‘Notre Dame Football 101’

International Edition (June 2013)
1. “Flip right double-X jet 36 counter naked waggle seven X quarter”
   – Does anyone know what this is?
   – You **still** won’t know at end of this session!
   – Not teaching intricacies of the game today; just basics

2. **There are more important things than football.**
   – But football *is* important part of Notre Dame!
   – Want you to have basic tools to engage the culture
What We WILL Cover...

Game Of Football
- Basic rules & regulations
- Down & distance concept

Notre Dame Football
- History
- Traditions
- Typical Weekend
- Upcoming Season

**There will be a quiz**
Audience Poll

• How many have seen an American football game on TV?

• How many have seen an American football game in person?

• How many have played American football?

• Anyone been in Notre Dame Stadium before?
Object of the Game

• The object of the game is to **outscore your opponent** by advancing the football into their end zone for as many touchdowns as possible while holding them to as few as possible.

• There are other ways of scoring, but a touchdown is usually the prime objective.
Football Field
• The playing field is 100 yards long. (91.44 meters)

• The total field is 120 yards long and 160 feet wide.

• The yardage from the goal line is marked at ten-yard intervals, up to the 50-yard line, which is the midpoint – then descends.
Football Field

• On each end of the playing field is an **end zone** which extends ten yards.

• The spot where the end zone meets the playing field is the **goal line**.

• Located on the very back line of each end zone is a goal post.
Basic Rules

• Two teams of 11 playing against each other.

• Offense, Defense and Special Teams

• How can you tell which is which?

  Offense = with the ball

  Defense = without the ball

  Special Teams = kicking the ball
Start of Game

• Coin Toss
  – Determines possession

• Kick Return
  – Determines line of scrimmage

• Line of Scrimmage
  – Starting point for each play
Down and Distance

• **Set of Downs**
  - Four downs to go ten yards

• **Distance**
  - Yards needed to get a new “set of downs”

First Down
- Gain ten yards within four downs, get a “first down”

Fourth Down
- Last down before offense has to turn ball over (“turnover”)
Down and Distance Quiz

1st and 10

Gain of 3 yards

What’s the down and distance now?

2nd and 7
Down and Distance Quiz

2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3

Gain of 4 yards

What’s the down and distance now?

1\textsuperscript{st} and 10
Down and Distance Quiz

3rd and 7

*Loss* of 4 yards

What’s the down and distance now?

4th and 11

Bonus: *What’s likely to happen next?*
Advancing the Ball

- Run the ball
- Throw the ball
  - Complete pass
  - Incomplete pass
  - Interception
Scoring

1. Touchdown = 6 points
   Extra Point Conversion = 1 point
   Two-Point Conversion = 2 points

2. Field Goal = 3 points

3. Safety = 2 points
Live Game Example

Notre Dame v. Penn State

http://nbcSports.msnbc.com/id/22825103/vp/28056367#23111457
Helpful Links

• [http://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/football.htm/printable](http://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/football.htm/printable)


• [http://football.about.com/od/football101/l/bl_glossary.htm](http://football.about.com/od/football101/l/bl_glossary.htm)
Notre Dame Football (History)

Many thanks to Mike Sullivan, Notre Dame Development Office for template!
Notre Dame Football History

11
Notre Dame Football History

National Champions

- 1924
- 1929
- 1930
- 1943
- 1946
- 1947
- 1949
- 1966
- 1973
- 1977
- 1988 ← TOO LONG!
Heisman Trophy – awarded annually to “most outstanding player in collegiate football”
Notre Dame Football History

Heisman Trophy Winners

1943 - Angelo Bertelli
1947 - Johnny Lujack
1949 - Leon Hart
1953 - Johnny Lattner
1956 - Paul Hornung
1964 - John Huarte
1987 - Tim Brown

Also too long!
Notre Dame Football History

2 and 3

2nd in all-time win %

.734 winning percentage (thru 2012-13 season), behind Michigan's .735

3rd in all-time wins

865 total wins, behind Michigan (903) & Texas (866)

Note – We could overtake Michigan for win % this season if we have better record! And we are only 1 game behind Texas in total wins; could tie/pass them for wins also!
Notre Dame Football History

97 Consensus All-Americans

- Majority of votes among media as best player at a given position
  - Most of any school

And just for good measure...

- All-Americans – 188 (Most of any school)

- Unanimous All-Americans – 33 (Most of any school)

- Academic All-Americans – 43 (2nd most)

Most recent – Manti Te’o, 2012
43
College Football HOF Inductees

More CFHOF inductees than any other school

And just for good measure...

