

## The Journey Continues as Our Officiating is Improving!

1. **OUR MISSION:** We Will Improve Our Officiating Significantly in 2017 thru the Use of Additional Educational Tools, & the Study & Application of Mechanics & Rules.
2. **Why It Is Working:** An email was forwarded to us during the 2016 FB Season: “Last season I attended OHSAA Games in Northwest, Central, Northeast, & Southwest Ohio. The mechanics were exactly the same everywhere. It was striking. Everyone in the state is getting on the same page, which makes it better for the officials &, more important, it is better for the players & coaches.”
3. **What’s Happening in 2017:** A Lot!! Some of the many significant **Highlights** include:
  - A. Gold Book: New, Revised & Enhanced Mechanics: **These are shaded**. There are approximately 20 changes & clarifications from last year. Many of these were suggested by our fellow officials. Please review the Gold Book Mechanics Section thoroughly.
  - B. Gold Book: Our Far Reaching Goal is when an Official arrives on site, he has 3 publications: 1. FB Rules Book; 2. FB Case Book; & 3. Gold Book. Just about every question or challenging situation can be answered in one of these 3. Will the Gold Book have all the answers for this year? No, but as the Journey Continues we will add these unique situations. Please continue to send them to us.
  - C. [WWW.OHSAAFB.COM](http://WWW.OHSAAFB.COM): Our interscholastic FB website was a resounding success last year as evidenced by the nearly 14,300 visits from officials around the world. The website can be accessed by your tablet, smart phone, & desktop computer. Included this year will be: 1. Gold Book; 2. Gold Book Mechanics by Position; 3. Expanded Rules Index; 4. Recognition Section; 5. 2016 State Regular Season & Playoff Bulletins (Updated with 2017 Mechanics); 6. Ask the DOD/SRI’s Q’s and A’s About Rules, Mechanics, & Philosophy; 7. Weekly Practice Rules Tests; 8. PPT Mechanics Presentations.
  - D. The NFHS Penalty Summary & Signals PPT was developed & updated by Garry Mosier. This is a great study & reference tool for learning & refreshing our memories regarding the distance, special enforcements, & appropriate hand signals. It can be found on the [WWW.OHSAAFB.COM](http://WWW.OHSAAFB.COM) website.
  - E. Mechanics: Detailed HL Instructions to the Line-to-Gain (LTG) Crews has been developed & will be available on the [WWW.OHSAAFB.COM](http://WWW.OHSAAFB.COM) website.
  - F. Mechanics PPT Presentations: A wonderful “6 Types of Kicking Plays” was developed in 2011 & 5 Non Kick Plays in 2013. They will be updated with the Mechanics Changes for this year.
  - G. Practice Rules Tests: the Rules Geek & Your Call will continue this year on [WWW.OHSAAFB.COM](http://WWW.OHSAAFB.COM) . Beginning Week 1, officials can take Rules & Mechanics Q’s & A’s weekly – Great Way to Study.
  - H. Rules Index: Included in the Gold Book, the Rules Index has 325 listings. Each time someone asked me for a rules clarification I first went to the Index. We added to it. A great tool for all officials.
  - I. Helpful Hints for Use of Headsets: It has been added to [WWW.OHSAAFB.COM](http://WWW.OHSAAFB.COM) website.
  - J. Uniform: The Referee must wear a white hat for varsity games only. (6/7/17)

**We Hope You & Your Crew Have a Tremendous Football Season. Best Wishes & Good Luck!!!**