

—1871—

RUGBY FOOTBALL
UNION.

Proposed Laws

OF THE

Comittee

E. Cawston & Sons
12 Bedford Row
W.C.

Plan of the Field.



AA. AA. Goal Lines

TT. TT. Touch Lines

PP. PP. Goal Posts

QQ. QQ. Touch in Goal

The Touch lines and Goal lines should be cut out of the Turf

The Laws
OF THE
GAME OF FOOTBALL
AS PLAYED BY
THE RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

1. A 'Drop Kick' or 'drop', is made by letting the ball fall from the hands and kicking it at the very instant it rises.
2. A 'place kick' or 'place', is made by kicking the ball after it has been placed in a mark made in the ground for the purpose of helping it at rest.
3. A 'punt', is made by letting the ball fall from the hands and kicking it before it touches the ground.
4. 'Each goal shall be composed of two upright posts exceeding 11 ft. in height from the ground and placed 18 ft. 6 in. apart, with a cross bar 10 ft. from the ground.'
5. 'A goal can only be obtained by kicking the ball from the Field of Play direct (i.e. without touching the ground or person of any player of either side,) over the cross bar'

of the opponents' goal, whether it touch such crossbar or

the posts or not; but if the ball goes directly over either of
the 'goal posts', it is called 'a poster' and is not a goal.

6 A goal may be obtained by any kind of kick except a
punt.

~~but decided by division~~ 7 A match shall be decided by a majority of goals ~~and~~
^{only}

8 The ball is dead when it rests absolutely motionless on
the ground.

9 A 'Touch down' is when a player putting his hand upon
the ball on the ground in touch or in goal stops it so

~~that he has to wait fairly to wait~~
~~fairly to - but see Rule 8 - if these words are struck out, that rule~~
~~is deleted, it will be~~
~~written by the Govt. Com.~~

) that it remains dead or fairly so

A 'tackle' is when the holder of the ball is held by
one or more players of the opposite side.

11 A 'scrummage' takes place when the holder of the ball
being in the field of play puts it down on the ground
and all who have closed round on their respective sides
endeavour to push their opponents back and by kicking
the ball to drive it in the direction of the opposite goal
line

- 12 A player may take up the ball whenever it is rolling or bouncing except in a scrummage
- 13 It is not lawful to take up the ball when dead (except in order to bring it out after it has been touched down in touch or in goal) for any purpose whatever - whenever the ball shall have been so unlawfully taken up, it shall at once be brought back to where it was so taken up and there put down.
- 14 In a scrummage it is not lawful to touch the ball with the hand under any circumstance whatever
- 15 It is lawful for any player who has the ball to run with it, and if he does so it is called 'a run' if a player runs with the ball until he gets behind his opponents goal line and there touches it down, it is called 'a run in'
- 16 It is lawful to run in anywhere across the goal line
- 17 The goal line is in goal and the touch line is in touch
- 18 In the event of any player holding or running with the ball being tackled and fairly held he must at once cry ^{the Ball being} down and there put ^{it} the ball down.

19 A maul in goal is when the holder of the ball is tackled inside goal line or being tackled immediately outside is carried or pushed across it and he or the opposite side, or both endeavour to touch the ball down.

20 In case of a maul in goal those players only who are touching the ball with their hands when it crosses the goal line may continue in the maul in goal and when a player has once released his hold of the ball after it is inside the goal line he may not again join in the maul and if he attempts to do so may be dragged out by the opposite side -

But if a player when running in is tackled inside the goal line then only the player who first tackled him or if two or more tackle him simultaneously they only may join in the maul.

Swart considers rule 21 & 29 contradicts but they are conflicting with each other

21 'Touch in goal' (see plan) Immediately the ball whether in the hands of a player (except for the purpose of a punt-out see Rule 29) or not goes into touch in goal it is at once dead and out of the game and is

brought out as provided by Rules ~~41 and 42~~ 41 and 42.

22 Every player is 'on side' but is put 'off side' if he
enters a scrummage from his opponents side or being in
a scrummage gets in front of the ball, or when the ball
has been kicked, touched, or is being run with by any of
his own side behind him (i.e. between himself and his
own goal line)

*Scrummages and
count every player
in side & not
read: A player is
off side - but
not in count*

23 Every player when 'off side' is out of the game and
shall not touch the ball in any case whatever, either in
or out of touch or goal, or in any way interrupt or obstruct
any player, until he is again 'on side'

24 A player being 'off side' is put 'on side' when the
ball has been run 5 yards with or kicked by or has
touched the dress or person of any player of the opposite

*Scrummages & posts
to not consider his side or when one of his own side has run in front of him
but this is decided
in writing*

25 When a player has the ball none of his opponents who
at the time are off side may commence or attempt to
run, tackle or otherwise interrupt such player until he

has run 5 yards.

