

TO: OHSAA State FB Tournament Officials

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

Subject: FB Bulletin # 2015-11 (Week 12); 11/13/15

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](http://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](mailto: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. **GLM & TD:** If a pass is thrown to a receiver in the EZ, take your time before signaling TD. Make sure the receiver "completes" the catch. There is no reason to be in a hurry to rule on this play.
4. **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.
5. **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.
6. **3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Down & 5 or Less Yards:** When this occurs the most important line is the LTG. It is imperative that the **Wings** move to the LTG immediately at the snap. We had too many reports of **Wings** needing to improve in this area. We missed an important FWP when the Wing did not move to the LTG.
7. **BJ's Movement:** He is a "windshield wiper" moving from SL to SL as needed to "clean up" & relay the ball when necessary. Remember; do not move into the side zone until the ball is dead. However, move toward the hash mark to rule on plays in the side zone.

8. DPI: If the receiver & defender are between the **Wing (s) & BJ** and one calls DPI & the other does not, it is imperative that these officials discuss what they saw. We missed one that could have been corrected with good communication.
9. **R/Wings & GC**: When the ball becomes dead outside the field numbers, both the covering **Wing** & the **R** must wind the GC. Timer told the Observer that the near side **Wing** was not winding & he had a challenging time deciding whether to stop the GC or not. He also indicated to the Observer that this was the first **Crew** all year that did not do this. We must be better!! If the **R** knows the ball is dead inbounds, & the **Wing** does not wind it, then the **R** needs to wind the GC.
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. 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.
13. 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.
14. **R/BJ & PC**: Our timers are human. They make mistakes. When the R marks the ball ready please check the PC to make sure it starts. If not get it corrected. A HC had to use his last time out due to the Crew not catching the incorrect PC.
15. Crew & Huddling: After scores & time-outs, only huddle when there is an actual need to. We saw a Crew huddle after every score. Why?
16. **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.
17. **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.

18. 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.
19. 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.
20. GLM: We still have officials who do not know IP on GLM. Discuss this in your Pre-Game. Wings need to be 2 YDS outside the pylon prior to the snap.
21. 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.
22. A pitch from the QB to the Running Back is a backward pass. The R/HL/LJ need to "punch it" back, hold it, & yell "back".
23. 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."**