

TO: OHSAA Football Officials

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

Subject: FB Bulletin # 2014-9 (Week 9); 10/23/14

Indicated below are some items that have arisen during Weeks 7/8 & at Local Officials Association Meetings. These Rulings supersede any previous ones issued.

1. Wow!!! Can you believe it - it is already Week 9. It just seemed like yesterday that we were working our first scrimmages of the season. And now the regular season is coming to a close too fast. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP DURING WEEKS 1 - 10. Words cannot begin to express our sincere thanks for a job well done!!!
2. John Keener has served as our E/SE District Coordinator of Observers for the past 4 years. He is retiring from this very important role but will continue to observe. Thanks John for all your wonderful help. Tom McNerlin has graciously agreed to take over for John. Thanks Tom & welcome aboard!!
3. Pass Play & RPS: Passer is pressured, rolls toward the SL & throws a legal forward pass just before he steps OOB. Then there is a late hit by an opponent. Is this a personal foul late hit only or is it a Roughing the Passer (RPS) foul? What do we need to know about the pass? It is RPS as long as it is still a pass (Rule 2-31-4 & 2-32-11). Once the pass has ended then he is no longer a passer & we would have a PF only. The thing to remember is that even though the foul occurs OOB, if the play is still a live ball play, it is RPS. Enforce as any other RPS foul. (Thanks to Larry Clemmons for his help with this.)
4. Injured Player: Beau & TG watched a game with an injured player. R called Officials TO. BUT, the R marked the ball RFP when the injured player STILL is being helped off the field by the medical staff around the numbers. NO!! The appropriate **Wing** needs to have the "stop sign" up & out and "control" the situation. **All 5 officials** on the Crew need to be aware of injured player (s) being helped off the field & when the R marks the ball RFP. If he marks it ready too soon then we need to communicate with him ASAP!
5. Punt Play: High & long punt was muffed by R-21, then muffed by K-34, then muffed by R-36, then muffed by K-22 (Get the picture!!). Finally, it went across the RT GL & a KT player recovered. The BJ signaled TD for the KT. The Crew got together, discussed the play, & stayed with the TD call. Right or Wrong call? When does the punt end by Rule? Do we have first touching on this play? Is the result of this play a TD or TB? Please discuss.

6. Officials Authority: Time expires for a very challenging game. Once the **R** signals “end of period” get off the field ASAP. Do not hang around. Do not be concerned with the game ball. If a player (s) and/or coach (s) confront your Crew with obscene language or gestures, then DQ them as needed. You still have authority to DQ them, even after you have signaled “end of game”. See GB, P. 36, Section 13.
7. Extension of Period: Do we extend the period when time expires during the down & there is an accepted foul enforced as a PSK Foul? Yes. The entire Crew needs to discuss any accepted penalty when time expires before signaling “end of period”.
8. Delay of Game Penalty: Unless you invoke consume/conserves near the end of a period, the clock starts on the snap for a Delay of Game Penalty by Rule. We missed one where we wound the clock after enforcing the DOG near the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> period & time expired for the half. A was ahead & trying to run out the Game Clock.
9. Center Screen: This can be a challenging play for the **U** due to the amount of traffic. **Wings** can be a big help with ineligible being downfield & most importantly where the pass was touched. Again our R&R’s are important. One **Wing** drifted downfield too far & thankfully the other **Wing** had read the play correctly & stayed at the LOS. He provided great information since the **U** could not get to the LOS due to the traffic.
10. Intentional Grounding: It is very important that the **Wings** memorize the numbers of any A receivers who are in the area of a pass thrown. As we know sometimes when the passer is being hit & taken to the ground the **R** does not get a good look at this play. It really helps when a **Wing** comes in & verbally states that A-88 was in the area. Then we can report this number to the defensive HC.
11. Helmet Comes Off: Excellent call by the **R** - B rusher’s helmet came off & he continued to rush the QB. **R** correctly threw flag for Illegal Participation. The pass was completed to A-2. QUESTION: Does it make a difference if the pass completion yardage was: A. 18 YD completion, or B. 8 YD completion? Please discuss. What signal did the **R** give to the PB?
12. Official Late for KO: If you are late for a KO, at least hustle on the field to your initial IP, rather than “walk slowly” as this official did.
13. KOM: When KT kicks the ball into the RT EZ for a TB the **R/LM/LJ** should all run into the field of play & signal TB. There is no need to signal stop the clock

since the TB signal stops or does not start the clock in this play. Both the **LM/LJ** should run out to the 10 YD field numbers. This is preventive officiating to “stop the action” between both teams.

14.**FWP**: Be careful before sounding your whistle for a dead ball & the runner’s forward progress stopped. Observed a game where the runner was laying on top of players & continued to move forward. Unfortunately, the **Wing** sounded his whistle & deprived the runner of additional yardage.

15.**BJ & Punt**: Be careful when sounding your whistle as the punt receiver “appears” to catch the FB. The ball was momentarily possessed but clearly not caught. Whistle was sounded - it was an inadvertent whistle during a loose ball. Remember, we can be late & be right! **SLOW DOWN! SLOW DOWN! SLOW DOWN!**

16.**U & DB Mechanics**: Move off the ball immediately after spotting it (unless the weather is inclement). This is due to the number of teams which run hurry-up and/or do not huddle offenses.

17.**LM & DB Mechanics**: Please do not look over your shoulder to see whether it is a first down or not. Trust your **LJ** to stop the clock if it is a first down or if it is close to a first down.

18.**R Signaling**: Observed a video clip of the **R** taking 8-9 steps before signaling the foul. No! Take a step or two so you are clear of players & signal immediately to the **PB**.

19.**R Microphone Announcements Mechanics**: The **R** was using team name, offense/defense, & color during various announcements. **R’s** - please review GB, P. 16, Section 22. If you know you will have a microphone, please practice before the game.

20.**DQ’s**: An OHSAA Ejection Form must be completed for each person that is disqualified.

21.**NW District**: Meeting for all NW Officials & Observers working the State Playoffs, Wed., November 5, 7PM, at the University of Findlay Old Main Building (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), 1000 N. Main Street, Findlay, OH. A Big thanks to Jack Winters, Bruce Bame & Ken Myers for your help with this meeting.

Good Luck during Weeks 9 & 10!! The next bulletin will be during Week 11.