- 26 'Throwing back'. It is lawful for any player who has the ball to throw it back towards his own goal, or to pass it back to any player of his own side who is at the time behind him, in accordance with the rules of on side.
- 27 'Knocking on', i.e. deliberately hitting the ball with the hand and 'Throwing forward', i.e. throwing the ball in the and in either case ^{it may} ~~that~~ the Captain of the opposite may ^{see} ~~and that it does~~ direction of the opponents goal line are not lawful.
- 28 A 'Fair Catch' is a catch made direct from a kick or a throw forward or a knock on by one of the opposite side, or from a punt out or a punt on (See Rules 29 and 30) provided the catcher makes a mark with his heel at the spot where he has made the catch and no other of his own side touch the ball (See Rule 31). ^{113 & 120}
- 29 A 'Punt out' is 'a punt' made after a touch down by a player from behind his opponents goal line and from touch in goal if necessary towards his own side who must stand outside the goal line and endeavour to make a 'fair catch' or to get the ball and run in or drop.
- Ward see Note
c 21*
- Consider whether
General rule 29
and 30*

a goal as on page 49 & 51.

- 30 'A punt on' is a punt made in a manner similar
Edward objects to
hurting or - no hindrance
that it is fit to play
game -
punt on
who has made a fair catch from a punt out or another
punt on

- 31 Touch (see pion) If the Ball goes into Touch the
first player on his side who touches it down must bring
it to the spot where it crossed the touch line, or if a player
when running with the Ball crosses or puts any part of his
body across the touch line, he must return with the
Ball to the spot where the line was so crossed, and in
either case must himself or by one of his own side, either

- 32 either kick it or throw it back to his own side, or if he
objects to kicking it, let him first notice that the ball must
be bounded a field of Play and then run with it a
field of Play -

- kick it or throw it back to his own side or to throw
it out at right angles to the touch line or ⁱⁱⁱ walk out
with it at right angles to the touch line any distance not
less than 5 or more than 15 yards and there put it down
first declaring how far he intends to walk out.

- 33 If two or more players holding the ball are pushed

into touch the ball shall belong in touch to the player
who first had hold of it when on the Field of Play and
has not released his hold of it

~~Entered August 31st
that is to say at
1 hour in advance (which
it is not) the ball is thrown out at right angles to the touch line, either side may at
any time be kicked at it & be allowed.~~
^{Be Captain}
34 If the ball when thrown out of touch be not thrown
over claim to have it thrown out again

35 A catch made when the ball is thrown out of touch
is not a 'fair catch'

36 'Kick off' is a place kick from the centre of the Field
of Play and cannot count as a goal. The opposite side
must stand at least 10 yards in front of the ball until
it has been kicked

37 The Ball shall be 'kicked off' at the commencement of
the game, ~~or after change of goals as provided by the next~~

~~Rule 37~~ after a goal has been obtained

~~and~~
~~but decided in~~
~~Division 2 Rule~~
~~Divide by half and~~
~~by 2~~
~~99 mts 36~~
~~99 mts 10~~
~~Property of~~
~~Museum of~~
~~Rugby Antiquities~~
~~Ticketkenham~~
38 The sides shall change goals ~~as soon as~~ during a match
as often as and whenever a goal is obtained
~~upon the application of half the whole sum agreed~~
~~I has been~~
~~upon for the duration of the match unless by the agreement~~
~~agreed by~~
~~of the Captains before they meet as often as and whenever~~

~~a goal is obtained until~~ → eitherwise agreed
by the Captain before the commencement of the match

39) the Captains of the respective sides shall toss up before

the commencement of the match, the winner of the toss

~~will have the option of choosing to kick off or to receive~~
~~or to receive~~
~~or to kick off~~
~~first~~
~~goal~~
~~year~~

~~of goals at half-time, the loser shall have the first kick off~~

40) Whenever a goal shall have been obtained the side

which has lost the goal shall then kick off ~~not understanding~~

~~forward~~
point N
W.

~~Rugby~~

41) 'Kick out' is a drop kick by one of the players of the side
which has had to touch the ball down in their own goal

or into whose touch in goal the ball has gone (Rule 21) and

is the mode of bringing the ball again into play, and can

not count as a goal

42) 'Kick out' must be a 'drop kick' and from not more

~~I want does not
understand this
q.s. it not be
go into touch!~~

~~and not~~
than 25 yards outside the kickers goal line, ~~not to touch~~

~~If the ball when kicked out go into touch the opposite
team may if they have not brought it out of touch require
it to be taken back and kicked out again. The kickers~~

~~If the ball when kicked out go into touch the opposite
team may if they have not brought it out of touch require
it to be taken back and kicked out again. The kickers
station themselves
and not kick~~

side must be behind the ball when kicked out

42 A player who has made and claimed a fair catch shall thereupon either ~~not~~ take a drop kick or a punt or place the ball for ~~the side to kick~~ ^{Catcher}

N.

