

San Diego County Football Officials Association

Mechanics Qualification Exam 2023

For the first 16 questions please mark the answer true (R) or false (U).

1. HL (and/or LJ if positioned on line of scrimmage LOS) will make sure LOS is clear on all punts, PATs, and field goals. If not, throw flag for encroachment.
2. BJ will assist on possible holding and blocking below the waist fouls on end runs and sweeps.
3. Umpires will announce, "I've got ball," when the play ends at the goaline and the flank official is looking for help and the ball is in the end zone.
4. When the action is close to being a foul, there is no foul.
5. Dress is business casual for all varsity pregame situations. Perception is important.
6. The chains will be set on the sideline. After the clip has been placed, the chains may then be removed up to two-yards off the field of play for safety reasons.
7. All officials must close after the play. After determining all action to be stopped and players clearing to their respective huddles, then all officials will back out slowly and return to their proper position to continue officiating the dead ball period and to prepare to start officiating the next down.
8. All Umpires will go to the ball after the play ends. This action will allow the flank official to maintain the spot and decrease the time it takes to place the ball for the next down. This does not include out-of-bounds plays.
9. Flank officials may take initial positions at the top of the numbers prior to PATs. As the kick is made, the flanks will close to officiate the line play using their voices to calm the action.
10. Umpires must rule on roughing the snapper on all PATs and field goals.
11. R will wait for the chains to be set before winding the clock following an official's time out for a 1st down if the ball was down inbounds.
12. On penalty step offs, the Line judge remains at the enforcement spot while the Umpire and HL mark off the penalty yardage. This serves as a double check of the correct enforcement, and a place holder of the enforcement spot in case we need to recalculate the yardage.
13. If the runner is downed inbounds beyond the line to gain and then slides out of bounds, the covering official will signal down inbounds by winding the clock two times before stopping the clock for the first down.
14. Flank officials give forward progress using their downfield foot.
15. At the toss, the Referee will make every attempt to assist the captains if they are struggling to make a decision by conferring with the head coach if necessary.
16. If both flank officials punch their respective wide outs back, then both flank officials shall check the backfield to confirm no more than four players in the offensive backfield.

5-Man Mechanics

17. Instructs the timer.
18. Instructs the ball boys.
19. On kickoff, is at R's goal yard line on the head linesman's side between the center of the field and hash marks.
20. On kickoff, checks legality of kicking tee and ball, hands kicker ball, point out referee and instruct kicker to wait for referee's signal before kicking. Moves to a position just outside the sideline on K's free-kick line on the line-to-gain indicator side.
21. On kickoff is at R's free-kick line, outside sideline opposite head linesman.
22. On kickoff, is at R's 30-yard line outside the same sideline as the line-to-gain indicator.
23. On kickoff, is on R's 20-yard line outside sideline opposite head linesman.
24. If short free-kick is anticipated, positions on R's free-kick line outside sideline opposite head linesman.
25. If short free-kick is anticipated, position on R's free-kick line outside the same sideline as the line-to-gain indicator.
26. If short free-kick is anticipated, position on K's free-kick line outside sideline opposite head linesman.

27. Counts B with Back judge.
28. Counts A with umpire.
29. Has the 25 and the B End line all the way.
30. On punts, rules on whether ball has crossed the line of scrimmage.
31. On punts, is deep with receivers usually on chains side of field and has receivers and the ball.
32. On punts, is approximately 7-10 yards behind R linemen shading to Line judge side of the field.
33. On punts, is slightly behind the kicker on Line Judge's side of the field.
34. On punts, is even with the deep receiver on the sideline opposite the chains.
35. On PAT's/field goal, has roughing the kicker holder.
36. On PAT's/field goal from the 10 and in, is under the goal post and rules on roughing center.
37. On PAT's/field goal from the 10 and in, is on line of scrimmage, 9-10 yards in from sideline (at the numbers) opposite the chains.
38. On PAT's/field goal from OUTSIDE the 10, moves up to normal position behind B linemen and rules on action on the center.
39. On PAT's/field goal from OUTSIDE the 10, moves from position on line of scrimmage opposite chains, to position under goal post.
40. On measurements, goes to the chains and assists the down box at forward stake spot.
41. On measurements, marks the location on the yard line where the clip should be placed.
42. On measurements, pulls the forward stake for the measurement.
43. On measurements, holds the ball steady in a crouched position with back to the defense.
44. During timeouts, moves to chains and monitors the chain crew.
45. During timeouts, covers team on chains side of field.
46. During timeouts, covers the ball.

