

TO: OHSAA State FB Tournament Officials

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

Subject: FB Bulletin # 2014-11 (Week 12); 11/13/14

Greetings!! We hope you had great game and a wonderful experience during Week 11. I have received over 110 Observations and there were many positive comments along with areas where we can all improve. Bulletins will be posted weekly on www.ohsaafb.com. Please cover this info during your pre games. This bulletin will cover items that have been observed during Week 11. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Bruce at bmaurer.38@gmail.com.

1. Crew & Individual Goals: One of the best crews I was on in the NFL was led by our **R**, Gary Lane. Before each game each official would state a Goal for that game that he was personally going to improve along with a Goal to help the Crew. We stated these Goals in front of our Crewmates & discussed them openly. Then at halftime & after the game we would review them in a positive & honest environment. **R** – Please discuss during the Pregame.
2. Crew & Individual Goals: Visited with a Crew last weekend that placed their Crew Goals on the White Board in the LR – very impressive. I am sure we have all read articles about the importance of writing down our goals & then stating them to friends & associates.
3. **Wings:** When the runner goes into the opposite SZ, move at a diagonal toward the HM and attempt to stay even or slightly behind the runner. We expect you to be at or near the HM. Otherwise, we have a Crew of 4 (pretenders) instead of a Crew of 5 (contenders). **Observers:** Email me those Wing Officials who want to be part of a Crew of 4.
4. **Wings:** When the nearest A player is inside the HM move off the SL. We saw several plays where the nearest A player was 25 YDS away and the Wing was still “married” to the SL.
5. Successful Try-Kick & Roughing the Kicker/Holder by B. The Crew asked the A HC if he wanted to penalize on the Try & go for 2. He said no. For some reason the **R** then indicated the penalty was declined. The RRK was not enforced at the KO. A “miss” is a “miss” by all 5 Officials.
6. DOG Foul: Check Rule 3. Rule Book states specifically clock starts on snap on an accepted DOG unless the **R** & Crew rule Conserve Time. Play: Less than a minute in the 2nd QT & A passed for a 1st down. Clock stopped for a 1st down. **R** waiting to RFP until down box is set. Center snaps ball. **R** correctly calls DOG. When does the clock start? Ruling: It is a conserve time & **R** starts clock on the RFP. All 5 officials missed this. Please review conserve/consume situations. It is imperative that the **R** be thinking of conserve/consume in the last several minutes of each half.
7. First Down & Clock Status: Please review 3-4-3C. Play: Punt bounces off R-1’s shoulder & K-3 catches it & is tackled. Ruling: K first down. Clock starts on the snap. The **BJ** gave the wind signal to the **R** & the **R** wound the clock. Fortunately, the **LM** came in with a “Crew Save” & told them that the Clock starts on the snap. What did the **U & LJ** do to help their crew?
8. Clock Management & Injuries: We had at least 3 reports of runner tackled inbounds then the GC stopped for an injury. Crew did NOT start the clock on the RFP – Crew Communication!!
9. ING & Clock Status: Play: Late in 1st half. QB in shot gun spikes the ball to stop the clock. Ruling: ING, 5 YDS, SPOT FOUL, & LOD. Enforce conserve time & start the GC on the RFP.

10. Ineligibles Downfield: "Intent" has nothing to do with whether this is a foul or not. We know the Rule. **Wings** need to help with this call as the **U** has a lot of traffic on a center screen.
11. KCI Penalty Enforcement: Do you honestly know the different options for KCI. Please discuss as a crew what they are. A crew missed one of the options which the RT would have taken.
12. KOM: Both Wings were at the – 10 YL. Kicker kicked into EZ for a TB. Next KO the Wings were back on the – 10YL. Why? FB is a thinking man's game from an officiating stand point.
13. OKOM: If in doubt we go to OKOM. If the RT in in an OKO Formation (8 – 10 RT Players near their restraining line) then apply OKOM – all 5 officials need to be aware of this & communicate.
14. KO OOB: Ball is spotted at the nearest HM when we place the ball at the - 35 YL. The **R** does not signal "dead ball" since the ball becomes live when the ball is legally kicked.
15. Restricted Area (RA) – We have reports of coaches/players in the RA during a live ball. We EXPECT you to lead by example. Observers: Make a Special Note if the RA is NOT enforced and email me regarding the name of the official & the Crew. We will make changes. We would prefer not to! Coaches are allowed 2 steps on the field between downs. Enforce It.
16. Crew & Huddling: After scores & time-outs, only huddle when there is an actual need to. We saw a Crew huddle after every score. Why?
17. **U** & Pass Play: The **U** does not move to the LOS on R&R1 and R&R2. Why? The pass is thrown too quick. The **U** must turn IMMEDIATELY and watch the pass – catch or no catch. However, if it is R&R 3 or the QB threatens the LOS then he must move to the LOS.
18. **LM**: Do NOT look over your shoulder to see if it is a first down. That is the responsibility of the **LJ**. We had several instances of **LM** stopping the clock when it was NOT a first down.
19. **OBSERVERS**: We want to thank them for an outstanding job. We had approximately 110+ games observed. Many of them, including myself, sat in the cold to observe the game with the Goal to improve officiating in Ohio and make the experience for the high school athlete as wonderful as possible. Please extend a heartfelt thanks to them for volunteering their time to help us all improve. And please give them your undivided attention by not getting dressed. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
20. UNS Foul: Be sure & give a prelim signal for this & ALL OTHER fouls to the **R**.
21. Punts: It is very rare to have a block in the back by the KT. Suggestion: Memorize the jersey color of the RT then repeat several times after the punt. It will help us penalize the right team.
22. Offense near Their GL: **R** is on the GL & 10 YDS wide when the ball is between the – 10YL & - 15YL. Note that this is 10 YDS wide, NOT the usual 8 YDS wide. You MUST stay on the GL.
23. GLM: We still have officials who do not know IP on GLM. Discuss this in your Pre-Game. Study Wings need to be 2 YDS outside the pylon prior to the snap.
24. Forward Progress: 1 loud whistle blast by 1 or 2 officials when the runner's progress is stopped. We do not need multiple blasts of the whistle by the same official unless there is something special going on between opponents.
25. A pitch from the QB to the Running Back is a backward pass. The **R/LM/LJ** need to "punch it" back, hold it, & yell "back".
26. BEST OF LUCK TO EVERYONE THIS WEEKEND!!! It is a Great time of the year in OHIO. We are all truly blessed to be part of the State Playoffs. And ENFORCE the Restricted Area.

“Keeping our eyes on continuous improvement is surely the most likely way to motivate people to work on getting better.”