

PLAYER SAFETY

2015 vs. 2022

YOU MAKE THE CALL

ONE MINUTE TRAINING

[2015 One Minute Training #6 - YouTube](#)

ILLEGAL PERSONAL CONTACT

2015

9-4-3G: No player or non player shall make any contact with an opponent, **including a defenseless player**, which is deemed unnecessary **or excessive** and which incites roughness. **(new)**

2022

9-4-3G: No player or non player shall make any contact with an opponent, including a defenseless player, which is deemed unnecessary or excessive and which incites roughness.

Blindside Block

2015

No Rule

2022

2-3-10: A blindside block is a block against an opponent other than a runner, who does not see the blocker approaching.

A Defenseless Player

2015

2-32-16: A defenseless player is a player who, because of his physical position and focus of concentration, is especially vulnerable to injury.

2022

2-32-16: A defenseless player is a player who, because of his physical position and focus of concentration, is especially vulnerable to injury. A player who initiates contact against a defenseless player is responsible for making legal contact. When in question, a player is defenseless.

Examples of defenseless players include, but are not limited to:
(no examples given in the 2015 rule book)

a: A passer

b: A receiver attempting to catch a pass who has not had time to clearly become a runner.

c: The intended receiver of a pass in the action during and immediately following an interception or potential interception.

d: A runner already in the grasp of a tackler and whose forward progress has been stopped.

e: A kickoff or punt returner attempting to catch or recover a kick, or one who has completed a catch or recovery and has not had time to protect himself or has not clearly become a runner.

f: A player on the ground including a runner who has obviously given himself up and is sliding feet first.

g: A player obviously out of the play or not in the immediate vicinity of the runner; and

h) A player who receives a blindside block with forceful contact not initiated with open hands.

Illegal / Unnecessary Personal Contact

[2015 Unnecessary Contact on Vimeo](#)



PLAYER SAFETY

2015 VERSUS 2022



2-20 Helmet Contact - Illegal, Targeting

Art. 1.....Illegal helmet contact is an act of initiating contact with the helmet against an opponent . There are several types of illegal helmet contact:

- a) Butt blocking is an act by any player who initiates contact against an opponent who is not a runner with the front of his helmet.
- b) Face tackling is an act by a defensive player who initiates contact against a runner with the front of his helmet.
- c) Spearing is an act by any player who initiates contact against an opponent at the shoulders or below with the crown (top portion) of his helmet

Art. 2....Targeting is an act by any player who takes aim and initiates contact against an opponent above the shoulders with the helmet, forearm, hand, fist, elbow or shoulders.

Disqualification Associated with Certain 15 Yard Penalties

- a) Fighting by player or nonplayer
- b) Intentionally contacting a game official
- c) Striking, kicking, kneeling
- d) Any act if unduly rough or flagrant**
- e) A second unsportsmanlike foul by player or nonplayer
- f) A substitute leaving team box during a fight.

Targeting

2015 Targeting on Vimeo