

CATCH—NO CATCH

A CATCH is an act of **firmly** establishing player possession of a live ball in flight. (The word **firmly** was added to this definition in 2006)

A player who leaves his feet to make a catch, interception or recovery must have the ball **firmly** in his possession when he first returns to the ground inbounds with any part of his body or is so held that the dead-ball provisions apply.

If one foot first lands inbounds and the receiver has possession and control of the ball, it is a catch.

Loss of ball simultaneous to returning to the ground is not a catch, interception or recovery. (This item is extremely important. If the receiver goes to the ground, make him show you the ball!)

When in question, the catch, recovery, or interception is not completed. (Has the receiver had an opportunity to do something “common to the game”?)

Great Phrase-The receiver must survive the contact and survive the ground.