



# LET ME COUNT THE WAYS: HEAD COACHES AND FOULS

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10 OCTOBER 2011



# Our Mission

- ▶ Review the rules concerning head coaches and fouls
- ▶ Show that we have understood these rules by answering the situations correctly

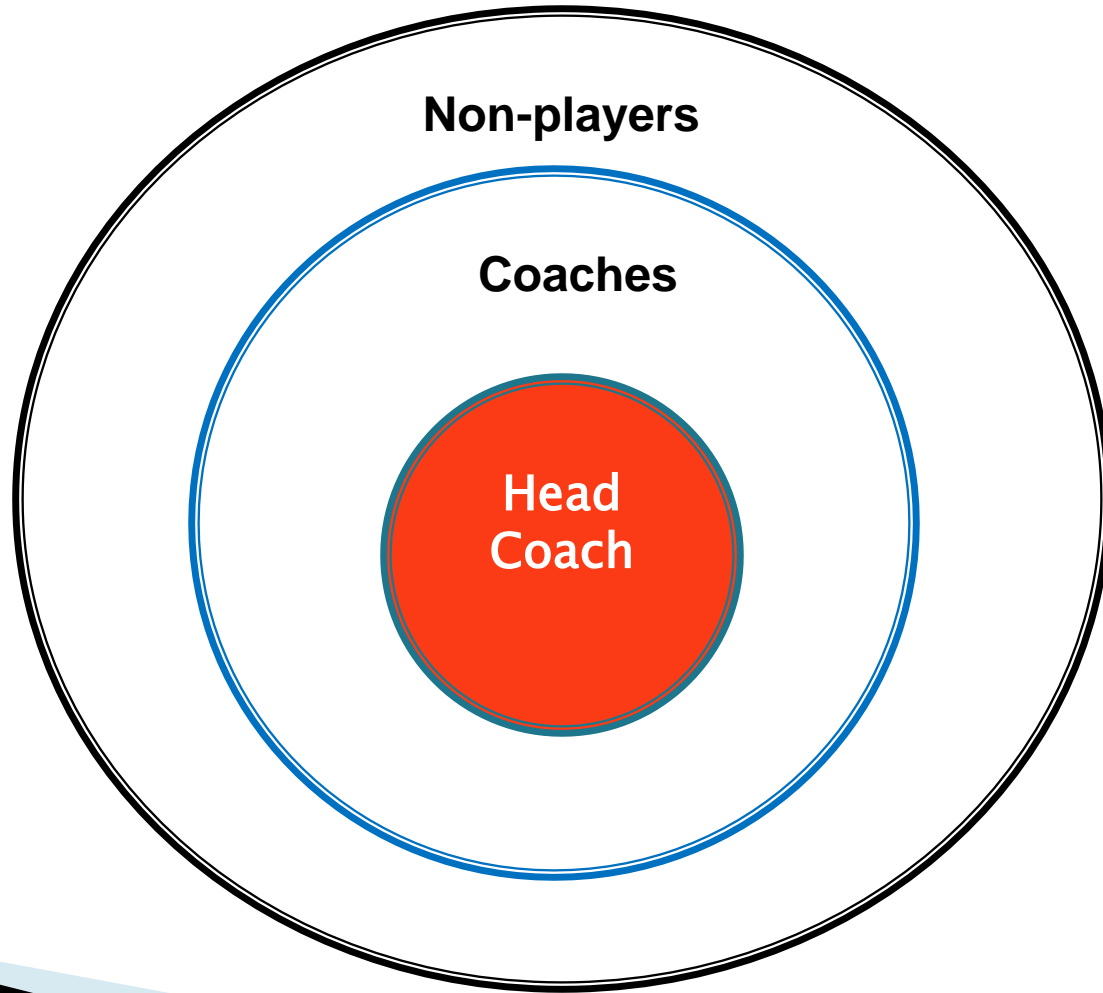


# “Head Coach”

- ▶ Not defined, but mentioned in several places
  - 1-1-5: Prior to the game, the Referee shall meet with the **head coach(es)**...
  - 1-5-4: Prior to the game, the **head coach** shall be responsible for verifying...
- ▶ By definition, any coach, including a head coach, is a non-player, per 2-32-10



# Head Coach





# Fouls Attributed to Head Coaches

- ▶ 9-8-1g Failure of a team to
  - Be ready to start either half
  - Comply with the restrictions of 3-2-2 concerning the coin toss (4 captains, all other personnel outside of the field of play)
- ▶ 9-8-1h Failure of the head coach, following verification, to have his players wear or use legal and/or required equipment
- ▶ 9-8-3: Team box restrictions: note, charging to the head coach is not mentioned in the rule book but is in the case book at 9.8.3A



# Penalties for Violating the Team Box Restrictions 9-8-3

- ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> offense: sideline warning (not USC)
- ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: 5 yards (not USC)
- ▶ 3<sup>rd</sup> offense: 15 yards (USC)
- ▶ 4<sup>th</sup> offense: 15 yards and ejection of the head coach, per 9.8.3A (USC)



# 9-4-8, AKA “Ken Broome Rule”

- ▶ This is its own rule, since it involves actual contact between any non-player and a game official
- ▶ Note especially that the signals specified are:
  - S-38 (personal foul)
  - S-29 (sideline interference)
- ▶ First offense: 15 yards from the succeeding spot
- ▶ Second offense: 15 yards from the succeeding spot and disqualification of the head coach
- ▶ Per 9.4.8C, this is not a USC foul for purposes of ejection, but its own category



