

TO: OHSAA Football Officials

FROM: Bruce Maurer, DOD; Beau Rugg, Assistant Commissioner

Subject: FB Bulletin - Week 7; 10/6/16

Indicated below are some items that have arisen during Week 6 & at Local Officials Association Meetings. These Rulings supersede any previous ones issued.

1. "A Little Cardio Goes a Long Way": Five minutes of aerobic exercise a day can slash your risk of a heart-disease-related death by 45 percent and your chances of dying of any cause by 30 percent, according to a study of more than 55,000 adults over 15 years. 'Exercise is not all-or-nothing – even a small amount improves and protects the cardiac and skeletal muscles,' explains study co-author Timothy Church." Men's Journal, October 2014.
2. Video Review from HC's: Requests by HC's to look "at my IPAD" to see a previous play – our response is "Coach, by NFHS Rule 1-1-9, I am not allowed to look at the play". Encourage the HC to forward the video clips after the game & our **Crew** "would be happy to review them".
3. Clock Management: It is a Very Important part of the game & all officials are responsible to help. This is especially important at the end of both halves when time becomes more critical. **Wings** need to communicate with the **Crew** whether the GC will start on the "ready" or snap, especially when the runner is tackled near the SL & has gained a first down. The **R** needs to communicate with the **Wings** so he knows the GC status. And the **BJ** needs to know the GC status so he can communicate this info to the **R & Crew**. If, for some reason, the **R** mistakenly winds the GC when it should be started on the snap, then the **Crew** needs to "step up to the plate" & make a **Crew Save**. Especially inside 2 minutes, memorize the GC time whenever the GC is stopped by Rule. It gives us a "benchmark" if we have to add or delete game time.
4. End of Period: The **R** needs to be patient when giving the End of Period signal to the PB – especially if there might be some controversy. If the coaching staff is yelling about some aspect of the last few plays, determine what their concerns are first before signaling End of Period.
5. KO Rules (6-1-3): We ask that every **Crew** review this Rule during your pre game. We have had some misses the past few weeks. If there is a KT Player more than 5 yards back he MUST kick the ball. If another player kicks the ball it is a DEAD BALL foul. The whistle (s) must be sounded immediately. The foul is DB, Encroachment. The **R** signals DB followed by Encroachment. The **Crew** cannot give the RT the option to decline the penalty during an Onside Kick and keep the recovery of the FB.
6. Importance of Games: Games between teams with average records can carry great weight with the OHSAA FB Rating System this time of year. Let's all rededicate ourselves to raising our level of concentration & communication.
7. KO: Excellent mechanics by the **HL** (then mirrored by the **R**) on a KO where there was a very slight "touch" by the RT Player before the KO then went OOB. The **HL** gave an immediate & highly visible "touch" signal & the ball was then correctly placed at that spot. Due to the "touch" signals, the **LJ** was able to inform "his" HC of the ruling on the field. Well Done.

8. Wings LOS Signals: If the closest A player is on the LOS & there is another A player positioned directly behind him we do not signal that an A player is off the LOS. We only signal if the closest A player is off the LOS.
9. Targeting & Spearheading Fouls: Please be diligent on these fouls when they occur.
10. Penalty Flags: We have had several reports of officials hitting players when throwing their flag to "the spot". Remember, player safety. We can throw the flag to the corresponding YL or can adjust the flag after the ball becomes dead.
11. Punt Mechanics: Wings – please review your punt mechanics – especially R&R1. On punts less than 30 YDS, initially drop 10 YDS, stop & observe the action. Watched a video where the punt went 22 YDS & the **U** ran too far downfield. As a result there was a DB foul behind him.
12. Illegal Shifts: A good mechanic is to count 1001 whenever a shift occurs (1 or more players) and the player needs to reset. We have seen video where the player reset for less than 1 second then went downfield & caught a TD pass. (Rule 2-39)
13. Professional Dress: An official was observed wearing a long sleeve all black shirt under his short sleeve stripe shirt during a sub varsity game. NO! As the weather gets colder please bring both shirts to the game site. In sub varsity games officials do not have to all wear either SS or LS shirts, but please dress professionally.
14. UNS & Personal Fouls: A Crew member yelled at a player "To Knock It Off" during a live ball as the player blocked an opponent OOB. The **Wing** correctly called a DB Personal Foul. The **R** changed it to a UNS Foul. NO!! Contact Fouls are Personal Fouls. They are Not UNS Fouls.
15. Penalty Enforcement: **HL** correctly called a BIB & then a UNS for taunting. The **Crew** then took nearly 2 minutes to enforce a live ball foul followed by a dead ball foul by A. During the discussion the **U** was not involved. The **U** is in charge of Penalty Enforcement, not just walking off the penalty.
16. Low Blocks: A Crew had 2 low blocks F night. All were committed by the team we least expect:
A: B-3 cut receiver A-2 who was blocking ahead of the runner.
B: On a KO the KT cut the RT to "break up" the blocking wedge ahead of the runner.
17. KO & Fair Catch Signal: Officials need to be cognizant of a fair catch signal given by the RT on a KO. Watched a video where the FC signal was given, not recognized, & another RT player ran for quite a few yards.
18. Officials Radios: If your **Crew** uses a radio, still need to give a Prelim Signal initially before using the radio.
19. Awareness Games: In order to recognize these games Officials can use Pink Whistles if the ENTIRE Crew uses them. This is the only pink item that can be used or worn. (GB, P. 47, 3L) As we know FB Officiating has the fewest opportunities to earn income when compared to SCR, BSKB, BB, SB, & VB, since the regular season is only 10 weeks & there is no out of season FB. This way we do not have some members of a **Crew** placing "pressure" on other members to purchase a lot of additional items.
20. Awareness Games: Teams can paint the field lines & numbers with pink paint. Rules book states that white paint is "recommended."

Best of luck during Week 7!