

2018 UIL Modified RULE 12 – Instant Replay

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

Purpose

ARTICLE 1. Instant replay is a process whereby video review is used to confirm, reverse or let stand certain on-field decisions (Rule 12-3) made by game officials.

Philosophy

ARTICLE 2. The instant replay process operates under the fundamental assumption that the ruling on the field is correct. The replay official may reverse a ruling if and only if the video evidence (Rule 12-6-1-c) convinces him beyond all doubt that the ruling was incorrect. Without such indisputable video evidence, the replay official must allow the ruling to stand.

SECTION 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR INSTANT REPLAY

Participation

ARTICLE 1. The UIL will determine what games will be played using instant replay. If instant replay is used in a game, it must be used in full compliance with this rule..

SECTION 3. REVIEWABLE PLAYS

Scoring Plays

ARTICLE 1. Reviewable plays involving a potential score include:

- a. A potential touchdown or safety. [**Exception:** Safety by penalty for fouls that are not specifically reviewable.]
- b. Field goal attempts if and only if the ball is ruled (a) below or above the crossbar or (b) inside or outside the uprights when it is lower than the top of the uprights. If the ball is higher than the top of the uprights as it crosses the end line, the play may not be reviewed.

Passes

ARTICLE 2. Reviewable plays involving passes include:

- a. Pass ruled complete, incomplete or intercepted anywhere in the field of play or an end zone.
- b. Forward pass touched by a player (eligible or ineligible) or an official, including whether the touching is beyond or behind the line of scrimmage.
- c. Forward pass or forward handing when a ball carrier is or has been beyond the neutral zone.
- d. A forward pass or forward handing after a change of team possession.
- e. Pass ruled forward or backward.
 1. If the pass is ruled forward and is incomplete, the play is reviewable only if the ball goes out of bounds or if there is clear recovery of a loose ball in the immediate continuing football action after the loose ball. If the replay official does not have indisputable video evidence as to which team recovers, the ruling of incomplete pass stands. (**Exception:** Rule 12-3-1-a)
 2. If the replay official reverses an incomplete forward pass ruling and the ball is recovered, it belongs to the recovering team at the spot of the recovery and any advance is nullified.
- f. Location of the passer when he is obviously in the field of play and a ruling of intentional grounding would result in a safety by penalty.

Dead Ball and Loose Ball

ARTICLE 3. Reviewable plays involving potential dead balls and loose balls include:

- a. Loose ball by a potential passer ruled a fumble.
- b. Loose ball by a passer ruled incomplete forward pass when there is clear recovery in the immediate continuing action after the loose ball.
 1. If the replay official does not have indisputable video evidence as to which team recovers, the ruling of incomplete pass stands.
 2. If the replay official rules fumble, the ball belongs to the recovering team at the spot of the recovery and any advance is nullified.
- c. Live ball not ruled dead in possession of a ball carrier.
- d. Loose ball ruled dead (Rule 4-1-2-b-2), or live ball ruled dead in possession of a ball carrier, when the clear recovery of a loose ball occurs in the immediate continuing football action.
 1. If the ball is ruled dead and the replay official does not have indisputable video evidence as to which team recovers, the dead-ball ruling stands.
 2. If the replay official rules that the ball was not dead, it belongs to the recovering team at the spot of the recovery and any advance is nullified.
- e. Ball carrier's forward progress, spot of fumble, or spot of out-of-bounds backward pass, with respect to a first down or the goal line.
- f. Catch or recovery of a fumble by a Team A player other than the fumbler before any change of possession during fourth down or a try.
- g. Ball carrier in or out of bounds. If a ball carrier is ruled out of bounds, the play is not reviewable, except as in Rules 12-3-1-a and 12-3-3-d.
- h. Catch, recovery or touching of a loose ball by a player in bounds or out of bounds.
- i. A loose ball touching on or beyond a sideline, goal line, or end line, touching a pylon, or breaking the plane of a goal line.
- j. Catch or recovery of a loose ball in the field of play or an end zone.
- k. Forward fumble that goes out of bounds with respect to a first down.
- l. Live ball declared dead under Rule 4-1-2-b-2 and b-3 (inadvertent whistle).

