

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 4

We had fewer ejections this past week. Keep it up!

Questions of the Week

Here are a couple of questions I received this week:

1. What happens when there is a lightning delay and the game doesn't continue and there is no agreement on a reschedule? **The score stands.**
2. Make sure you check with our Compliance Team if you have eligibility questions.
3. The Neutral Site hosting questionnaire is available. The dates are 11/20 and 11/27. Here is the link: [2026 OHSAA Football Tournament Neutral Site Survey \(Nov. 20, & Nov. 27\)](#)

Rules

1. NFHS Rule 3, Section 1, Article 6 states that halftime must be a minimum of 10 minutes and no more than 20 minutes. **I cannot grant permission to go beyond 20 minutes.** There are ways to "stretch" the time, but you cannot put 25 minutes on the clock.
2. Here is one we do not understand at times because we don't remember it is illegal use of hands. Rule 9, Section 2, Article 3d: "Contact an eligible receiver who is no longer a potential blocker" : [9.2.3.d ill.hds.mp4](#)
3. 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. 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.**
2. The online Coach's state rules interpretation meeting is available on your MyOHSAA account. 90% of you have already completed!
3. The deadline with a \$50 late fee is October 7.
4. **Schools that do not complete the online meeting will not be eligible for the tournament.**
5. 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