

— 1871 —

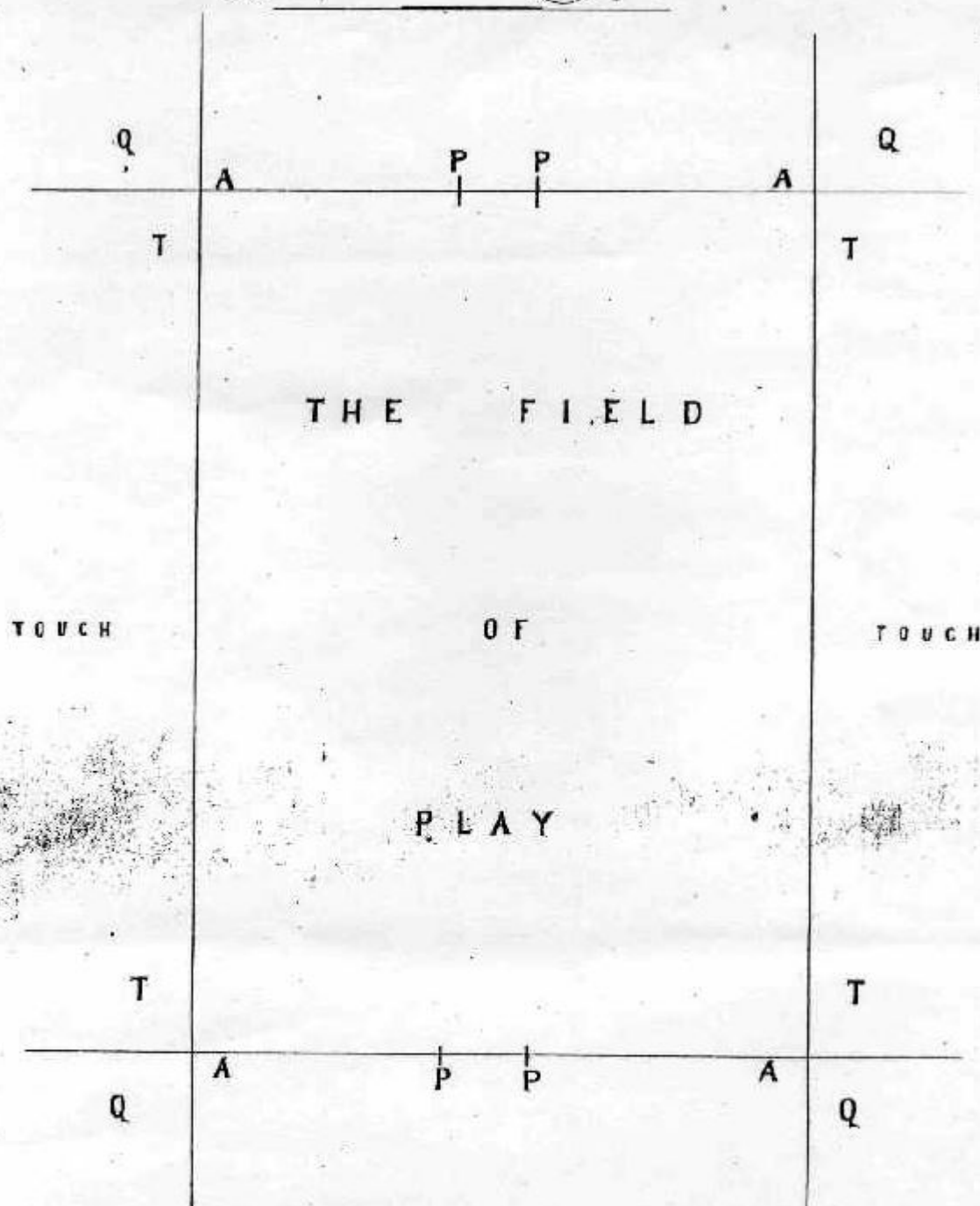
RUGBY FOOTBALL
UNION.

Proposed Laws
OF THE
Game.

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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 the 'very instant' it rises.
2. A 'place kick' or 'place' is made by kicking the ball on after it has been placed in a nick made in the ground for the purpose of keeping 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 dress or person of any player of either side,) over the Cross bar

of the opponents' goal, whether it touch such cross-bar 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'

Every object
but decided by
Division

7 A match shall be decided by a ^{only} majority of goals ~~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 or in goal stops it so

Every player is to out
in fairly or - but see
Rule 8 - if these words
are struck out, that rule
the ground, it would
be inserted by the Gen. 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 ^{him} being in the field of play puts it down on the ground ^{in front of them} 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 bounding except in a scrumage

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 scrumage 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 opponent's 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 ^{the ball being} fairly held he must at once or
V put it down and there put the ball down.

19 A maul in goal is when the holder of the ball is tackled inside goal line or being tackled immediately on 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
rules 21 & 29
contradictory but
they are confusing as is.~~

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 scrimmage from his opponents side or being in a scrimmage 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)

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 side or when one of his own side has run in front of him either with the ball or having kicked it when behind him

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

Guillemard
count Every player
in side 22. 2
read: A player is
offside - but
draft is correct.

Guillemard
to meet and understand
but this was decided
on dividing

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 direction of the opponents goal line are not lawful.
and the fact of doing

28. 'Fair Catch' is a catch made direct from a back 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.

