



Blocking Zone 2-3-6

ARTICLE 6. a. The blocking zone is a rectangle **centered on the snapper** and extending five yards laterally and three yards longitudinally in each direction.

b. The blocking zone **disintegrates when the ball leaves the zone.**

2-3-6 BLOCKING ZONE APPLIES TO THE FOLLOWING RULES:

Clipping 9-1-2-d

d. There shall be no clipping.

Exceptions:

1. Offensive players who are **on the line of scrimmage** at the snap **within the blocking zone** (Rule 2-3-6) legally **may clip in the blocking zone**, subject to the following restrictions:

(a) A player in the **blocking zone may not** block an opponent with the force of the **initial contact** from behind and **at or below** the knee. (**Exception:** Against the runner).

(b) A player on the line of scrimmage within the **blocking zone may not leave** the zone and return and legally clip.

(c) The **blocking zone exists until** the ball is **touched outside** the zone or the **ball is outside** the zone **after** a fumble, backward pass or muff **from inside** the zone.

2, 3 & 4 No change

Use of Hands or Arms by Offense 9-3-3-c

c. A block in the back is illegal (A.R. 9-1-2-XVII, A.R. 9-3-3-VII, A.R. 9-3-4-III and A.R. 10-2-2-XXII).

Exceptions:

1. Offensive players who are on **the line of scrimmage** at the snap **within the blocking zone** (Rule 2-3-6) **may legally** block in the back in the **blocking zone**, subject to the following restrictions:

(a) A player on the **line of scrimmage within** this blocking zone **may not leave** the zone and return and legally block in the back.

(b) The **blocking zone exists until** the ball is **touched outside** the zone or the **ball is outside** the zone **after** a fumble or muff from inside the zone.

2, 3, 4, 5 & 6. No change.