

2014 REPLAY CHANGE REQUEST

REPLAY: BALL CARRIER'S HELMET OFF (Case Play 122.C)

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

CASE PLAY 122.C, Case Book Page 40.

INTERPRETATION CHANGE:

Rule 12-3-3-c (no change): Live ball ruled dead in possession of a ball carrier.

Case Play 122.C (new): Third and 5 on the B-35. Ball carrier A22 takes a handoff and runs to the B-4 where B-96 twists his facemask such that the helmet comes off. A22 maintains his balance and crosses B's goal line in possession of the ball. The Head Linesman rules the ball dead on B's 4. Replay shows that A22 was not down.

RULING (current): Probably not reviewable based on statement at Replay Clinic. A 1-goal on B-2.

RULING (update): Reviewable. Award the touchdown if there is no way that the defense could have prevented the touchdown. This could apply to any spot on the field but should apply close to the opponent's goal line.

INTENT:

[1] This should be considered a common sense interpretation. Rule 4-1-3-q indicates that the ball becomes dead when a ball carrier's helmet comes completely off.

[2] If this play occurred as time expired in a high profile game and the scoring team was behind by less than nine points, it is likely that the probable current interpretation would be changed.

SOURCE: Rom Gilbert [1/11/14] (rc14-ir122C)(14)
