

TO: «AthleticDirector1Name», Athletic Administrator for ID# «ID»«SchoolName», Head Football Coaches
FR: Beau Rugg, Senior Director of Officiating and Sport Management
AngieLawler, Director of Officiating and Sport Management
RE: 2019 Football Weekly Word-Number 10

Ejections

There have been several fights where players have left the team box. This is an alarming trend and needs to be addressed at the coach and administrative level. Remember, NFHS Rule 9, Section 8, Article 1-I states that any substitute that leaves the team box during a fight will be ejected.

Players listen to coaches, so please stress that keeping composure is important no matter the game situation

Intentional Grounding Reminder

Remember, the NFHS does not have the rule that a QB may throw the ball away if they are “outside the tackle box.” **There must be a receiver in the area** to avoid this penalty.

The Center Judge Position

Officiating football is a great challenge at all levels. The number of officials needed to adequately cover good football games, like we have in the state of Ohio, is an example of this challenge. We know with the high caliber of football in Ohio that five-person mechanics leaves many holes in coverage. The goal is to add officials to cover the important areas of our game.

When we studied the high school game, we realized that one huge area in which we need better coverage is the line of scrimmage and everything that happens in that three-yard band beyond the line of scrimmage. The center judge is a position that was added at both the collegiate and professional levels which gives great coverage to the line of scrimmage since the referee must focus on the quarterback soon after the snap (this is true at our level, also). These mechanics give the umpire more freedom to focus on the point of attack because we have coverage on the line of scrimmage from the center judge. Also, these mechanics give us better coverage on both scrimmage kicks and free kicks.

My hope is that we can work together to improve coverage in our football contests that our game demands.

We will have the CJ position in our top 28 crews in the 2019 playoffs. There are other advantages to the center judge position.

Final Computer Rankings

The unofficial final OHSAA computer rankings will be posted on the OHSAA website early in the morning on Sunday, Nov. 3. At that time schools will have the opportunity to review the final rankings. Should any problems be detected, school administrators have until 10:00 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 3, to e-mail any discrepancies to our office. The email should be sent to Angie Lawler (alawler@ohsaa.org).

Should there be any changes, the final official computer rankings will then be reposted no later than 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

PLEASE EMAIL BEAU AT BRUGG@OHSAA.ORG WITH QUESTIONS.