

TO: OHSAA Football Officials

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

Subject: OHSAA Preseason Bulletin # 1 – New Bean Bag Requirements; 6/15/21

Based upon talking with hundreds of officials during the State Playoffs last year the following OHSAA GB State Requirements regarding the Official's Uniform will be in effect for the 2021 FB Season. Almost every official liked the idea of going to the Orange Bean Bag since it is much easier to see on the field; especially for our wonderful & talented BJ's trying to find their BB at the PSK spot after the ball becomes dead on a punt play on a dimly lit field.

1. Bean Bag: The Orange Bean Bag will be optional this year and mandatory beginning with the 2022 FB Season. Officials during Weeks 1 – 10 may use either the Orange or Blue Bag for all levels of OHSAA FB Games.
2. Bean Bag: All officials who are selected to work the 2021 OHSAA State FB Playoffs from Weeks 11 -16 will be required to use an Orange BB. NOTE: Due to OHSAA adding an extra week of playoffs beginning this year, there are now 16 weeks versus the standard 15 weeks in 2019 & before.
3. Bean Bag: Beginning with the 2022 OHSAA FB Season all officials will use the Orange Bean Bag for all levels of games – 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, Frosh, JV, & Varsity.
4. Ball Handling: Similar the 2019 FB Season and before, the Crew will spot the FB at the Dead Ball Spot after each down. We will no longer use the Orange BB to mark the DBS.
5. Purchasing Orange BB: We have talked with the companies in Ohio that sell Officiating Apparel & Equipment. They have the orange bean bags in stock. The cost is approximately \$8 - \$9 each. This price is slightly higher and due to having to make them here in the US. The supply chain for overseas production is 5 – 7 months now due to COVID.
6. Obviously, many of us have blue bean bags that we taped over last year with Orange Duct Tape or some other material. So if you want to use them, Great. If you did not, check with your officiating friends. They, like me, probably have part of a roll of Orange Duct Tape somewhere in their house that you can borrow!!

Again, thank you Very Much for your dedication & professionalism to this Great Sport & the youth of Ohio. Almost all of us were amazed that we were able to finish the FB Season last year with 7 wonderful State Championship Games at Massillon Washington HS.