Pro Football HOF – 10 inductees (2nd most)
Cultural Impact

• Early teams were source of immigrant / Catholic pride
  – Crowds of local Catholics would greet team at train stops on way to/from games on coasts

• Academic Success + Athletic Excellence
  – Players live in dorms, go to class, etc
  – Consistently lead the nation in graduation rates
    • 99% graduation rate since 1962
    • Tops in nation in all sports in 2011
  – Consistent record of producing Academic All-Americans
Cultural Impact

“The reach defies logic. From a Catholic university in north central Indiana to the corners of the United States and far beyond. But the reach is real. Many have been portrayed as America’s Team...yet only the Yankees come close, and even they come up short. Notre Dame football stands alone in American sport.”

- Tim Layden / Sports Illustrated

“Millions of Catholics—whether Irish, Italian, German or Pole — lived vicariously through the wins and losses of Notre Dame’s football teams. For that vastly immigrant population Notre Dame football symbolized the triumphs of an ostracized people.”

- Kerry Temple / Notre Dame Magazine
Cultural Impact

• Knute Rockne All-American
• “Win One For The Gipper”
• Rudy
• The West Wing
• “Superfans” – Regis & Vince
• Shrek
  – “Duloc Castle” / Far-quad /
Cultural Impact (Recent)

• **Rick Reilly, ESPN** (not worth quoting)

• **Pat Forde, Yahoo Sports**
  
  “Look at the current Notre Dame roster and you find 5 players who already have undergraduate degrees, and a whopping 26 who are in the Mendoza College of Business. BusinessWeek merely ranked Mendoza the nation’s No. 1 undergraduate business school for 2012, while U.S. News & World Report had it way down at No. 14.

  So, no, they are not storing all the football players in lightweight majors at Notre Dame. Nor are they segregating them from the rest of the campus. There is no jock dorm at Notre Dame, and no off-campus housing for incoming freshmen. In fact, most players wind up rooming with non-players as freshmen.”

• **HBO’s “The Newsroom”**
  
  – [YouTube Clip](#)
Cultural Impact (Recent)

Emerald Isle Classic (Dublin, Ireland)
- “Pep Rally” in O2 Arena
  - Prime Minister of Ireland spoke!
  - Broadcast live on TV in Ireland
- Outdoor Mass at Dublin Castle
  - Thousands in attendance
- Temple Bar Tailgate

Photo by Barbara Johnston / University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame Football (Traditions)

Video – “Honor & Tradition”
Notre Dame Football Traditions

Notre Dame Stadium

- Built in 1930, originally sat nearly 60,000 (12x enrollment!)
- Expanded in 1997, now seats 80,795
- Preserved original structure
- Sellout streak (225 consecutive / 273 of last 274 since ‘66)
- No logos / No “Dumbotron” / Stadium music in 2011
- Student Section
The Gold Helmets

- Iconic image, meant to evoke connection to Dome
- Paint on helmet includes actual gold from Dome
- Historically, helmets painted by students / recent change
- New version in 2011
The “Fighting Irish”

- Nickname formally adopted in 1927
- Exact origins disputed; all agree it was derogatory
- Most likely origin is related to fame of Irish-American boxers at turn of 20th century
  - John L. Sullivan
  - Jim Corbett

“The fame of these Irish-American fighters is probable source of the Notre Dame nickname, but ... 19th century boxing was attached to a drinking, gambling, brawling and disreputable subculture...”
- Murray Sperber, Shake Down The Thunder
Knute Rockne

- Graduated magna cum laude in 1914
- Highest win % in football history
  - .881 (105-12-5 record)
- Great motivator
  - Gipper
  - “Little Billy”
- Died in plane crash (1931)
  - Immortalized in movie

*He was the prototype of the big-time college coach, not only in his ability to promote his team and himself but ... in his development of new commercial areas for college coaches ... Rockne was the first great entrepreneurial coach ...”*

- Murray Sperber, Shake Down The Thunder
The Band of the Fighting Irish

- Oldest university band in continual existence; formed in 1845 – have never missed home football game.
- Recipients of the 2011 Sudler Trophy – musical equivalent of the Heisman
- Popularized / perfected “picture formations”
- Video of gameday routine
The Victory March

– Often called “fight song”
– Written by 2 brothers / both alumni
  • Michael Shea (1904)
  • John Shea (1906)
– Chorus is well known; but there are 2 preceding verses