# Non-player Fouls and Penalty Enforcement 10-2-4

- ▶ When a team commits a non-player or USC foul during the same down as a player foul, penalty for the non-player or USC foul is administered from the succeeding spot as established by the acceptance or declination of the other foul
- ▶ Non-player and USC fouls are specifically excluded from the multiple foul definition of 2-16-2e
- ▶ If there is only a non-player or USC foul, it is administered from the succeeding spot



# Situation 1 (9.8.1 F)

- ▶ In the first half, the head coach of A has been penalized:
  - (a) 5 yards and then 15 yards for being outside the team box, but not on the field of play; or
  - (b) 15 yards for being outside the team box and on the field of play.
- ▶ In the third period the coach is again in violation as in (a) and (b). What is the penalty and procedure?
- ▶ **RULING:** In both (a) and (b), another 15-yard unsportsmanlike penalty is assessed and the coach must be disqualified since he has now committed his second 15-yard unsportsmanlike foul.
- ▶ The initial 5-yard penalty in (a) for sideline interference is not counted as one of the two fouls leading to disqualification. (9-8 Penalty)



## Situation 2 (9.8.3A)

- ▶ In the first period, Team A is warned and then later penalized 5 yards for sideline interference for having more than three coaches or for having noncoaches in the restricted area between the sideline and the team box. The same infraction occurs again in the third period and again in the fourth period. How are these situations penalized?
- ▶ **RULING:** The third and fourth infractions are both 15-yard penalties. Since the head coach is responsible for the team box, the fouls are all charged to the head coach. The second penalty for a 15-yard unsportsmanlike foul is considered flagrant and the head coach must be removed from the stadium area.
- ▶ **COMMENT:** The 2-yard belt becomes a restricted area when the ball becomes live. (1-2-3g)



## Situation 3 (9.4.8A)

- ▶ Third and five for A on B's 30-yard line when B1 intercepts A1's pass at B's 15-yard line. B1 returns the interception along A's sideline and is downed on A's 40-yard line. During B1's run the Head Linesman unintentionally runs into:
  - ▶ (a) a cameraman between the restraining line and sideline at B's 20-yard line;
  - ▶ (b) A's assistant coach in the restricted area at B's 45-yard line; or
  - ▶ (c) A's head coach on the field of play at the 50-yard line.
- ▶ RULING: No foul in (a), but the game administrator must ensure the area between the playing field and the restraining line is clear of all non-authorized personnel.
- ▶ In (b) and (c) A's head coach is assessed a 15-yard non-player, illegal personal contact penalty at the succeeding spot. A second offense would result in a disqualification of the head coach.



# Situation 4 (\*9.4.8B)

- ▶ A1 throws a forward pass that is intercepted by B1 on B's 30-yard line and returned 70 yards along the B sideline for a B touchdown. During B1's run, the covering official is forced to change his course to run around an assistant team B coach who is in B's restricted area. The covering official drops his flag near B's restricted area. Later during the return, B12, a nonplayer, leaves the team box and runs alongside (yet out of bounds) B1 all the way to the goal line. B12 never enters the field of play during the down. The referee flags B12 for a nonplayer foul.
- ▶ **RULING:** Team B has committed two separate nonplayer fouls during this play, which cannot be combined to create a multiple foul. Team B's assistant coach has committed a violation of 9-8-3 for being in the restricted area while the ball is live while B12 has violated 9-8-1k and 9-8-3 by being outside his team box. Both fouls are administered. The first foul results in a sideline warning. The second violation is a 5-yard sideline interference foul for which the offended team may take the penalty on the try or the subsequent kickoff. (8-2-4; 9-8-1k; 9-8-3; 10-2-4; 10-2-5)



## Situation 5 (10.5.3B)

- ▶ Third down and 12 on A's 40-yard line. A1 drops back to throw a pass. The pass is completed to A2 who scores on the run following the reception. During the down, (a) A3 holds B1 on A's 37-yard line or (b) A's coach is observed standing inbounds on B's 20-yard line.
- ▶ **RULING:** (a) If B accepts the penalty for holding by A3, the score is nullified and following enforcement, it will be A's ball, third down and 25 to go on A's 27. In (b), the score stands. Following enforcement, the try will be from A's 18-yard line or the foul may be enforced on the subsequent kickoff. (8-2-4; 9-2-1c, 9-8-1k, 10-5-3)



## Situation 6 (\*9.8.1H)

- ▶ During the game: (a) A1 is discovered to be wearing an eyeshield which is reflective, or (b) an entering substitute of B has a dark eyeshield.
- ▶ **RULING:** In (a), the coach of A is charged with an unsportsmanlike foul and A1 must leave the game until he is legally equipped. In (b), the substitute of B will not be allowed to become a player, and he will be ordered to leave the field and not re-enter until he is legally equipped. There is no foul in (b) because the substitute did not become a player. (1-5-3c(4))



## Situation 7 (\*9.4.8C)

- ▶ In the first quarter, the assistant coach for Team A accidentally collides with the line judge while the line judge is covering a play. Team A is penalized 15 yards for illegal personal contact by a nonplayer. In the second quarter, the back judge is covering a play near the sideline and observes an assistant in the restricted area during the play.
- ▶ **RULING:** This constitutes the first warning for Team A for violation of the restricted area and is not penalized in terms of yards. The occurrences of the new illegal personal contact foul and the restricted area violation are not combined for penalty enforcement purposes. (9-4-8, 9-8-1k)



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