2015 REPLAY QUIZ #10

- 1. 3/5 @ B-40. Quarterback A12 is hit and begins to fall at the B-45, but the ruling is that he threw a forward pass which is caught by A67 at the B-41 and advanced to the B-35 where he is downed. There is no eligible receiver in the vicinity of A67, but the only flag on the play is for Illegal Touching. Video shows that as A12 was hit:
 - a. his arm went forward with the ball in his control, and the ball left his hand prior to his knee touching the ground.

Confirm the ruling of a forward pass. While officials should have ruled Intentional Grounding to bring up A - 4/10 @ B-45, Replay can not intervene in this portion of the ruling. After enforcement of the penalty for the Illegal Touching foul (five yards from the previous spot), it will be A - 3/10 @ B-45.

b. his arm went forward without the ball, and the ball left his hand prior to his knee touching the ground.

Reverse to a fumble, which A67 may legally touch, possess, and advance, so there is no foul. The result of the play will be A - 1/10 @ B-35. If this had occurred on 4th down, the ball would have been returned to the spot of the fumble, resulting in B - 1/10 @ B-45.

c.. his knee touched the ground while he was still in possession of the ball.

Reverse to runner down, so there is no foul. The result of the play will be A - 4/10 @ B-45. In close situations of pass / fumble, the temptation is to focus on this aspect, but if the knee is down first with the ball in possession, nothing else matters.

d. his arm went forward with the ball in his control, and the ball left his hand prior to his knee touching the ground. Video also shows that B76 touched the pass before it was caught by A67.

Reverse to no foul. Per 7-3-5, when a Team B player or an official touches a legal forward pass, all players become eligible, so A67 is eligible and is therefore not guilty of Illegal Touching. The result of the play will be A - 1/10 @ B-35.

- 2. 4/5 @ B-20. Back A31 carries the ball to the B-11 where video shows that, as he is being tackled, he:
 - a. tosses the ball toward A89, who first touches the ball at the B-10. The ball strikes A89's hands, then the ground, and the covering official rules fumble. A89 falls on the ball at the B-6.

Reverse to an incomplete Illegal Forward Pass. The penalty for this foul is five yards from the spot of the foul and a loss of down, resulting in B - 1/10 @ B-16. Reset the clock to the time when the ball struck the ground. Start the clock on the snap because of the incomplete pass and/or because B next snaps the ball.

b. tosses the ball toward A89, who first touches the ball at the B-12. The ball strikes A89's hands, then the ground, and the covering official flags A31 for an incomplete Illegal Forward Pass. A89 falls on the ball at the B-8.

Reverse to a backward pass with a clear recovery in the immediate continuing action. There is no foul. The result will be A - 1/G @ B-8, and the clock will start on the ready because this was not an incomplete forward pass.

c. hands the ball to A89, who is at the B-10. A89 then carries the ball across B's goal line for an apparent touchdown.

Reverse to Illegal Forward Handing. Per 7-1-6-a, such forward handing may only occur behind the line of scrimmage. The penalty for this foul is five yards from the spot of the foul and a loss of down, resulting in B - 1/10 @ B-16.

d. attempts to hand the ball to A89 at the B-11, but A89 doesn't establish possession until he is at the B-9. He then carries that ball across B's goal line. The covering official flags A31 for Illegal Forward Handing.

Reverse to no foul. Per Rule 2-13-1-c, this "loss of player possession by unsuccessful execution of attempted handing is a fumble by the last player in possession". This creates a fourth down fumble, so the ball is returned to the spot of the fumble. The result of the play is A - 1/10 @ B-11. The clock will be reset to the time remaining when the fumble was recovered (dead ball per Rule 4-1-3-j), and will start on the ready. If this play had occurred on 1st, 2nd, or 3rd down, the touchdown would have counted.