

TO: OHSAA State FB Tournament Officials

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

Subject: FB Bulletin # 2015–13 (Week 14); 11/25/15

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. Pass into the EZ & signaling TD before he is sure it is a catch. 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. Rule 9-4-3j: Please review this Rule. If any of these acts occur it is a player DQ – an official does not have the option whether to DQ or not for these types of fouls.
6. Rules 9-3-2 & 2-17: Please review these Rules regarding blocking below the waist – especially by a Wing Back. By Rule 2-17-2 all players who are blocking & being blocked below the waist must be on the LOS & in the Free Blocking Zone. Officials must know prior to the snap whether a player is on or off the LOS & in or out of the Free Blocking Zone; and thus who can block low at the snap.
7. FK after Safety: Do you know what the IP is for all 5 Officials? Please review so your Crew is not embarrassed like one Crew was last week.
8. Coin Toss & Crew: Once the **R** signals the PB what choices each team has chosen they CAN NOT be changed by either HC. During the meeting with the HC’s if one tells you what options his captain will chose if he wins the CT, politely inform the HC that those decisions are between his Captains & the HC. It is NOT our responsibility.
9. Halftime & Crew: This Contending **Crew** had 2 officials escorting each team off the field at halftime since they left through same gate to the LR. Well Done!
10. Coin Toss & **R**: We had 2 reports of either incorrect or sloppy signals to the PB. Please remember we only have one chance to make a good first impression.

11. Coin Toss & **R**: Have you thought what signals you give the PB for the OT Choices?
Approximately 6% of our playoff games have gone to OT.
12. PE Mechanics: Both the **HL & 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 **HL & LJ**. We had 2 good corrections this past weekend. Well Done!!
13. **BJ** End of Period: Once the 1st & 3rd periods are over & you have communicated 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 along with down and distance.
14. **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.
15. **BJ** & Signaling PB: Crew had 2 DB fouls after the TD on the same team & HC wanted both enforced on the KO. BJ will signal the first, walk off the yardage, signal the second one & mark off the yardage. Remember to give the DB signal when necessary.
16. Scoreboard & Crew: Number of time-outs was not changed. Well done by the Crew to see it & get it changed to the correct number before the **R** marked the ball RFP.
17. **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.
18. **R**'s Signals to the PB: There were multiple fouls called on A. We must indicate that one was declined. We did not.
19. **R/HL/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!!
20. **HL & 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 an BIB. If you move up to the – 10 YL you MUST remind yourself on a deep KO to back up!
21. **Wings** R&R: Keep your shoulders square to the SL as long as necessary. It increases your vision dramatically.
22. Illegal Equipment: Watched the 1Q of a TV Game this past weekend – counted 5 equipment violations in the first 4 minutes – shoulder pads exposed, back pads exposed, & shoulder pads uncovered partially with the jersey tucked under the top part. This Crew will be hearing from me this week! When you see it on the field take care of it!
23. **R**: Take your time prior to signaling End of Period. Give the **BJ** time to communicate with you.
24. 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!
25. SL Judgment: If the runner is hit near the SL and knocked back & OOB (and you give FP ahead) the **Wing** will wind the GC & 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.
26. **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.