



## 2024 TRAINING BULLETIN 1

### 1. August 28, 2024 Rule Change on 10 Second Subtractions

The NCAA has published a last-minute change regarding 10 second subtractions.

There will now be a very specific exception to the language component in Rule 3-3-6-f that states it is a Ten-Second Subtraction if a player injury is “the only reason for stopping the clock”.

The exception will be:

**“If a player injury occurs on a play where there is a temporary stoppage of the clock for a first down, and the clock is stopped with 10 seconds or less remaining in the 2nd or 4th quarters, the opponent has the option of a 10-second runoff. The 10-second runoff may be avoided by the use of a charged team timeout if available.”**

---

Explanation: The "temporary stoppage of clock for a first down" inside the last minute of a half ONLY happens when there is a first down and play ends inbounds. If the play ends out of bounds, the first down stoppage is not considered temporary, so this new exception does not apply.

By interpretation, if there are other things that occur, i.e. a foul on the play that then requires a temporary clock stoppage for penalty administration, this new exception does not apply (See Play 2 below).

**Play #1:** 3/10 @ B-30. Late in the 4th quarter, Team A completes a pass over the middle and A88 is tackled inbounds at the B-15 for a first down. A88 remains on the ground and the Referee declares an official's timeout for injury. There is (a) 0:05 on the game clock; (b) 0:15 on the game clock.

**RULING:** In (a), Team B has the option of a 10-second runoff. Team A can avoid the runoff if it has a charged timeout remaining. The game is over if the 10-second runoff option is exercised. In (b), there is no option for a 10-second runoff. The clock will start on the Referee's signal following the injury timeout.

**Play #2:** 3/10 @ B-30. Late in the 4th quarter, Team A completes a pass over the middle and A88 is tackled inbounds at the B-15 for a first down. At the snap, (a) Team B had 12 players on the field; (b) Team A's formation was not legal (c) A77's helmet came off during the play (not a direct result of a foul by an opponent). A88 remains on the ground and the Referee declares an official's timeout for injury. There is 0:05 remaining on the game clock.

**RULING:** In (a) there is no option for a 10-second runoff since the official's timeout includes addressing the Illegal Substitution by Team B; (b) there is no option for a 10-second runoff since the official's timeout includes addressing the Illegal Formation by Team A; (c) Team B has the option of a 10-second runoff. Team A can avoid the runoff if it has a charged timeout remaining. The game is over if the 10-second runoff option is exercised.

**Play #3:** 3/10 @ B-30. Late in the 4th quarter, Team A's pass is (a) complete and A88 runs out of bounds at the B-15 for a first down; (b) is incomplete. A88 remains on the ground and the Referee declares an official's timeout for injury. There is 0:05 remaining on the game clock.

**RULING:** There is no option for a 10-second runoff since (a) the runner is out of bounds stopping the game clock; (b) the pass is incomplete stopping the game clock.

**Play #4:** 3/10 @ B-30. Late in the 4th quarter, Team A completes a pass over the middle and A88 is tackled inbounds at the B-15 for a first down. B27 remains on the ground and the Referee declares an official's timeout for injury. There is (a) 0:05 on the game clock; (b) 0:15 on the game clock.

**RULING:** In (a), Team A has the option of a 10-second runoff, which they may decline, and the clock will start on the snap. In (b), there is no option for a 10-second runoff. The clock will start on the Referee's signal following the injury timeout.

## **2. Change to 2024 UIL Exception 31**

UIL Exception 31 deals with NCAA Rule 3-1-1 Pregame Warmup. The UIL had previously excepted out paragraphs a, b, and c. They are removing those exceptions, and the paragraphs will now apply to Texas high school football games. The previously excepted out paragraphs are:

- a. Prior to regular season games, teams may have access to the field for pregame warm-ups until at least 22 minutes before the opening kickoff. This may be altered in advance through written mutual agreement of the teams. Game management personnel are responsible for administering this rule.
- b. When any Squad Member enters the playing enclosure prior to the officials escorting the captains out for the coin toss, the head coach or an assistant coach from that team must be present on the field.
- c. When Squad Members are present within the playing enclosure subsequent to the officials' jurisdiction, they must be wearing their jerseys or have their numerals readily visible. Any player without their numeral readily visible must leave the playing enclosure.

These rules now apply in Texas high school football games. **PLEASE NOTE:** There are no fouls associated with violation of these rules. These are administrative matters. Coaches can be reminded of the rule when in violation. Incident Reports should be filed when violations persist. There are no fouls so there are no penalties to be administered by the game officials.