4-Man Mechanics

47. Assists the Referee in getting game information from the head coaches.
48. Instructs the timer
49. Rules on legal/illegal tape, pads, casts, knee braces, etc.
50. Instructs chain crew.
51. Rules on legal balls.
52. Escorts the visiting captains from the chain's side to the top of the numbers at the toss.
53. On kickoff is at ball with the kicker.
54. On kickoff is with deep receiver(s) in middle of field.
55. Is on the restraining line of the receiving team on the kickoff.
56. On kickoff is on K-40 opposite the chains.
57. If the point of attack is outside the inbounds marks, moves into the side zones and has action on/around the runner.
58. Counts the defense with the Line Judge.
59. On pass plays, may move forward to position nearer the line of scrimmage.
60. Rules whether the quarterback has thrown the pass from a spot beyond the line of scrimmage.
61. Generally, rules on ineligible down field.
62. Has the 25 on all plays.
63. On punt plays, views line play action and action on ground in front of the ball. Pivot and release down the field watching the action of the players and blocking. Maintain wide inside-out vision on returns into side zones.
64. On punt is slightly wider and deeper approximately 10-15 yards behind R linemen to the Line judge's side of the field.
65. On punt, has sideline coverage opposite the chains.
66. On punts, slightly behind the kicker on Line judge's side of the field.
67. Determines if blocked scrimmage kick goes beyond the line.
68. On punts is deep to the side of the field away from the chains, slightly deeper than R's deep receiver.
69. Has roughing kicker/ holder on PATs and field goals.

70. Has roughing snapper.
71. On PAT-Field goal on the press box side of the field when facing the referee's front, stays on the line of scrimmage and, after the snap, observes the legality of the blocks of the backs protecting the kicker, if a field goal is blocked, is responsible in determining if the kick crossed the neutral zone or the goal line and where it is recovered and by whom, and after the kick, sprints in to the hash to dead ball officiate.
72. Waits for signal from Referee before moving chains.
73. On measurements, stretches the forward stake.
74. On measurements, marks the yard line for the clip, then rules on whether it is a first down or not.
75. On measurements, holds the ball steady in a crouched position with back to the defense.
76. On measurements, places the clip on the yard line and holds the spot as the forward stake is stretched.
77. Signals time out, points to team taking time out, and confirms all time out information with other officials.
78. Covers the ball on timeouts.

3-Man Mechanics

79. Gets game information from the coaches starting with the home team.
80. Instructs the timer.
81. Has responsibility for instructing the chain crew.
82. On kick off, is on sideline opposite the chains on K's restraining line.
83. Is on the restraining line of the receiving team on the kickoff.
84. On kickoffs, is back with R's deepest receiver in middle of field.
85. On scrimmage play is on the line opposite the Head linesman.
86. Has the 25.
87. On scrimmage running plays follows the runner into the side zones and has action on/around the runner.
88. Has roughing the passer.
89. On deep punt has call involving ball and the R goal line for possible touch back.
90. On punt, has sideline opposite chains.
91. On PAT from the R-3 is 5 yards deep in the end zone on the side of the field away from the chains.
92. Rules whether the ball has gone over or under on PATs.
93. Rules whether the ball has gone between the uprights on PATs.
94. Takes initial position 9-10 yards in from the sideline (at the numbers). Has roughing kicker/holder on PATs.
95. On timeouts is at the ball.

2-Man Mechanics

96. On the free kick, sets the kicking team and then takes a position on the chains side of the field at K restraining line
97. On free kick, is on sideline on press box side of the field even with the deepest receiver
98. On scrimmage plays, is on the line of scrimmage opposite the chains.
99. On scrimmage plays, is on the line of scrimmage on chains side of the field.
100. On punt plays, moves downfield to rule on catch/muff/fumble by deep receiver.

2023 SDCFOA Mechanics Summer Study Exam

Answers

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| 1. T | 43.U | 85.LJ |
| 2. T | 44.HL | 86.R |
| 3. T | 45.BJ | 87.R |
| 4. T | 46.U | 88.R |
| 5. T | 47.U | 89.LJ |
| 6. F | 48.LJ | 90.LJ |
| 7. T | 49.U | 91.LJ |
| 8. T | 50.HL | 92.LJ |
| 9. T | 51.R | 93.R |
| 10.T | 52.HL | 94.HL |
| 11.F | 53.U | 95.R |
| 12.T | 54.R | 96.HL |
| 13.T | 55.HL | 97.R |
| 14.T | 56.LJ | 98.R |
| 15.T | 57.R | 99.HL |
| 16.T | 58.U | 100. HL |
| 17.LJ | 59.U | |
| 18.BJ | 60.R | |
| 19.R | 61.U | |
| 20.BJ | 62.R | |
| 21.LJ | 63.U | |
| 22.HL | 64.U | |
| 23.U | 65.LJ | |
| 24.U | 66.R | |
| 25.HL | 67.HL | |
| 26.LJ | 68.LJ | |
| 27.LJ | 69.R | |
| 28.R | 70.U | |
| 29.BJ | 71.LJ | |
| 30.HL | 72.HL | |
| 31.BJ | 73.LJ | |
| 32.U | 74.R | |
| 33.R | 75.U | |
| 34.LJ | 76.HL | |
| 35.R | 77.R | |
| 36.U | 78.U | |
| 37.LJ | 79.R | |
| 38.U | 80.LJ | |
| 39.LJ | 81.HL | |
| 40.BJ | 82.LJ | |
| 41.R | 83.HL | |
| 42.LJ | 84.R | |