Kicks

ARTICLE 4. Reviewable plays involving kicks include:

- a. Touching of a kick.
- b. Player beyond the neutral zone when kicking the ball.
- c. Kicking team player advancing a ball after a potential muffed kick/fumble by the receiving team.
- d. Scrimmage kick crossing the neutral zone.
- e. Blocking by players of the kicking team before they are eligible to touch the ball on an on-side kick.

Targeting

ARTICLE 5. The replay official shall review all targeting fouls, Rules 9-1-3 and 9-1-4. The review includes all aspects of the targeting foul to ascertain whether there is at least one indicator of targeting action (Note 1 to Rules 9-1-3 and 9-1-4), and:

1. Whether the crown of the helmet is used to make forcible contact (Rule 9-1-3); OR
2. Whether there is forcible contact to the head or neck area of a defenseless opponent (Rules 9-1-4 and 2-27-14)

Miscellaneous

ARTICLE 5. Situations that may be addressed by the replay official:

- a. The number of players on the field for either team during a live ball.
- b. Clock adjustment and status when a ruling is reviewed.
- c. Clock adjustment at the end of any quarter. (**Exception:** Rule 3-2-5-b) If at the end of any quarter the game clock expires, either during a down in which it should be stopped by rule through play when the ball becomes dead or after the down upon a request for an available team timeout, the replay official may restore time only

under these conditions:

1. The replay official has indisputable video evidence that time should have remained on the game clock when the ball became dead or when the team timeout was granted;
 2. In the second and fourth quarters only, the team to which the ball would belong after it becomes dead would next put the ball in play from scrimmage (not the try) and if after the reversal the game clock starts on the Referee's signal, there must be at least three (3) seconds restored to the game clock in order to continue the half;
 3. In the fourth quarter only, either the score is tied or the team that will next snap the ball is behind by eight points or fewer; and
 4. The replay official's video evidence includes the timeout signal by an official in the case where the game clock should have stopped for a requested team timeout.
- d. Correcting the number of a down.
1. This includes the result of a penalty enforcement that includes an automatic first down or loss of down.
 2. The correction may be made at any time within that series of downs or before the ball is legally put in play after that series.
- e. Any person who is not a player interfering with live-ball action occurring in the field of play (Rule 9-2-3).
- f. An injured player at the initiation of the medical observer.

Limitations on Reviewable Plays

ARTICLE 6. No other plays or officiating decisions are reviewable. However, the replay official may correct egregious errors, including those involving the game clock, whether or not a play is reviewable. This excludes fouls that are not specifically reviewable (See Article 8, following).

Reviewable Fouls

ARTICLE 7.

The following plays are reviewable and the replay official may create a foul when there is no call by the on-field officials:

- a. Player making a forward pass or forward handoff when beyond the neutral zone or after a change of possession (Rule 12-3-2-c and -d).
- b. Player beyond the neutral zone when kicking the ball (Rule 12-3-4-b).
- c. Blocking by players of the kicking team before they are eligible to touch the ball on an onside kick (Rule 12-3-4-e).
- d. The number of players on the field for either team during a live ball (Rule 12-3-6-a).
- e. Illegal touching of a forward pass by an originally eligible receiver who has gone out of bounds. (Rules 12-3-2-b and 12-3-3-h).
- f. Player who is out of bounds touching a free kick that had not been touched inbounds (Rule 12-3-4-a).
- g. Forward pass that becomes illegal as a second pass after an on-field ruling of a backward pass is reversed (Rule 12-3-2-e).
- h. A clear, obvious and egregious targeting foul (Rule 12-3-5-b).

SECTION 4. INSTANT REPLAY PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT AND LOCATION

Personnel

ARTICLE 1. Instant replay personnel shall consist of the number of persons needed to operate the replay equipment within the necessary time constraints. There shall be a minimum of three persons to ensure that all plays are reviewed in an efficient and timely manner. Such persons are normally referred to as replay official, communicator and technician. Additional personnel may be used as needed.

