

2017 RULE CHANGE REQUEST

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

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

INSERT: “after the kick crosses the neutral zone” after “Team B”.

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

Rule 8-4-2-b-2: If the ball does not cross the neutral zone or if Team B touches the ball after the kick crosses the neutral zone, all rules pertaining to scrimmage kicks apply.

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] (rc17-842b2)
