

TO: OHSAA State FB Tournament Officials

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

Subject: FB Bulletin - Week 12; 11/10/16

Greetings!! We hope you had great game and a wonderful experience during Week 11. I have received over 110 Observations and there were many positive comments along with areas where we can all improve. Please cover during your pre games. This bulletin will cover items that have been observed during Week 11. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Bruce at bmaurer.38@gmail.com.

1. **Crew & Individual Goals:** One of the best crews I was on in the NFL was led by our **R**, Gary Lane. Before each game each official would state a Goal for that game that he was personally going to improve along with a Goal to help the **Crew**. We stated these Goals in front of our Crewmates & discussed them openly. Then at halftime & after the game we would review them in a positive & honest environment. **R** - Please discuss during the Pregame.
2. **Crew & Individual Goals:** Visited with a **Crew** last weekend that placed their **Crew** Goals on the White Board in the LR - very impressive. I am sure we have all read articles about the importance of writing down our goals & then stating them to friends & associates.
3. **OBSERVERS:** We want to thank them for an outstanding job. We had approximately 110+ games observed. Many of them sat in the cold to observe the game with the Goal to improve officiating in Ohio and make the experience for the high school athlete as wonderful as possible. Please extend a heartfelt thanks to them for volunteering their time to help us all improve. And please give them your undivided attention by not getting dressed. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
4. **Wings:** When the nearest A player is inside the HM move off the SL. We saw several plays where the nearest A player was 25 YDS away and the **Wing** was still "married" to the SL.
5. **3rd & 4th Down & 5 or Less Yards:** When this occurs the most important line is the LTG. It is imperative that the **Wings** move to the LTG immediately at the snap. We missed an important FWP when the **Wing** did not move to the LTG.
6. **BJ/U KO:** Refer to Week 11, Bulletin, # 7. We expect both the **U & BJ** to know the Kicker's #, as well as identifying uniform characteristics. For example last week one kicker had on yellow shoes. Another Kicker had green socks from his shoes to his knees. **Observers:** Please Discuss.
7. **R/Wings & GC:** When the ball becomes dead outside the field numbers, both the covering **Wing** & the **R** must wind the GC. Timer told the **Observer** that the near side **Wing** was not winding & he had a challenging time deciding whether to stop the GC or

not. If the **R** knows the ball is dead inbounds, & the **Wing** does not wind it, then the **R** needs to wind the GC.

8. Ineligibles Downfield: “Intent” has nothing to do with whether this is a foul or not. We know the Rule. **Wings** need to help with this call as the **U** has a lot of traffic on a center screen. This is especially important for the Back Side **Wing** on a pass to the opposite side of the field.
9. Punt & Touchback: If the RT muffs a punt in the field of play & the punt rolls back into the RT’s EZ it is a TB, Not a TD when the KT recovers the punt in the EZ. The Kick ends when the ball crosses the GL. Unfortunately, a TD was awarded, and then the Try-Kick occurred. As we know by Rule 3-5-11 the punt play cannot be changed once the Try-Kick occurred. Someone on the **Crew** needed to ask the “question” prior to the Try-Kick that could have saved this **Crew**.
10. **BJ** & Punts: We do NOT throw a bean bag when the RT touches the punt. As we know the bean bag is tossed on “first touching” & to mark the PSK Spot, except for a Fair Catch & TB. If the bean bag is thrown when the RT touches the punt we confuse the **Crew** as to what occurred.
11. Restricted Area (RA) - We have reports of coaches/players in the RA during a live ball. We EXPECT you to lead by example. **Observers**: Make a Special Note if the RA is NOT enforced and email me regarding the name of the official & the **Crew**. We will make changes. We would prefer not to! Coaches are allowed 2 steps on the field between downs. Enforce It.
12. Illegal Formation: Watched a video clip during a normal scrimmage play where A had 4 players, # 50 - 79, on the LOS along with # 7 positioned as the left tackle plus a wing back that was # 52.
13. KO OOB: The **Crew** must ask the HC how he wants to enforce this foul. Do Not assume they will take it at the “normal” - 35 YL. This is especially important when there is another foul, such as a dead ball foul, called on this play.
14. PE: QB rolls out & is tackled for a huge loss. Defensive Holding is called. Where is the foul enforced? Is it a loose ball play or a running play since the QB wanted, but did not, throw a forward pass. The **Crew** enforced it from the Previous Spot - were they correct? Please discuss.
15. **R/BJ** & PC: Our timers are human. They make mistakes. When the **R** marks the ball ready please check the PC to make sure it starts. If not get it corrected. A HC had to use his last time out due to the **Crew** not catching the incorrect PC. In another game 7 or 8 seconds ran off the GC before the PC started in a tight game.
16. **Crew** & Huddling: After scores & time-outs, only huddle when there is an actual need. We saw a **Crew** huddle after every score. Why? Also, a **Crew** was observed huddling repeatedly after penalty flags were thrown. Why? Only in limited situations is there a need to huddle - do so only when needed.

17. **U & Pass Play:** The **U** does not move to the LOS on R&R1 and R&R2. Why? The pass is thrown too quickly. The **U** must turn IMMEDIATELY and watch the pass - catch or no catch. However, if it is R&R 3 or the QB threatens the LOS then he must move to the LOS.
18. **GLM:** We still have officials who do not know IP on GLM. Discuss this in your Pre-Game. **Wings** need to be 2 YDS outside the pylon prior to the snap.
19. **Forward Progress:** 1 loud whistle blast by 1 or 2 officials when the runner's progress is stopped. We do not need multiple blasts of the whistle by the same official unless there is something special going on between opponents.
20. **Runner in or OOB:** Look for "Green" next to the SL. If we do Not see "green" then he is OOB.
21. **Before Game Starts:** Yes, **Crews** can go back into the LR after the CT & before the game starts. However, if teams have a "common entrance point" from their LR then we must leave the LR & have officials there to prevent anything from happening as they move from their LR to the field.
22. **R's PB Signals:** If TV cameras are opposite the PB then the **R** must signal to both sides.
23. **R's Microphones:** An **R** was asked to carry 3 microphones - stadium, TV, & radio. In this situation we only carry & use the Stadium microphone.
24. **BEST OF LUCK TO EVERYONE THIS WEEKEND!!!** It is a Great time of the year in OHIO. We are all truly blessed to be part of the State Playoffs. And ENFORCE the Restricted Area.

"Keeping our eyes on continuous improvement is surely the most likely way to motivate people to work on getting better."