

TO: OHSAA Football Officials

FROM: Bruce Maurer, DOD; Beau Rugg, Sr. Director of Officiating & Sports Management

Subject: FB Bulletin - Week 5; 9/23/20

Indicated below are some items that have arisen during Week 4. These Rulings supersede any previous ones issued.

1. Due to Covid-19 Beau is under a lot of pressure with the many, many changes with this FB season. Therefore, do not email Beau about a Rules Interpretation or Mechanics Question. Email Bruce, who will either reply or will secure the answer in consultation with other official, & then reply.
2. Beau travels on F to watch multiple HS games (Last year he saw approximately 170 different officials). These are some of his observations: A. Cross Field Mechanics – Any time a receiver is hit & driven back the **Back Side Wing** needs to move into the field to the hash marks to mark Forward Progress. This would also apply to the runner being hit near the SL, driven back, & the covering **Wing** is trailing the play. B. **BJ's** Dead Ball Officiating – there is no need to run up to the pile of players. Saw an obvious late hit missed that was 2 seconds after the DB. C. Important Players: On each play identify the most important players based upon their movement. Continue to work hard on this.
3. Halftime & Captain's Options (Varsity Games): The **Crew** must bring one captain from each team to the 50 YL at the center of the field to obtain their 2nd half options. Then the **R** will signal their options to the PB with the captain's positioned accordingly. We need to be great communicators before & during the game.
4. Face Coverings: Without Exception Everyone must wear a Face Covering at the game site unless actively officiating.
5. UNS Fouls: After the ball became dead both teams were called for separate UNS Fouls (one on each team). Do you enforce both or do they offset? Check out RB 10-2-5b.
6. "Inside" 2 Minutes (2Q & 4Q): Review Rule 3-4-7. Remember the offended team can elect to have the GC started on the snap even if the GC was running on previous down.
7. 10 on Offense: Is it a foul if Team A only has 6 on their LOS? Please discuss.
8. Ineligibles: In the Pre-Game with the HC, he mentions his tackle eligible play where # 78 will be on the end of the Line. Legal?
9. Punt Play: RT is called for defensive holding in the NZ before the ball is punted. Where is this enforced? Is it a PSK Foul? No. It is enforced at the Previous Spot. It is a rare play so please discuss & know the enforcement.
10. Kick Ends on a Punt: K 56 punts to the RT 20 YL and the punt is bouncing on the field. Several RT players muff it (no new force & no illegal bat) & the punt crosses the RT's GL.

An official signaled TD when K 23 recovered the punt in RT's End Zone. Is this correct? Is this a TD or TB? Did the kick end? This is a TB. Can other **Crew** members help? YES!!

11. **Crew** Communication: After throwing a flag & the down is over, take a deep breath & think what you will do. Too often we get in a hurry & end up confusing our **Crew**. First & foremost, know the Official FB Signals in the Rules Book. Give a strong signal to the **R** regarding the foul & direction. When communicating with the appropriate **Wing** do NOT give color. Instead, use offense, defense, KT or RT. Be specific on "what happened" so the **Wing** can communicate effectively with the HC. Rather than say "offense # 76 held", indicate "offense, # 76 restricted the opponent with his right hand on the shoulder & turned him at the POA".
12. **BJ's** & Punts – Move while the punt is airborne to maintain your cushion. If the punt is short be very careful about moving up more than several steps. Remember, we have the **Wing's** that can help with the shorter punts. Plus this gives you a wider view. We have been missing some BSB & BIB because the **BJ's** are too close to the receiver (s).
13. Continuous Self Improvement: Ask yourself during the pre-game, "What will I work on this first half to be a better official by half time". State this goal to your **Crew**. One good **Crew** wrote their goals on the LR white board, & then discussed them after the game. All 5 or 6 officials need to be part of this excellent process.
14. Signaling TD's: Signal TD when the runner crosses the GL, not when you arrive at the GL. Of course, contenders will beat the runner to the GL.
15. **Wings** & Backward Pass: A pass was thrown toward the **HL**. The **LJ** correctly punched back for the backward pass. The **HL** signaled incomplete pass incorrectly. This is an inadvertent whistle (IW). The **LJ** needs to assertively tell the **Crew** that he saw clearly that the pass was backward and therefore it was an IW. **Wings** – do not be in a hurry to signal incomplete, if there is any doubt whether it is forward or backward. Go SLOW!!
16. Team Time-outs: The **Crew** will communicate the number remaining to each other. Also, **R** gives the "steamboat whistle" when a team is out even if there is a microphone.
17. Play: Late in 2Q & A is driving for a TD. A completes a pass then runs up to the LOS & snaps the ball before the **U** is "in position". **R** throws flag correctly for DOG. What is the GC status? This is Conserve Time & GC is wound on the ready.
18. New FB for Try/FG: This year it is legal for the scoring team to bring in a different FB for the Try/FGA if it was approved by the **U** before the game. This is due to the teams being "in charge" of exchanging their FB's this year only. Do not apply CB 1.3.2 & 1.3.3
19. **R** Marking Ball Ready (4 Officials): The **R** must wait until the **U** is in position behind the receiver (s) on a Punt. Watched a game where the **U** was only halfway back. Be Patient!
20. Meeting # 5: A Great Big Thank You to Rick Barnes for his excellent presentation on Rules 7 & 9, and Terry Williams for his production & editing of it. OHSAA will make it available soon for us to watch & enjoy.

It is hard to believe the regular season is almost over. Enjoy your **Crew** & the experience this weekend. Before long we will all be lamenting just how fast this FB Season went!! Good Luck this weekend!! And again thank you very much for all your help!!