

## Substitution Rule violations:

Scenario A: BLUE is kicking to RED. The substitution rule does not apply to any kick-offs (keep in mind a punt is a scrimmage kick). Each team can put any 11 players on the field regardless who was on the field in whatever activity preceded. RED receives the ball and is on offense, BLUE is on defense. RED is still in their first series of offensive downs. It is 4<sup>th</sup> and 5 yards to go. RED decides to punt and attempts to put in a special team. This is a substitution rule violation; those on the field through the third down have not played 4 legal downs.

Scenario B: RED turns the ball over to BLUE either by fumble, punt, or downs.

(1) RED has a total of 21 players on its roster, thus there are only 10 on the sideline during play. At the change of possession, one or more of the players on the sideline for RED are not entering the game for RED on defense. This is a violation. Obviously all 10 players on the sideline must enter on defense at this change of possession.

(2) BLUE has 23 players on the roster, thus there are 12 players on the sideline during play. At the change of possession, one or more players on the field for BLUE's defense stay on the field for BLUE's offense. This is a violation. With 11 or more players on the sideline, all players on the field are to be replaced on the change of possession.

Scenario C: BLUE has 22 or more players on its roster. BLUE completes four offensive downs (from their first scrimmage play) and has attained first down. BLUE is now in its second series of offensive downs. BLUE may substitute freely on each down thereafter until there is a change of possession. BLUE has a "star player" on the sideline from their last defensive series who they would like to put in on offense. BLUE makes the substitution putting that "star player" in on offense. Two plays later, with the "star player" still on the field, the ball is fumble and recovered by RED, thus a change in possession. BLUE puts in 10 players from the sideline in to join the "star player" on defense. This is a violation. Since there are 11 or more players on the sideline at this change of possession, all 11 players previously on the field for offense must be replaced.

Scenario D: RED has 24 players on its roster. RED has the ball in their first series of offensive downs. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> down, RED has an injured player who must leave the field and a substitution is provided. The substitute is a first string running back. On the next play, RED fumbles and BLUE recovers. This is a change of possession for which substitution must be provided for all players on the field, however, the first string running back is not remove from the field. This is a violation. Even if the injured player is not yet ready to return to play, there are more than 11 players on the sideline who can come into the game. Full substitution is required.

Scenario E: Both team RED and BLUE have more than 22 players. RED is moving the ball, has attained a first down and now after 5 plays from having taken possession they have a 3rd down and 5 on their 40 yard line. BLUE substitutes their QB (believed to be one of their best players) at LB to stop RED (planning to take him out on 4th down). RED quick kicks on 3rd down and possession changes to BLUE. On this change of possession, substitutions are provided on BLUE for all but the QB who was entered as a substitute on defense. This is a violation. Because there are 11 or more players on the sideline, the QB must come out the game until 4 legal plays have occurred or there is another change of possession.

Scenario F: The RED team belongs to a System with a policy that if a player misses 1 practice without excuse he will sit one quarter of the game that week; if a player misses 2 practices, he will sit two quarters. One player misses 1 practice and another player misses 2 practices. Both players, with the acknowledgement of the System, are disciplined in that week's game. The first player who missed one practice is held out for the first quarter. The second player who missed two practices is not held out until the second half. This is a violation. All discipline must start at the beginning of the game and run simultaneously.