43 After a fair catch has been made ~~the ball shall be~~ and ~~not~~ ^{in cases under Rule 50} kicked in ^{the Ball shall be} ~~the~~ ^{S. a.} side returning the Ball, shall be

~~but it does not provide a kick from a spot any distance (not being in touch) behind the end line and the ball is kicked either from the mark made by the catcher or~~

~~it appears in a direct line on that side of the mark which is nearest to the nearest touch down to such mark.~~

44 A player may touch the ball down in his own or goal at any time

~~but he may not touch his own opponents goal, shall 'try at goal' either by a place kick or a punt out.~~

~~After a 'try at goal' be made by a place kick a player of the side who has touched the ball down shall bring it up to the goal line in a straight line from and opposite~~

Then make a mark on the goal line
to the spot where the ball was touched down and thence
walk straight out with it at right angles to the goal line
such distance as he thinks proper and there place it for
another of his side to kick. The kicking side must be
behind the ball when it is kicked, and the opposite side
must remain behind their goal line until the ball has

been placed on the ground (see Rules 54 and 55)

145 If the ball has been touched down between the goal

posts, it ^{may} ~~must~~ be brought out in a straight line from
either of such posts but ~~not~~ from between them in which
case the opposite may charge under arms above (see rule 54)

146 If the 'try at goal' be by a 'punt out' (see Rule 29)

a player of the side which has touched the ball down
shall bring it straight up to the goal line opposite to the
spot where it was touched down and there make a mark on

~~any spot within the goal line~~
the goal line and then 'punt out' from ~~touched on goal~~

~~from any point beyond the goal line not nearer to the~~

~~a free touch in foul of a try~~
goal post than such mark, beyond which mark it is

not lawful for the opposite side who must keep behind or

~~shoulder~~
~~the wad nearer~~
~~must after 15~~
~~goal - not touch~~
~~to foul than the~~
~~mark - not allow~~

their goal lines to pass until the ball has been kicked
(see Rules 5⁴ and 5⁵)

49 If a fair catch be made from a 'punt out' or a 'punt on' the catcher may either proceed as provided by Rules 52 and 53 or himself take a 'punt on' in which case the mark made on making the fair catch shall be regarded (for the purpose of determining as well the position of the player who makes the 'punt on' as of the other players of both sides) as the mark made on the goal line in the case of a 'punt out'

50 A catch made in touch from a 'punt out' or a 'punt on' is not a fair catch the ball must then be taken or thrown out of touch as provided by Rule 52 but if the catch be made in touch in goal the ball is at once dead and must be 'kicked out' as provided by Rule 21

51 When the ball has been touched down in the opponents' goal none of the players in whose goal it has been so touched down shall touch it or in any way displace it or interfere

with the player of the other side who may be taking it up or out

33. The Ball is dead whenever a goal has been obtained, but if a 'try at goal' be not successful the kick shall be considered as only an ordinary kick in the course of the game

<sup>a word or
further & stablized
as far as
possible
to Hareley
by Waller</sup>
<sup>is further
informed
about part
of new part
I am in pos
for by first rule</sup>
34. 'Charging' is rushing forward to kick the ball or tackle a player, is lawful for the opposite side in all cases of a place kick after a fair catch or upon a 'try at goal' immediately ^{touched it is placed} the ball is placed on the ground; and, in cases of a drop kick or punt after a fair catch as soon as the player ^{or the ball has touched the ground} commences to run or offers to kick, but he may always draw-back and, unless he has dropped the ball or actually touched it with his foot, they must again retire to his mark (see Rule 53). The opposite side, in the case of a punt out or a punt on, and the tacklers side in all cases, may not charge until the ball has been kicked.

35. If a player having the ball when about to 'punt' is 'out' goes outside the goal line or when about to 'punt'

on' advances nearer to his own goal line than his mark

*and forward
and
opposite
of the right*
made on making the fair catch, or if after the ball has been touched down in the opponents goal or a fair catch has been made more than one player of the side which has so touched it down or made the fair catch, touch the ball before it is again kicked the opposite side may charge at once

56 In cases of a fair catch the opposite side may come up to and stand anywhere on or behind a line drawn through the mark made by the player who has made the catch and parallel to their own goal line; [but in the case of a fair catch from a 'punt out' or a 'punt on' they may not advance further in the direction of the touch line nearest to such mark than a line drawn through such mark to their goal line and parallel to such touch line In all cases (except a punt out and a punt on) the kickers side must be behind the ball when it is kicked, but may not charge until it has been kicked

57 No 'hacking' or 'hacking over' or tripping up a

shall be allowed under any circumstances

5th No one wearing projecting nails iron plates or gutta
percha on any part of his boots or shoes shall be
allowed to play in a match

5th The Captains of the respective sides shall be the
sole Arbiters of all disputes.