



Correct

QUESTION

At a centre bounce, a centre square infringement is paid against the South Barwon Half Forward, however, the ball goes straight to the Leopold rover from the ruck contest and he is the clear to play on and take the advantage. Can He? What is your decision?

ANSWER

No, Free Kick to be taken by player nearest centre circle. Page 34 AFL Laws of the Game

11.3.4 Permitted Numbers at the Centre Bounce

When the football is bounced to start a quarter or recommence play after a Goal has been scored, the following shall apply:

- (a) a maximum of 4 Players from each Team are permitted in the Centre Square;
- (b) Of the 4 Players, one player from each team is permitted to be within the 10 meter circle; (c) no Player (other than the 4 initial Players) or Team Official shall enter the Centre Square from the time the field Umpire commences their approach to the Centre Circle to bounce the football until the football touches the ground, in the act of bouncing, or leaves the field Umpire's hand, in the act of being thrown up;
- (d) where a Player or Team Official contravenes Law 11.3.4 (b), the field Umpire shall signal time on and award a Free Kick to the Player of the opposing Team who is nearest to the Centre Circle. The Free Kick to be taken in the centre of the Playing Surface behind the line through the Centre Circle;**
- (e) where a Player has been pushed or otherwise forced into the Centre Square in contravention of Law 11.3.4 (b), the Free Kick shall be awarded against the Team which caused the transgression and all the provisions of Law 11.3.4 shall apply;
- (f) The advantage Law shall not apply: where Players or Officials from opposing Teams simultaneously encroach, the Umpire shall blow their whistle and direct the offending personnel to exit the Centre Square;