

TO: OHSAA Football Officials

FROM: Bruce Maurer, DOD; Beau Rugg, Director of Officiating & FB Administrator

Subject: FB Bulletin - Week 9; 10/16/24

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

Play of the week: We need to be aware of blocks at the 2<sup>nd</sup> level. Please look at this video and watch the center: [Wide - Clip 002.mp4](#) Play of the week: We need to be aware of blocks at the 2<sup>nd</sup> level. Please look at this video and watch the center: [Wide - Clip 002.mp4](#)

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. **Playoff Assignments:** Remember, weeks 11 & 12 will be regular season Crews and those **assignments come out the Sunday or Monday of that week.** Contracts for week 13 will be sent soon to the 56 crews we created. Please accept ASAP.
3. PO MTG's: MTG's next week are: A). **SE** – Sunday, Oct. 20, 11AM, Jackson HS; B). **E** – T, Oct. 22, 6:30PM, Buckeye Local HS (Rayland). All invited. Great video to watch & discuss!!
4. PO MTG's: MTG's the following week are: A). **NE** – Sunday, October 27, Noon, Brooklyn HS; B). **C** -- Sunday, October 27, 6PM, Columbus Bishop Watterson HS Dominican Hall; C). **SW** -- Monday, October 28, 6:30PM, Hamilton Princeton Church of God; & D). **NW** – T, October 29, 6:30PM, Findlay Country Inn & Suites. The playoff meetings are open to all Officials & Observers. A lot of Great video to watch & discuss.
5. Passer -- Pass/Fumble? A very challenging call when the passer is about to throw a pass & is hit by the defender. Did the arm come forward with possession & thus it is a pass? Or did the arm come forward with an empty hand & thus it is a fumble? This judgment call needs to be made by the **R** only. He/she can obtain information provided by other **Crew** members once the ball is dead.
6. DPI & OPI: It is very important when the pass is thrown to watch players & not the FB. The players will lead us to the FB. Apply GB, P. 42 & 43, when there is contact.
7. Onside KO Mechanics: Late in 4Q & team behind scores a TD. Onside KO? If so, go to ONKO Mechanics. Better be safe than sorry. AND the **BJ** does not signal to the **R** that we are ready to go until checking that the **U, HL, LJ, & CJ** are in position with arm up.
8. Calls Late in Tight Games: Please make these calls “big”. As we know there is a lot at stake. Can the foul be clearly seen on video? Does the call follow the Rules? Two very

- helpful statements by veteran officials nationwide are: A. Don't trouble, trouble; & B. Don't be a Pioneer. This does not mean "pass" on a call that needs to be made.
9. Whistles: Our whistles are kept out of our mouth from the snap until the ball becomes dead. Why – to prevent Inadvertent Whistles. I have observed games where officials are anticipating the runner being tackled & put the whistle in their mouths. REMEMBER – we can be late & be right in our Great Game. Be Patient! And See Leather.
  10. Momentum Rule (8-5-2a): Please review this Rule during your Pregame. A **Crew** incorrectly ruled safety when the Momentum Rule needed to be applied. It happens rarely. It is okay for the **Crew** to get together after the play, discuss it, & then rule on it.
  11. OT: Once B secures possession of the FB the ball becomes DEAD by Rule.
  12. Newer Official & GB (4 Officials): Please follow the GB. Do not tell an official when we are in GLM that the **U** can stand anywhere in the EZ. It just confuses them. IP is the EL.
  13. Spotting the FB: Do you and your **Crew** know the 7 times a team can indicate to the officials where they want the FB spotted between the hash marks? See CB 4.3.6.
  14. Player Equipment Issues: If a **Crew** suspends a player(s) for illegal or failure to wear mandatory equipment, they MUST be sure the team has sent in another player (s).
  15. Punts & **Wings**: The **Wings** IP is on the SL. This gives them a better look at a Punt that goes OOB, either in the air or rolls OOB, plus it gives them a wider vision for fouls.
  16. PE on Try-Run: A1 is tackled by B1 by the face mask at the + 5 YL. Is it enforced from the end of the run or the previous spot? (Please, do not send us the answer).
  17. PE on a Pass: B55 grabs & holds receiver A85 who catches a pass for a 39 YD gain. The hold becomes DPI. Is the DPI enforced at the end of the run? (Please, send no answers)
  18. **U** & Punt Mechanics: The only one of the 11 different types of plays in the GB where it specifies the **U's** IP is the Punt Play – opposite the **R** (5 Person Crew). This is due to "alleys" where the **R** & **U** can look downfield & watch for holds, blind side blocks, & blocks in the back. If the ball is snapped near or on the HM, the **U** will be in the SZ. We need to have the **U** "nose up" on the offensive tackle. With 6 officials the **U** is always "nose up" on the Center.
  19. **BJ** & **U** KO Mechanics: When the KT kicks a short "pooch kick" into the SZ there is no need for the near side **BJ** or **U** to hustle to the hash mark at the 50 YL. If the short "pooch kick" is between the hash marks then neither would come in.
  20. Officials Authority: Time expires for a very challenging game. Once the **R** signals "end of period" get off the field ASAP. 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. 37, Section 13.
  21. Game Announcers: Yes, announcers can state the amount of remaining time in a game over the PA system. There is nothing in the RB, CB, or GB that says it cannot be done.

22. Player OOB: If an A/K Player goes OOB without being blocked prior to a COP or there is no COP, the appropriate **Wing** will throw his/her hat. GB, P. 15, # 19.

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