

Rule: 7.5.7 to 11

(Rule Book Page 63)

Pass Interference

DPI Restrictions begin when a legal forward pass is thrown.

DPI ends for all B players when a legal forward pass has been touched by A or B.

DPI can only occur:

- 1) On a legal forward pass.
- 2) The pass must cross the NZ untouched by B.
- 3) Must have contact.
- 4) Contact must be beyond the NZ.
- 5) Contact must be on an eligible pass receiver.

7.5.10: ...It is forward-pass interference if any player of A or B who is beyond the neutral zone interferes with an eligible opponent's opportunity to move toward, catch or bat the pass.

DPI Categories:

- 1) Arm Bar.
- 2) Contact, not playing the ball.
- 3) Playing through the back of the receiver.
- 4) Grab and Restrict.
- 5) Hook and Turn.
- 6) Cut-Off.

Not DPI:

7.5.11: Unavoidable contact when making a simultaneous, bona fide attempt to move toward, catch or bat the pass. (more to this rule).

- 1) Incidental contact.
- 2) Inadvertent tangling of the feet.
- 3) Defender gains position.
- 4) Laying a hand on a receiver that does not restrict their ability to catch the ball.
- 5) Legal block before the pass is thrown (could be defensive illegal use of hands. 9.2.3.d)

Look for contact that gives the defender an advantage.

OPI Restrictions begin at the snap.

OPI Ends for all eligible A players when a legal forward pass is touched by A or B.

OPI ends for all ineligible A players when a legal forward pass has been touched by B.

OPI can only occur:

- 1) On a legal forward pass.
- 2) The pass must cross the NZ untouched by B.
- 3) Must have contact.
- 4) Contact must be beyond the NZ.

7.5.10: ...It is forward-pass interference if any player of A or B who is beyond the neutral zone interferes with an eligible opponent's opportunity to move toward, catch or bat the pass.

OPI Categories:

- 1) Blocking downfield (expanded NZ).
- 2) Initiating contact and creating separation.
- 3) Driving through a defender who has established position on the field.
- 4) Picking off a defender who is attempting to cover a receiver.

Not OPI:

7.5.11: Unavoidable contact when making a simultaneous, bona fide attempt to move toward, catch or bat the pass. (more to this rule).

- 1) Incidental contact.
- 2) inadvertent tangling of the feet.
- 3) Laying a hand on a defender that does not restrict their ability to catch the ball.
- 4) Ineligible beyond the expanded NZ touching a legal forward pass.
(should be ineligible downfield or illegal touching)

Look for contact that gives the receiver an advantage.