

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 14<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:BRUGG@OHSAA.ORG) WITH QUESTIONS