In fact, so many Americans can recognize “The Notre Dame Victory March” that it is considered one of the nation’s four best known songs – along with the “Star Spangled Banner,” “God Bless America,” and “White Christmas.”
- Murray Sperber, Shake Down The Thunder, p. 24
Notre Dame Football Traditions

The Irish Guard

• Formed in 1949; they clear a path for band
• Raise flag pre-game; perform “Victory Clog”
• Only 10 members; min. height requirement of 6’2
• Wear the “Notre Dame Plaid”
Notre Dame Football Traditions

The Leprechaun

• Live version of logo
• Actual student
• Rigorous tryout process
  – Mock media interview
  – Cheering / pushup tests
• Athletic scholarship
• 100’s of appearances
  – Athletic events
  – Charity
Play Like A Champion Today

- Last thing players hit leaving locker room
- Instituted by Lou Holtz in 80’s
- Has become iconic
- [ESPN video link]
Play Like A Champion Today

"Regardless of the won-loss record, regardless of the problems you have, when you walk out on that field you have an obligation to your teammates and the fans to play to the best of your ability - to play like a champion and to think like a champion... (I asked) my players that every time they hit that sign, to think about all the sacrifices your family has made; your teammates made in high school; the sacrifices your teachers have made; and you also think of the thousands of people who would love to be in your position. Just think about how fortunate we are. "All of these thoughts should go through your mind when you hit that sign”
- Lou Holtz, former head football coach, Notre Dame

ND125 Video Link
Notre Dame Football Traditions

“The Shirt”

- Charity fundraiser
- Student-created
- Available in bookstore
- See history in LaFortune
Notre Dame Football Traditions

• The Word of Life Mural
  – “Touchdown Jesus”

• Moses & Ten Commandments
  – “#1 Moses / 1st Down Moses”

• Rev. William Corby C.S.C.
  – “Fair Catch Corby”
Notre Dame Football Traditions
The Rivals

• USC
  – Only “national” rivalry
  – Two accomplished programs (11/7)

• Michigan
  – Geographic neighbors; “taught” us football
  – Discouraged other Midwest teams from playing ND

• Navy
  – U.S. Navy kept ND afloat during WWII
  – “The Streak” snapped in 2007

• Boston College
  – Not really.
  – 1993, 2002
Notre Dame Football (Typical Weekend)
Football Weekend Itinerary

Friday Morning
• Study / Career Development

Friday Afternoon
• Tunnel Tours (10am to 5pm)
• Football Luncheon (Noon)
• Trumpets Under The Dome (4pm)
  – Band marches by MCOB around 4:30pm
• Pep Rally
  – Check weekly handout for time/location

Friday Evening
• Hit the town for dinner, feel the “buzz”.
• Drum Circle (Midnight)
Football Weekend Itinerary

Saturday
• Team walk to stadium from “Gug”
  – 2 hrs before kickoff

• Band “steps off” from Bond Hall
  – 1 hr before kickoff

• Tailgate!
  – Do it for “old Notre Dame!” (research)
  – Words of wisdom...

• Game Time!
  – You know what they say about the grad students...

• After the game, candlelight dinner in South Dining Hall
Notre Dame Football
(Upcoming Season)
Upcoming Season

• **Head Coach:** Brian Kelly
  – 4th season as head coach; played for national championship last yr

• **QB Suspension**
  – Suspended starting QB of 12-0 team for "poor academic judgement"
  – Proof that ND does it the right way; Senior Tommy Rees to start

• **Schedule Highlights**
  – Aug. 31 v. Temple Home Opener
  – Sept. 7 @ Michigan Rivalry
  – Sept. 28 v. Oklahoma Historical Significance
  – Oct. 5 v. Arizona St. ‘Shamrock Series’ (Dallas, TX)
  – Oct. 19 v. U$C Rivalry (Night Game)
  – Nov 30 @ Stanford Highly Ranked Opponent
Upcoming Season

All-Americans 98 & 99?

Junior, DE, Stephon Tuitt

Senior, DT, Louis Nix III
Final Exam

• How many national championships does Notre Dame have?

• How many Heisman trophy winners?

• What’s the biggest home game this coming season?
Questions?

GO IRISH!

http://youtu.be/ECTL1NVssaU
http://youtu.be/1ZjrznMv2U
http://youtu.be/Wb1Q7mDr1qE
http://youtu.be/YV7gYhrgAlg
http://youtu.be/KDiUsPBhofg