

## FIELD UMPIRE COACHING NOTES – HOLDING THE BALL

- 1) **A player runs 10 steps before being tackled by an opponent. The tackle pins one arm to the player's body while the other hand holding the footy is free. The player drops the ball in a bid to kick it, but he misses the ball with his foot.**

Holding the ball – The player had prior opportunity, was legally tackled and did not dispose of the ball by hand or foot

- 2) **A player runs 2 steps before being tackled. The player drops the ball and the tackler lands on top of the player's back as both go to ground in the force of the tackle.**

In the back – The tackle was not legal as the player landed in his back

- 3) **A player runs 20 steps and takes 2 bounces. On the second bounce the player is tackled legally and he loses possession.**

Holding the ball - The player had prior opportunity, was legally tackled and did not dispose of the ball by hand or foot

- 4) **A ruckman takes the ball out of a boundary ruck contest and is immediately tackled legally. The ruckman looks to pass to one team mate but he has two opponents on him. Instead he changes his mind and handballs it long to a distant team mate.**

Holding the ball – Taking the ball out of the ruck is considered prior opportunity. The player then failed to dispose of the ball immediately.

- 5) **A player runs 7 steps and evades an opponent. He is run down with a legal tackle as he quickly gets a handball away.**

Play on – Although he had prior opportunity, the player immediately disposed of the ball correctly

- 6) **A backline player is on the bottom of a pack after contesting a high ball. He drags the ball underneath him to avoid the opposition taking possession. He is legally tackled by 2 opponents while he continues to lie on the ball.**

Holding the ball – The player had no prior opportunity (we hold our whistle) but did not make a legitimate attempt to dispose of the ball.

- 7) **A player runs 16 steps and is legally tackled. The force of the tackle knocks the ball out of the player's hand and it hits his shin on the way down.**

Play on – The ball landed on the player's shin which is a kick. He correctly disposed of the ball immediately after being tackled.

- 8) **A player runs 6 steps and is tackled below the knees. He goes to ground but quickly gets a handball away to a team mate.**

Trip – The tackle wasn't legal as he grabbed the player below the knees.

- 9) **A player runs 3 steps and is legally tackled. He tries to get a handball away but the tackle pins the ball to his chest.**

Ball up – The player did not have prior opportunity but he made a legitimate attempt to dispose of the ball.

- 10) **A player takes 3 steps and an opponent takes hold of his jumper. The tackler swings the player around 360 degrees before he gets a kick away.**

Holding the ball – A 360 degree tackle constitutes prior opportunity