Equipment

ARTICLE 2. The type of equipment used to carry out necessary instant replay duties shall be determined by the UIL.

Location

ARTICLE 3. a. All equipment used reviewing a play during the replay process and the personnel using that equipment shall be located in a separate, secure location in the press box. This room shall not be available or accessible to any person not directly involved in instant replay.

b. Additional telephonic equipment needed to allow instant replay personnel to communicate with the game referee when a game has been stopped for a play review shall be located on a sideline near the field of play and preferably outside a team area. Such equipment shall provide the game referee and the replay official a secure and private means of communication.

SECTION 5. INITIATING THE REPLAY PROCESS

Game Stop

ARTICLE 1. a. There shall be NO coaches' challenge to stop play to review a ruling on the field. Other than when a foul is called for targeting (which requires an automatic stop), only the replay official determines whether to stop or not stop a game to review a ruling on the field. The replay official and his crew shall review every play of a game, and may stop a game at any time before the ball is next legally put in play (**Exception:** Rule 12-3-6-d) whenever he believes that:

1. There is reasonable evidence to believe an error was made in the initial on-field ruling.
2. The play is reviewable.
3. The outcome of a review would have a direct, competitive impact on the game.

b. When a foul is called for targeting, the game is stopped automatically for review. After announcing the foul for targeting, but prior to administering the penalty, the referee shall announce, "**The previous play is under further review**". If the referee fails to announce the game will stop for review, the replay official shall stop the game – all called targeting fouls shall be reviewed by the instant replay official.

When To Stop a Game

ARTICLE 2. a. A game may be stopped by the replay official at any time before the ball is next legally put in play (**Exception:** Rule 12-3-6-d).

b. No game official may request that a game be stopped for a play to be reviewed.

SECTION 6. REVIEWING AN ON-FIELD RULING

Procedures

ARTICLE 1. a. When a game is to be stopped by the replay official, the designated officials on the field will be notified by a buzzer system or other appropriate means.

b. When a review is initiated by the replay official, the referee shall announce:

"The ruling on the previous play is ... (brief description of ruling). The play is under further review."

c. All reviews shall be based upon video evidence provided by and coming directly from the televised production of the game or from other video means available to the replay official that is also available to the television producer.

d. After the referee has conferred with the replay official and the review process has been completed, he shall make one of the following announcements:

1. If the video evidence confirms the on-field ruling:

"After further review, the ruling on the field is confirmed."

2. If there is no indisputable (conclusive) evidence to reverse the on-field ruling:

"After further review, the ruling on the field stands."

3. If the on-field ruling is reversed (Rule 12-7):

"After further review, the ruling is [followed by a brief description of the video evidence]. Therefore, [followed by a brief description of the impact of the ruling]."

e. If a ruling is reversed, the replay official shall supply the referee with all pertinent data as needed (next

down, distance, yard line, position of the ball, clock status/adjustment) in order to resume play under the correct game conditions.

Restrictions

ARTICLE 2. a. There is no restriction on the number of times the replay official may stop a game for reviews.
b. The replay official is under no time limit for a review.

SECTION 7. REVERSING AN ON-FIELD RULING

Criterion for Reversal

ARTICLE 1. To reverse an on-field ruling, the replay official must be convinced beyond all doubt by indisputable video evidence through one or more video replays provided to the monitor.

NOTE: This modified Rule 12 for UIL games mirrors the NCAA Replay 12 rule in regards to the philosophy and purpose of instant replay, the replay crew's duties and responsibility, and to what is and is not reviewable. In addition to the authority under which replay is allowed to be used, the primary and notable differences between the UIL Modified Rule 12 and the NCAA Rule 12 are **(1) there are no coaches' challenges allowed within the UIL rule, (2) the UIL rule does not allow the replay official to create a targeting foul in those instances that the targeting foul was not called by the on-field officials, (3) there is no 10 second runoff for a replay reversal that would not have stopped the clock, and (4) there is no provision for a collaborative replay experiment in the UIL rule.** Any applicable UIL Exception to NCAA Football Rules is to be adhered to when considering a reversal of the ruling on the field.