

## Scoring Plays and Force: Safeties & Touchbacks

Rule 2-13 (Force); Rule 8 (Scoring Plays and Touchback); Case Book pages 62-68; Redding Study Guide Chapter 9 (pages 117-132)

Remember:

- Goal line pylons are entirely out of bounds
- The end zone is entirely in bounds
- The goal line plane is extended out of bounds for a runner who is still touching the ground inbounds

Possession of a live ball in the opponent's end zone is always a \_\_\_\_\_.

The position of the runner's body is of no consequence. The ball needs only to break the vertical plane of the goal line while in possession of the runner (who is still touching inbounds).

Diving runner: there is no score unless the ball was inside or over the pylon when it broke the plane of the sideline.

Receivers must complete the catch in the end zone to score a touchdown.

A **Field Goal** Attempt is a \_\_\_\_\_ kick. An unsuccessful field goal attempt is treated like a punt. Once it is apparent the kick will not score and the ball has broken the plane of the goal line, the ball is dead.

For a successful kick, the entire ball must pass between the vertical uprights, or the inside edges of the uprights extended, and above the crossbar.

A **safety** can be scored in two ways:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ team is responsible for the ball being in its own end zone.
2. When an a \_\_\_\_\_ p\_\_\_\_\_ would be enforced from the fouling team's end zone.

### **Momentum exception:**

It is neither a safety nor a touchback if a defensive team player is:

1. inside his 5 yard line when he intercepts a forward pass; or catches or recovers a kick, backward pass, or fumble and
2. his momentum carries him into the end zone where he is
3. downed or loses possession of the ball which then goes out of bounds in the end zone

The ball belongs to the defensive team at the spot where possession is obtained

A **touchback** occurs when a team is responsible for the ball being in the \_\_\_\_\_ end zone and:

1. It becomes dead in the opponent's possession or
2. It goes out of bounds in the end zone

The ball is dead and it is a touchback when a non-scoring kick breaks the goal line plane. (It does not matter if either team touches the ball.)

**Force** is the result of energy exerted by a player which provides movement of the ball.

The term force is used only in connection with the goal line and in only one direction (i.e., from the field of play into the end zone).

*Initial* force results from a c\_\_\_\_\_, f\_\_\_\_\_, k\_\_\_\_\_, p\_\_\_\_\_ or s\_\_\_\_\_.

After a fumble, kick or backward pass has been grounded, a *new* force may result from a bat, an illegal kick or a muff.

Remember, kicking and batting are deliberate acts and a muff is the touching of a loose ball by any part of the body in an unsuccessful attempt to gain possession. So if a player is simply struck by a ball, a new force is not applied.

The muffing or batting of a pass, kick or fumble in flight is not considered a new force.

Force is not a factor on kicks going into R's end zone, since these kicks are always a touchback regardless of who supplied the force.

The momentum rule is an *exception* to force.

Example 1: Team K's punt is blocked from K's 10 yard line in the neutral zone and goes out of bounds in the end zone. Result?

Example 2: Team K's punt is blocked from K's 10 yard line in the neutral zone and R55 muffs the grounded ball into K's end zone and out of bounds. Result?

Example 2: Team K's punt is blocked from K's 10 yard line in the neutral zone and K32 muffs the grounded ball into K's end zone and out of bounds. Result?

**The try:**

1. Is attempted from the 3 yard line
2. Is an untimed scrimmage down
3. Is placed in the center of the field unless the offense requests it to be placed elsewhere between the hash marks
4. Team B cannot score on the try