



# PASSING PLAYS

National Federation of State  
High School Associations



Take Part. Get Set For Life.®

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and  
Friends**



# PASS PLAY BASICS

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- Player designations/requirements
- Turn pre-snap thoughts into read action
- Legal formations
- Possession/Scrimmage/Snap
- IRs regarding passing plays to zone coverage
- Mechanics throughout



# PASSING PLAYS RULES

- Only one forward pass may be thrown during the down. (7-5-1)
- Five Types of Illegal Forward Passes (7-5-2):
  - A pass after team possession has changed during the down.
  - A pass from beyond the neutral zone.
  - A second and subsequent forward pass(es) thrown during a down.
  - A pass intentionally thrown into an area not occupied by an eligible offensive receiver.
  - A pass intentionally thrown incomplete to save loss of yardage or to conserve time.





# PASSING PLAYS RULES

- All A players eligible by position and number including those who, at the time of the snap, are on the ends of their scrimmage line or legally behind the line (possible total of six) and are numbered 1-49 or 80-99.
- All A players become eligible when B touches a legal forward pass.
- All B players are eligible.
- A player who is eligible at the start of the down remains eligible throughout the down.





# PASSING PLAYS RULES

- Pass interference restrictions only apply beyond the neutral zone and only if the legal forward pass, untouched by B in or behind the neutral zone, crosses the neutral zone. Pass interference restrictions are in effect for all A and B players until the ball is touched or the pass is incomplete.
- Pass interference restrictions on a legal forward pass begin for:
  - A with the snap
  - B when the ball leaves the passers hand



# PASSING PLAYS RULES

Rule 7-5-2 EXCEPTION 2 now permits a player to purposely throw an incomplete forward pass without warranting an intentional grounding penalty provided the passer is outside of “the pocket” (lateral boundary of the free-blocking zone) and the pass reaches the neutral zone or the extension of the neutral zone beyond the sideline.





# Initial Responsibilities

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Drawing Time





# Videos

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NTYR1CYOYY15RfYiILGdLt8AscodGXl6yhsHEyXAg\\_4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NTYR1CYOYY15RfYiILGdLt8AscodGXl6yhsHEyXAg_4/edit?usp=sharing)