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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

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Considered according to the rules and 2050

a goal in ^{the} ~~rule~~ ^{rule} 49 & 51.

30 'A Punt on' is a punt made in a manner similar

Swart objects to
kicking it - he thinks it
is not in the Rules
game

to a punt out and from touch if necessary, by a player
who has made a fair catch from a punt out or another
punt on

31 Touch (see plan) If the Ball goes into Touch the

first player on his side who touches it down must bring
it
it to the spot where it crossed the touch line, or if a player
when running with the Ball cross or put any part of ~~an~~

Swart objects and
is from having to return it
into play. He says
first rule. They
X bring it back
as by every rule

either foot across the touch line, he must return with the
Ball to the spot where the line was crossed and in

32 either case must ~~himself~~ ^{the} himself or by one of his own side, either

Swart objects to kicking
into touch, but he has failed
to notice that the ball must
first be bounded in the
field of play

bound it out in the Field of Play and then run with it ~~or~~
kick it or throw it back to his own side or ~~or~~ ^{it} throw

X
Swart objects to it
no

it out at right angles to the touch line or ~~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 then 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 in the Field of play and
has not released his hold of it

Swart says that if kicking out of touch is allowed (which it is not) the only way it is kicked out should be added here - changed.

34 If the ball when thrown out of touch be not thrown out at right angles to the touch line, ^{the Captain of} either side may at once claim to have it thrown out again

35 A catch made when the ball is thrown out of touch is not a 'four 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' i. at the commencement of the game. ii. ~~after change of goals as provided by the next~~
~~Rule 34~~ after a goal has been obtained

Smith and Smith - but decided in favour of the Rules. 19 rule 36 37 may alter the

38 The sides shall change goals ~~as often as end whenever a goal is obtained~~ ~~upon the expiration of half the whole time agreed upon for the duration of the match unless by the agreement of the Captains before the start of play as often as end whenever~~ ^{it has been}

~~a goal is obtained~~ ~~by the Captain before the commencement of the match~~ ~~if there is a goal~~

39 The Captains of the respective sides shall toss before the commencement of the match: the winner of the toss

Player and his partner
opt to choose
goal or kick off

shall have the choice of goals ^{or} the kick off ~~after a goal~~

~~of goals at half time: the team that lost 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 ~~in the following manner~~

Player and his partner
opt to choose
goal or kick off

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 cannot count as a goal

42 'Kick out' must be a 'drop kick' and from not more than 25 yards outside the kickers goal line, ~~and not~~ ~~into touch~~

Player and his partner
opt to choose
goal or kick off

~~If the ball when kicked out goes into touch the kick is null and void~~ ~~If the Ball when kicked out~~ ~~goes into touch the kick is null and void~~

Player and his partner
opt to choose
goal or kick off

~~if the ball when kicked out goes into touch the kick is null and void~~ ~~if the Ball when kicked out~~ ~~goes into touch the kick is null and void~~

side must be behind the ball when kicked out

43 A player who has made and claimed a fair catch

shall thereupon either ~~kick~~ take a 'drop kick' or a 'punt

+

a place kick

or 'place' the ball for ~~on their own side to kick~~

V.

the opposing side may come up to the mark

44 After a fair catch has been made ~~the ball shall~~ and caught in case under rule to the catcher side during the play shall be

But it does not
provide for kicking
elsewhere than in
a direct line
add the word
hence
indication to

be kicked either from the mark made by the catcher or

in a direct line

from a spot any distance (not being in touch) behind

it ~~either in a direct line or on that side of the mark~~

which is nearest to the nearest touch line to such

mark.

45 A player may touch the ball down in his own or

goal at any time

But it is not
in rule 50

46 A side having touched the ball down in their or

opponents goal, shall 'try at goal' either by a place kick

or a punt out.

But if a player
have not touched

47 If 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

it up to the goal line in a straight line from and opposite

& then make a mark ⁱⁿ on the goal line
 to the spot where the ball was touched down and then
 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 kicker 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)

56 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 ^{if brought out} ~~not~~ from between them in which
 case the opposite may charge ~~in~~ at once (see rule 54)

57 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

the goal line and then 'punt out' from ^{any spot behind the goal line} ~~from the spot where it was touched down~~

~~from any part behind the goal line not nearer to the~~

goal post than such mark, ^{or from touch in goal if necessary} beyond which mark it is

not lawful for the opposite side who must keep behind

116
 The wind never
 must refer to
 goal - not touch
 to goal where the
 mark will make

their goal line to pass until the ball has been kicked

(see Rules ~~54~~ and ~~55~~)

59 If a fair catch be made from a 'punt out' or a 'punt on' the catcher may either proceed as provided by Rules ~~42~~ and ~~43~~ ²⁴⁴ 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'

59 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 ~~54~~ ³² 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

52 When the ball has been touched down in the opponents' goal none of the side 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

53 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

avoid or
finish or
carry in
to Hand
leg
low leg

54 '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

toucher. i. to place 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 kicks or the ball has touched the ground the ball 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

willow and
adopt part
the second part
is not
by foot rule

(see Rule 56) The opposite side, in the case of a punt out or a punt on, and the kickers side in all cases may not charge until the ball has been kicked

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

Perkins
- out and
opponents
at their right

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

Perkins
and for him
behind -
No.

§ 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

§ No 'hacking' or 'hacking over' or tripping up or etc.

shall be allowed under any circumstances

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

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