

\*\*Information below pulled directly from the 2013 and 2014 Rules and Interpretations NCAA Football handbook, which can be found, at [www.ncaapublications.com](http://www.ncaapublications.com).

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Rule 1 / The Game, Field, Players and equipment FR-19

## Specifications

### SECTION 3. The Ball

ARTICLE 1. The ball shall meet the following specifications:

- a. New or nearly new. (A nearly new ball is a ball that has not been altered and retains the properties and qualities of a new ball.)
- b. Cover consisting of four panels of pebble-grained leather without corrugations other than seams.

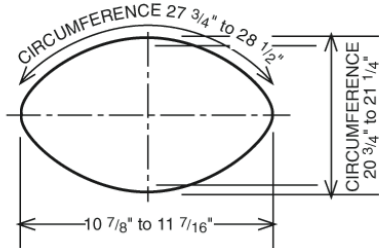


Diagram showing the longitudinal cross section of the standard ball. Maximum and minimum dimensions are used. This diagram is printed in order to secure uniformity in manufacture.

- c. One set of eight equally spaced lacings.
- d. Natural tan color.
- e. Two 1-inch white stripes that are three to three-and-one-quarter inches from the end of the ball and located only on the two panels adjacent to the laces.
- f. Conforms to maximum and minimum dimensions and shape indicated in the accompanying diagram.
- g. Inflated to the pressure of 12-1/2 to 13-1/2 pounds per square inch (psi).
- h. Weight of 14 to 15 ounces.
- i. The ball may not be altered. This includes the use of any ball-drying substance. Mechanical ball-drying devices are not permitted near the sidelines or in the team area.
- j. Professional football league logos are prohibited.

k. Advertising is prohibited on the ball [**Exceptions:** (1) Ball manufacturer's name or logo, (2) institutional logo, (3) conference logo, and (4) AFCA logo].

### **Administration and Enforcement**

ARTICLE 2. a. The game officials shall test and be sole judge of not more than six balls offered for play by each team before and during the game. The game officials may approve additional balls if warranted by conditions (A.R. 1-3-2-I).

b. Home management shall provide a pressure pump and measuring device.

c. The home team is responsible for providing legal balls and should notify the opponent of the ball to be used.

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### **FR-20 Rule 1 / The Game, Field, PlayeRs and equiPment**

d. During the entire game, either team may use a new or nearly new ball of its choice when it is in possession, providing the ball meets the required specifications and has been measured and tested according to rule (**Exception:** The official NCAA football shall be used for the Division I Football Championship Subdivision, II and III championships).

e. The visiting team is responsible for providing the legal balls it wishes to use while it is in possession if the balls provided by the home team are not acceptable.

f. All balls to be used must be presented to the referee for testing at least 60 minutes before the start of the game. Once the teams have presented the game balls to the referee, they remain under the general supervision of the officials throughout the game.

g. When the ball becomes dead in a side zone, is unfit for play, is subject to measurement in a side zone or is inaccessible, a replacement ball shall be obtained from a ball person (A.R. 1-3-2-I).

h. The referee or umpire shall determine the legality of each ball before it is put in play.

i. The following procedures shall be used when measuring a ball:

1. All measurements shall be made after the ball is legally inflated.
2. The long circumference shall be measured around the ends of the ball but not over the laces.
3. The long diameter shall be measured with calipers from end to end but not in the nose indentation.
4. The short circumference shall be measured around the ball, over the valve and over the lace but not over the cross lace.

### **Marking Balls**

ARTICLE 3. Marking a ball indicating a preference for any player or any situation is prohibited.