

TO: OHSAA State FB Tournament Officials

FROM: Bruce Maurer, DOD & Beau Rugg, Assistant Commissioner

Subject: FB Bulletin # 2013–5 (Week 14); 11/27/13

Greetings!! We hope you had great game & a wonderful experience during Week 13. We would like to thank everyone for enduring the elements this past weekend. Several officials indicated this might be the worst weather they had worked in during their 15 years. Please wear the necessary clothing to stay warm for your ears, face, neck, hands & body.

We had some mistakes last week regarding extension of period & penalty enforcement that State Playoff Crews should not have. Please review this bulletin during your pre game. It will cover items observed during Week 13 of the State Playoffs. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at bmaurer.38@gmail.com.

1. Observers: They have volunteered their time & expertise. One observer indicated in his report "It's always appreciative when a Crew listens, then goes out the 2nd half & corrects those things" that were mentioned at half time. Thank them for coming. We want you to succeed!!
2. Contending Crews: An excellent crew had discussed & brought to their Pre-game their goals as individuals & for the Crew for the 1st Half. Is your Crew a contending playoff crew or a pretender playoff crew?
3. **R** after the Game: Please email/scan the Observation Report to your Crew within 72 hours after the game. This gives each crew member an opportunity to review them for the next game.
4. Ext. of Period Play: A throws 2 forward passes. Foul is correctly called. Last play of quarter. The Crew extended for an UTD. Illegal Forward Pass carries a LOD -- "Loss of the Right to Repeat the Down". We do NOT extend for LOD fouls (Rule 3-3-4b). Crew has 83 years' experience.
5. Ext. of Period Play: End of 3Q. HC called for UNS. Crew extended for an UTD. We do NOT extend for DBF (Rule 3-3-4b).
6. Summary: Both of these plays were covered at the State Rules Meetings this year. CREWS: During your Pre game this weekend go over this Rule in detail (Rules 3-3-3 & 3-3-4).
7. PE Play: B called for Defensive Holding & A runs for a 1st down. The Crew signaled 1st down & signaled DH was declined. This is a simple "tack on" since B fouled on a Running Play.
8. PE Play: After the ball was dead A pushes B in the back, then B turns around & pushes A. There is a clear "order of occurrence", & the DBS is inside A's 30 YL. The **R** signaled Dead Ball Personal Fouls against both teams & offset them. NO! We know the "order of occurrence" so the Crew should have gone half the distance against A, then penalize the B foul.
9. PE Play: A, 2nd & 4. B encroaches then the A HC is penalized for UNS. Both are dead ball fouls. The Crew enforced both dead ball fouls without awarding any 1st downs. Fortunately, the A HC asked to talk about it & it was corrected after a substantial delay. Obviously, the 5 YD Encroachment enforced was beyond the LTG for a 1st down. Then the A UNS is assessed & it is s 1st & 10.

10. Summary: The above 5 plays are basic types of extensions & enforcements. They are not complicated such as double fouls with multiple changes of possessions. We expect officials that are selected to officiate the State Playoffs to have excellent knowledge of the Rules & Case Book. All 5 officials are responsible for these obvious errors.
11. CREW SAVE: In 4 of the 5 plays mentioned the incorrect ruling was NOT corrected. In each of these cases an official on the Crew had an opportunity to “step up to the plate” & save the Crew from an embarrassing mistake. Are you ready to truly be an invaluable crew member?
12. Role of the **BJ** on these Plays mentioned: The **BJ** has little responsibility regarding PE. We expect the **BJ** to be the “second referee”. He needs to think PE, LTG, & Series of Downs.
13. Half Time Choices: Bring one player to the center of the field & go thru toss choices. We need to communicate with radio, tv, the fans & teams what the 2nd half choices are for the teams.
14. PUM: A LJ went downfield on the snap & the punt went OOB near the LOS. The LJ had to come back up field & was chopped by the R. No. Stay at the LOS until the punt crosses.
15. Signaling: FGA is no good, the **U & BJ** will signal “no score” & “touchback” (result of the play).
16. Scores: After a score we MUST have a 1 minute interval for Radio.
17. **U**: Turn your shoulders parallel to the SL when spotting the ball off either **Wing**.
18. **LM** & Punt Play: 7 Man & 5 Man Mechanics are Different. The **LM** will pause after the snap, read the play for any potential punt block by the RT, then move downfield to cover the blocking.
19. **R**: Mark the ball ready only after you have checked to see that the Down Box is set at the SS.
20. **BJ**: We do not cheat on the 25 second PC. Coaches watch the GC when the R marks the ball ready. We had a report of a team snapping the ball after 27 or 28 seconds expired on the GC.
21. **R**: Take your time prior to signaling End of Period. Give the **BJ** time to communicate with you.
22. **R Microphone**: Be brief & accurate (GB, P. 15). Explain only when it is complicated. Find the first open space – usually only a step or two in a direction. Stand still when signaling.
23. GLM: Saw some Great calls at the pylon this past weekend. The **Wing** was in perfect position, 2 YDS OOB behind the pylon, & waiting for the runner to arrive. This is why we must use GLM!
24. SL Judgment: If the runner is hit near the SL and knocked back & OOB (and you give FP ahead) the **Wing** will wind the clock & the **R** will mirror, unless it is a 1st down. The **back side Wing** must help with this play using Cross Field Mechanics by hustling into his HM.
25. Signaling: Anytime the clock is stopped by Rule we expect all 5 officials to stop the clock always.
26. Short Yardage Mechanics: **Wings** know to move to LTG immediately at snap on 3rd & 4th down. Critical play in 3Q, 4th and 5. Move to LTG ASAP regardless of your R&R so we are in position to determine forward progress. We must always be thinking down, distance, score, time, etc.
27. **Wings & GLM**: On a play at the GL, both **Wings** need to sprint in to the pile and look for the FB.

Beau & I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving Weekend with your family and friends. We have a lot to be thankful for having a wonderful opportunity to be part of something as special as Ohio High School Football. And please drive safe.

“A Man can succeed at almost anything for which he has unlimited enthusiasm.” Charles Schwab