

TO: OHSAA State FB Tournament Officials

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

Subject: FB Bulletin # 2014–13 (Week 14); 11/25/14

Greetings!! We hope you had great game & a wonderful experience during Week 13. 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. When I walked in after the game they had them written on the white board in the Locker Room. Is your Crew a contending playoff crew or a pretender playoff crew?
3. Crew: Remember to make the calls BIG!! CONCENTRATE on every play. Work HARD to be in the proper position to make that call.
4. SLOW DOWN!! SLOW DOWN!! SLOW DOWN!! Examples seen this past weekend where officials are in too big a hurry: A. Jogging to the **R** to verbalize a foul – stand & give a prelim signal to the **R**; B. Stopping clock 1X rather than 2X when calling a foul; C. Turning too quick to secure a new FB; D. Wing winds the GC near the SL then realizes it is a 1st down; E. **R** winds the GC when the runner is near the SL then realizes it was 4th down; F. Pass into the EZ & signaling TD before he is sure it is a catch; **R** marking ball RFP before the Down Box is set. Ask yourself after each play, “was I patient” or “was I in too big a hurry”. Remember one of our statements – “Hustle, but do not hurry”. And “Let your mind digest what your eyes have seen”.
5. Coin Toss: If both team’s captains are ready go ahead & conduct the CT. This applies to all games whether they are televised or not, regardless of which round of the playoffs.
6. PE Mechanics: Both the **LM & LJ** walk off the penalty yardage independent of each other & the **U**. The **U** marks off the yardage & only after reaching the succeeding spot does he check the distance with the **LM & LJ**.
7. **BJ** End of Period: Once the 1st & 3rd periods are over & you have completed to the R that there is no extension, jog to the succeeding spot & wait for the **R & U** to arrive. Double check with them & the Wings that we are at the correct spot.
8. **BJ** in the Red Zone: Ball snapped on the + 14 YL. **BJ** was 5 YDS deep in the EZ. It was a running play. **BJ** moved back toward the EL. NO! He needs to move to the GL. We had no one on the GL to rule whether it was a TD. We expect the **BJ** to move to a position to straddle the GL on an obvious running play.
9. **BJ** & Punt Mechanics: Once the ball is punted it is imperative that the **BJ** adjust his position to maintain a 45 degree with the receiver. If the receiver is going to “cross your vision” then move in the opposite direction from him so we are not “straight lined” on this challenging play.
10. **BJ** & Flag Mechanics. Remember, there is no need to adjust your flag on OPI & DPI fouls.

11. **R's** Signals to the PB: OH & ING were both called correctly. Due to yardage gain by A the HC declined both fouls. We still have to announce the 2 fouls, offending team, player's #, etc.
12. **R's** Bean Bag Mechanics: QB muffed the snap. There is no bean bag thrown on this play. It is not a spot of enforcement.
13. **R/LM/LJ** Backward Pass Signal: Watched the first half where they did not signal. Discussed it at half time. The second half they were 7 out of 7 signaling – well done!!
14. **LM & LJ** KOM: Their IP was the – 10 YL. KO landed at approximately the – 8 to – 9 YL. Neither of them adjusted back to the GL. Since they were even with the runner they missed a block in the back. If you move up to the – 10 YL you MUST remind yourself on a deep KO to back up!
15. Wings R&R: Keep your shoulders square to the SL as long as necessary. It increases your vision dramatically.
16. **LJ** & Ball Handling Mechanics: Punt play & he turned too quick to secure the new FB. There is no need to be in a hurry. Please take your time & officiate the DB action.
17. Targeting: Please review the definition. A targeting foul was reported as a personal foul only.
18. Illegal Equipment: Watched the **LM** correct illegal equipment twice in the 2nd half. One was an exposed shoulder pad & the other was an exposed back pad – well done!
19. 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.
20. 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.
21. Signaling: FGA is no good, the **U & BJ** will signal “no score” & “touchback” (result of the play).
22. **U**: Turn your shoulders parallel to the SL when spotting the ball off either **Wing**.
23. **R**: Mark the ball ready only after you have checked to see that the Down Box is set at the SS. The GC is stopped so there is no reason to be in a hurry. Make sure all officials are at their IP.
24. **R**: Take your time prior to signaling End of Period. Give the **BJ** time to communicate with you.
25. **R Microphone**: Be brief & accurate (GB, P. 16). Explain only when it is complicated. Find the first open space – usually only a step or two in a direction. Stand still when signaling.
26. 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!
27. 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.
28. Signaling: Anytime the clock is stopped by Rule we expect all 5 officials to stop the clock always.
29. **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