

TO: «AthleticDirector1Name», Athletic Administrator for ID# «OhsaaSchoolId»
«SchoolName», Head Football Coaches

FROM: Beau Rugg, Director of Officiating and Football Administrator
Scott Kaufman, Director of Sport Administration and Operations, Charles Anderson,
Manager of Officiating,

RE: 2026 Weekly Word, Week 2

We had 32 player ejections counting scrimmages and week 1. That is alarming. We had 2 coach ejections in SCRIMMAGES! The scrimmage ejections of players and coaches are inexcusable. This is practice! May we have a better week this week.

Questions of the Week

Here are a couple of questions I received this week:

1. A player "punching" at the ball repeatedly is vulnerable for ejection if they punch the player.
2. Remember, Punts and FG attempts are both scrimmage kicks. The rules are the same (except one can score).
3. Pregame timing is an agreement between the 2 schools. There are no regulations that cover this.
4. We have recognized Girls Flag Football as an OHSAA sanctioned sport for Spring 2027. Playing rules and tournament structure will be finalized by the end of the Fall. **The rules will specify 5 on 5 as the game format.**

Rules

1. 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 8) for an athlete in football must be approved by the OHSAA office (Beau Rugg). The accommodation is only granted if the rule does not resolve the player's condition. Have your Athletic Director contact me.

Reminders

1. The online Coach's state rules interpretation meeting is available on your MyOHSAA account. 90% of you have already completed!
2. The deadline with a \$50 late fee is October 7.
3. **Schools that do not complete the online meeting will not be eligible for the tournament.**
4. The Experimental Rule Ohio is using on Kickoffs should help speed up play. Here is a link to the description of the rule: [2026 Experimental Rule.pptx](#)

Video

1. Your video clips are the best. Please send me any plays you wish!
2. I will give you my honest opinion on any play you send.
PLEASE EMAIL BEAU AT BRUGG@OHSAA.ORG WITH QUESTIONS