

2017 REPLAY CHANGE REQUEST

REPLAY: FUMBLE AT GOAL LINE (Case Play 136)

RULE 12-3-1-a: Case Book Page 5. CASE PLAY 136, Case Book Page 77.

INTERPRETATION CHANGE:

Rule 12-3-1-a (update): A potential touchdown, touchback or safety whether the result of the play or the result of an accepted penalty.

Case Play 129: First and goal at the B-5. A22 runs to B's goal line, loses the ball prior to its breaking the plane of the goal line, and the officials rule touchdown. The ball comes to rest in the end zone with no player attempting to recover it.

RULING (current): Reviewable play, regarding whether A22 scored a touchdown before he lost the ball. Reverse to no score. A 2-Goal on B-1. If the ball becomes dead in the end zone with no team possessing it, the ball is placed at the spot of the fumble. If the ball is dead in the field of play, the ball is placed at that spot (Rule 12-3-1-a and 12-3-3-d).

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INTENT:

- [1] There is no need to add a level of complexity.
- [2] The replay official need not be searching for a spot in the field of play where a loose ball becomes dead. Finding the spot of the fumble is enough of a challenge.
- [3] A touchdown should not be awarded without player possession so ruling has merit.

SOURCE: Rom Gilbert [8/23/17] (rc18-ir136)
