

TO: OHSAA Football Officials

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

Subject: Preseason Bulletin # 3 – Revised Rules & Policies; 8/14/20

This Preseason Bulletin # 3 will address questions that officials have asked us due to the Pandemic & its resultant impact on OHSAA FB Officiating. The Revised GB Mechanics is part of Preseason Bulletin # 2.

1. Pre-Game Meeting: A **Crew** member must communicate with the AD or other School Representative regarding a meeting room space large enough so the **Crew** can maintain 6' social distancing. Under no circumstances shall this Policy be waived or compromised. It is THAT IMPORTANT. If there is no suitable indoor meeting space (locker room, classroom, conference room) available, the **Crew** can meet outdoors as needed. Due to these situations the Pre-Game Meeting may be reduced from 1.5 hours to 1 hour.
2. Prior to the Game: Officials may drive to the game dressed or partially dressed.
3. Prior to the Game: There is no "business casual" dress code this year due to a lack of adequate dressing facilities at many schools.
4. Face Coverings: They are optional for officials during the contest. They are required in public areas.
5. Electronic Whistles: They are optional for officials. Please bring your standard whistle with you in case your electronic whistle fails to work (batteries die, etc).
6. Water: Officials will need to bring their own water containers to the game.
7. Testing: Officials, coaches, & players do not need to be tested prior to a game.
8. Next Year Playoff Assignments: If an official opts out of working this year, it does not impact his/her eligibility for 2021.
9. Playoffs (GB P.47 # 2): **U** who works as a **CJ** this year on a 5 Man Crew will be eligible to work as the **U** on a 6 Man Playoff Crew.
10. Team Box: The Team Box for players ONLY have been expanded to the 10 Yard Lines. The Team Box for Coaches & other personnel is STILL the 25 Yard Lines.
11. Chain Crew: Chain Crew members must wear face coverings.
12. Rule 1 & 9: Players may wear a gaiter. If the gaiter is grabbed by a defender & tackled to the ground similar to a horse collar, then rule Illegal Horse Collar Foul.
13. Rule 3: Authorized team time-out conferences will take place near the bottom of the field numbers between the 25 Yard Lines.
14. Rule 3: Team Time-outs are 1 minute & can be extended to 2 minutes. It is up to the discretion of the **Crew**. Reasons to extend the time-out are related to the virus & hydrating by both players & officials. Each player will have his own water container

along with the each official. It will probably take longer for both players & officials to secure their water container, drink, & return them to their designated location versus last year when we all just grabbed the nearest water bottle. Use good common sense regarding how much time is needed & how often we all need to hydrate. Please error on the side of safety & do not skimp on this.

15. Halftime: The host school administration will determine the length of the halftime up to a maximum of 20 minutes plus the mandatory 3 minute warmup for Varsity Contests.

Again, thank you Very Much for your dedication & professionalism to this Great Sport & the youth of Ohio.