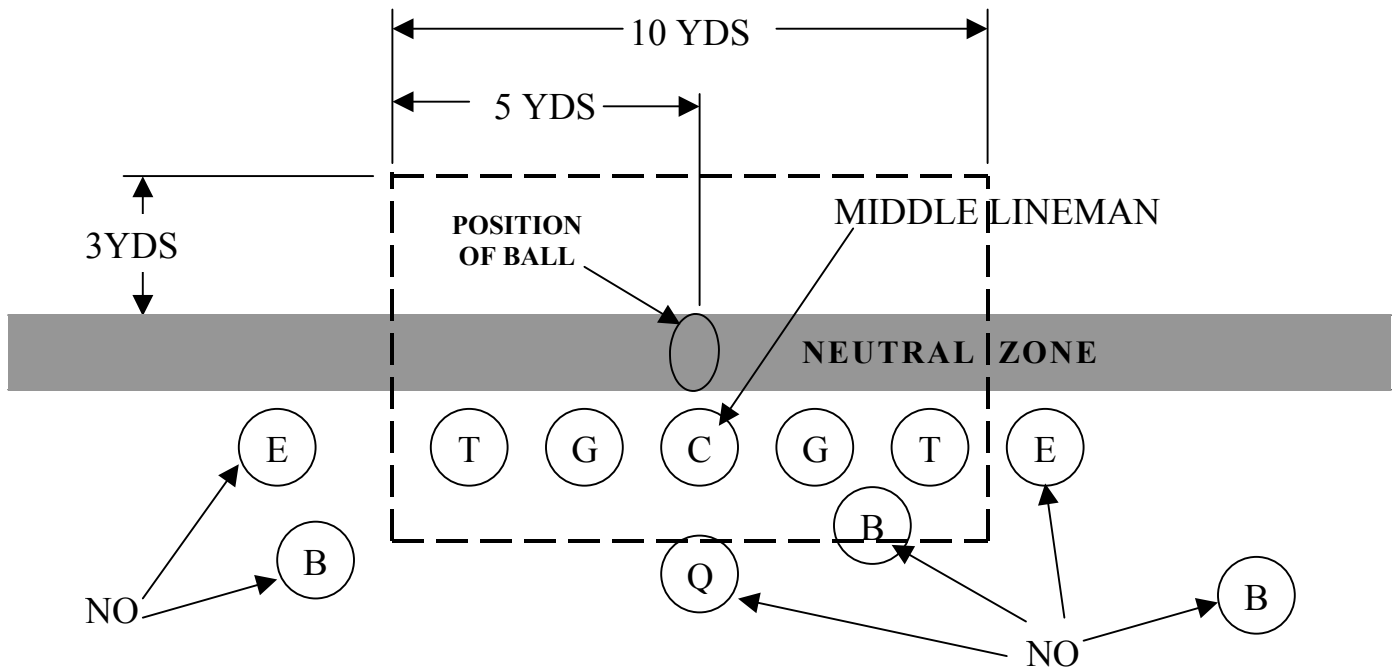


**CLIPPING  
RULE 9-1-2-d**



FR-107

d. There shall be no clipping (A.R. 9-1-2-III).

**Exceptions:**

1. When offensive players are **on the line of scrimmage at the snap within** a rectangular area centered on the **middle lineman** of the **offensive formation** and extending five yards laterally and three yards longitudinally in **each direction**, they legally **may clip in the rectangular area**.
  - (a) A player in the rectangular area **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 rectangular area **may not leave** the zone and **return** and **legally** clip.
  - (c) The rectangular area **exists until** the ball is **touched outside** the area or the **ball is outside** the area after a **fumble or muff from inside** the area.
2. When a player **turns his back** to a **potential** blocker who has **committed** himself in **intent** and **direction** or **movement**.
3. When a player attempts to reach a **runner** or **legally** attempts to recover or catch a fumble, a muff, a backward pass, a kick or a touched forward pass, he may **push** an opponent **below** the waist **at or to the buttocks** (Rule 9-3-3-c Exception 3) (A.R. 6-3-1-III).
4. When an **eligible** player **behind** the neutral zone **pushes** an opponent below the waist at or to the buttocks to **get to a forward pass** (Rule 9-3-3-c Exception 5).