

# 2017 RULE CHANGE REQUEST

## UNSUCCESSFUL FIELD GOAL ATTEMPT (Rule 8-4-2-b-1)

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**RULE 8-4-2-b-1, FR-83.**

**INSERT:** “after the kick crosses the neutral zone” after “Team B” in Line 1.

**DELETE:** “beyond the neutral zone” after “Team B” in Line 1.

**Rule: 8-4-2-b-1:** When the ball is declared dead beyond the neutral zone and is untouched by Team B after the kick crosses the neutral zone, it belongs to Team B.

**COMMENT:** “after the kick crosses the neutral zone” replaces “beyond the neutral zone” to be consistent with other rules such as 6-3-2, 6-3-3 & 6-3-11.

**INTENT:**

[1] Rewrite this rule to be consistent with other rules for scrimmage kicks.

[2] The ball “belongs to” Team A if a Team B player touches the ball behind the neutral zone after the kick crosses the neutral zone and then the ball is recovered by a Team A player. There are still officials who believe that touching of a kick behind the neutral zone is ignored, perhaps based on the wording of this rule.

[3] If this rule is correct, then the exception should be so noted in Rule 6-3-3 and possibly other rules.

**SOURCE:** Rom Gilbert [8/28/16] ..... (rc17-842b1)

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