TO: Athletic Administrators and Head Football Coaches

FROM: Beau Rugg, Director of Officiating and Sport Management
Angie Lawler, Manager of Officiating Technology

RE: 2021 Week 4 Weekly Word

**Halftime**
The NFHS Rules for halftime length are specific in Rule 3, Section 1, Article 6.

Remember:
1. Normal halftime is 15 minutes.
2. Halftime may be extended to a **maximum** of 20 minutes provided the opponents have been notified.

I am beginning to get reports that schools are asking officials to extend beyond 20 minutes for special presentations. This is not permitted by rule. You may still have people/bands in the middle of the field during the mandatory 3-minute warmup period **if the teams have space to warmup**.

**Harbin Ratings**
I am sure you look at Joe Eitel’s site weekly (as I do!), but the official points list will be on our site beginning Tues., Sept 14th and will be published to our site each subsequent Tuesday.

**Regular Season Contests**
The Football Regulations do allow schools to play regular season contests after the playoffs have started. Here are the parameters/guidelines:
1. *A playoff game for either team supersedes any regular season contract.*
2. Only regular season contests competed prior to October 24 will count for the Harbin Ratings.
3. *Schools that do not qualify for playoffs or have been eliminated may play regular season contests through November 20, 2021.*
4. Schools are limited to 10 regular season contests by regulation.

**Tournament Regulation Change**
We have some concerns with cancelled games due to COVID and how this could affect tournament eligibility. We have consulted with our Harbin Expert, Joe Eitel, and made the following modification:
1. *The minimum number of games to qualify is reduced to five (5).*

**Rule Interpretations**
1. If you have a question on a NFHS Rule, please feel free to email me.

**Video**
2. I value video that coaches send me. If you send me all the plays of a game, please point out the plays you wish me to view.
3. I will give you my honest opinion on any play you send.

GOOD LUCK WEEK 4!

PLEASE EMAIL BEAU AT BRUGG@OHSAA.ORG WITH QUESTIONS