

**DEAD BALL  
OFFICIATING**

Here's something even dedicated students of the game may not fully appreciate:

There's very little actual football in a football game.

How many minutes is the ball considered live in the average football game?

According to a *Wall Street Journal* study of four recent broadcasts, and similar estimates by researchers, the average amount of time the ball is in play on the field during an NFL game is about 11 minutes.

Meaning over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the time  
spent on the field during a  
game is officiating a dead  
ball.

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