

2014 REPLAY CHANGE REQUEST

REPLAY: LIVE BALL RULED DEAD (Rule 12-3-3-d)

RULE NUMBER & PAGE: RULE 12-3-3-d, FR-107.

CASE PLAY 129, Case Book Page 42.;

RULE CHANGE:

Rule 12-3-3-d: Reviewable plays involving potential dead balls and loose balls include:

d. Loose ball ruled dead, or live ball ruled dead in possession of a ball carrier when the clear recovery of a loose ball occurs in the immediate continuing action. ...

Case Play 129: Team A snaps the ball at its 5-yard line. A12 throws a quick pass to the flat receiver A44. The head linesman signals incomplete pass as the ball hits the ground, takes a backward bounce and rolls into the end zone and out of bounds.

RULING: While a forward-backward pass is reviewable only if there is a clear recovery in the immediate continuing *action* (Rule 12-3-2-e), this play is reviewable because of the potential safety (12-3-1-a). COMMENT: Add a note to ruling that there is a potential touchback if the ball rolls out of bounds in the opponent's end zone.

RECOMMENDATION: Modify Rule 12-3-3-d or add Case Book plays to cover loose balls that become dead in either end zone without player possession.

INTENT:

A fumble in the field of play might immediately go out of bounds in an end zone including hitting the goal line pylon. Case Book plays would serve a useful purpose when the loose ball goes out of bounds in the ball carrier's end zone (safety) or in his opponent's end zone (touchback). This assumes that no new impetus is added.

SOURCE: Rom Gilbert [1/11/14] (1233d)(14)
