

TO: All Football Officials

FROM: Beau Rugg, Director of Officiating and Sport Management
Bruce Maurer, FB DOD
Angie Lawler, Manager of Officiating

RE: Rule and Policy Clarifications- Opening Week!

We are using & applying the information stated below for a Defensive Receiver. Please disregard anything you have heard at an earlier OHSAA SRI Face to Face/Online Meeting or OHSAA Virtual Meeting. We apologize for any confusion – this is a very challenging judgment call.

Defenseless Receiver

I think we may have taken too deep a dive into this Rule and made it more complicated than we should.

1. I think a “tack-on” penalty with this rule may be a dream play. We do **NOT** have a foul related to 2-32-16d IF the player is a runner. You can have a foul for 9-4-3g whether they are a runner or not.
2. If you have contact that does not meet the exceptions of 2-32-16d AND the pass is incomplete by rule, you have a foul. It will be enforced from the Previous Spot.
3. We have always used the language on page 41 of the Gold Book to rule on incomplete or complete pass. If you rule complete with this language, you have a runner by definition.
4. **Don’t split hairs.** If you have a foul under 2-32-16d (defenseless receiver), **it is previous spot enforcement.**

Tinted Visors

NFHS Rule 1-5-3c4 states that visors must be clear and that tinted eyewear (glasses) may be worn under the clear visor. **A prescription from a Dr. does not supersede this rule.** Any accommodation outside of NFHS Rules (NFHS Rule 1, Section 7) for an athlete in football must be approved by the OHSAA office (Beau Rugg). **Refer players and coaches to their Athletic Director. The AD may contact me.**

NFHS Rule Interpretations

1. As promised, here are the NFHS Rule Interpretations that came out last week:
[2023NFHSFootballRulesInterpretations.pdf \(windows.net\)](#)
2. The link is on Bruce’s DOD page on the OHSAA Website & on OHSAAFB.COM.

Video

1. Beau values video that you send him. If you send him all the plays of a game, please point out the plays you wish him to view.
2. He will give you his honest opinion on any play you send.

GOOD LUCK Week 1!

PLEASE EMAIL BEAU AT BRUGG@OHSAA.ORG WITH QUESTIONS