 1

1. Timeout for Injured Player.

The editorial change to Rule 3-3-5, "Injury Timeout," requires that when the officials stop the game clock for an injured player, he must leave the game. The injured player must remain out for at least one down. He may not return to the game without the approval of his team's professional medical personnel.

Interpretation: The player may not remain in the game by his team taking a charged timeout.

2. Blocking Below the Waist (Crackback Block).

Rule 9-1-2-e uses the language "toward the original position of the ball" in describing the direction of a prohibited block below the waist against an opponent. The phrase is problematic by not clearly specifying the range of directions that would determine what is and is not legal.

Interpretation: A block that is "toward the original position of the ball" is a block directed at any angle toward a line that is perpendicular to the goal line through the position of the ball at the snap.

3. Wedge Formation on Kickoffs.

The 2010 rule change prohibits the receiving team from intentionally forming a wedge of three or more players to block for the receiver. The question arises about application of the rule when the play ends in a touchback.

Interpretation: There is no foul for a wedge formation if the play results in a touchback.