

Pass Interference – Defense

DPI – Six Categories



1. Not Playing the Ball

- ◆ *Early contact by a defender who is Not Playing the Ball is defensive pass interference provided the other requirements for DPI have been met, regardless of how deep the pass is thrown to the receiver.*



2. Playing Through the Back

- ◆ *Playing through the Back of a receiver in an attempt to make a play on the ball.*



3. Grabbing and Restricting

- ◆ *Grabbing and Restricting a receiver's arm(s) or body in such a manner that restricts his opportunity to catch a pass.*



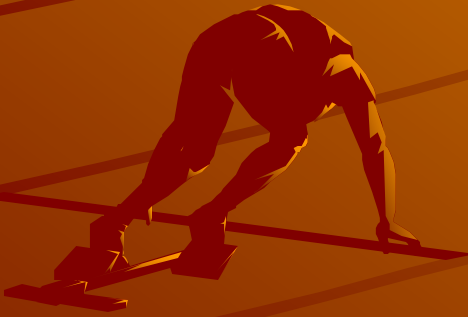
4. Arm Bar

- ◆ *Extending an arm across the body (Arm Bar) of a receiver thus restricting his ability to catch a pass, regardless of the fact of whether or not the defender is looking for the ball.*



5. Cut Off

- ◆ *Cutting Off or riding the receiver out of the path to the ball by making contact with him without playing the ball.*



6. Hooking and Restricting

- ◆ *Hooking and Restricting a receiver in an attempt to get to the ball in such a manner that causes the receiver's body to turn prior to the ball arriving.*



Personal Fouls Against a Rec

- ◆ Launching (springing forward and upward) into him in a way that causes the defensive player's helmet, facemask, shoulder, or forearm to forcibly strike the receiver's head, neck, or face.
- ◆ Rec who completes a catch but does not have time to protect himself.
- ◆ Rec in act of making a catch.

Pass Interference Offensive

◆ OPI – Three Categories



1. Creating Separation

- ◆ *Initiating contact with a defender by shoving or pushing off thus Creating Separation in an attempt to catch a pass.*
- ◆ *Look for extension and separation.*
- ◆ *Could also be a quick push before the ball gets there. Key is look for separation.*
- ◆ *Rec can swim up or down.*



2. Driving Thru

- ◆ *Driving Thru a defender who has established a position on the field.*



3. Blocking Downfield

- ◆ *OPI for Blocking Downfield will not be called if the passer is legally grounding the ball out of bounds or into an area where there is no player.*



MISC

- ◆ Timing is very important.
- ◆ Must have a material effect.
- ◆ Know who initiates contact first.
- ◆ It is not OPI on a pick play if the defensive player is blocking the offensive player when the pick occurs and the offensive player doesn't make a separate action.
- ◆ Must stay with your KEY.

Actions that do not constitute OPI include but not limited to:

- ◆ *Incidental contact by a receiver's hands, arms, or body when both players are competing for the ball or neither player is looking for the ball.*
- ◆ *Inadvertent touching of feet when both players are playing the ball, or neither player is playing the ball. – If one player is playing the ball and the other is not and feet get tangled could be a foul.*
- ◆ *Contact that would normally be considered pass interference, but the ball is clearly uncatchable by involved players.*

Notes

- ◆ Note 1 – If there is any question whether player contact is incidental, the ruling should be no interference.
- ◆ Note 2 – Defensive players have as *much* right to the path of the ball as eligible offensive players.
- ◆ Note 3 – Pass interference for both teams ends when the pass is touched.