

State Requirements (OHSAA Handbook for Officials) (6/1/19)

1. Regular Season Officials Requirements

- A. High School Varsity — Class 1 OHSAA football only (Need OHSAA Permission to use a Class 2 Official).
- B. High School Reserve/Junior Varsity — Class 1 or 2 OHSAA football only.
- C. Freshman/7-8th grade — One OHSAA Class 1, 2, or 3 official is required. Additional officials shall be OHSAA Class 1, 2 or 3 officials or officials in training.
- D. Must attend 4 local rules meetings & 1 State Rules Interpretation (SRI) meeting.

2. Tournament Officials Minimum Requirements (Regional & State Levels)

- A. Must hold a current OHSAA Class 1 Football Permit. Must have been an OHSAA Class 1 Football Official in good standing the previous year.
- B. Must officiate during current football season a minimum of 8 varsity high school games at the position for which applying unless given an exemption by the OHSAA. Must have officiated a minimum of 8 varsity high school football games during the previous season. All games must be 5 man crews or OHSAA approved 6 man Crews & officiated in Ohio or a state that borders Ohio.
- C. Must complete an online questionnaire through MYOHSAA.
- D. Must be physically fit, possess an athletic appearance, and be able to read/react and flow with the play.
- E. Must use the OHSAA Gold Book Approved Standards for FB Officiating Mechanics.
- F. Must arrive at the game site 1.5 hours before the scheduled game time & dressed in a professional manner (no blue jeans, no t-shirt, & no non OHSAA baseball hat)
- G. An official may not work a Championship Football Game in successive years.

3. Required Uniform

- A. Uniforms must be clean, fit properly, & neat. All officials must wear same uniform for varsity games.
- B. Black and white vertically striped, long or short-sleeved knit shirt, with 2 -1/4" stripe, a black knit cuff & Byron collar. The shirt must have the OHSAA Red Logo located above the chest pocket & the USA Flag on the left sleeve & be "dye Sublimated" into the fabric. All officials must wear the 2 - 1/4" stripe shirt for varsity games only. For sub varsity games officials can wear either the 1" or 2-1/4" wide stripe shirt.
- C. Black football officiating pants with 1-1/4" white stripes & black socks. All black shorts with belt loops, black belt, & black ankle shocks may be worn for varsity games played Weeks 1 -10 & sub varsity games. Black shorts shall be worn for all scrimmages. A short sleeve shirt must be worn with black shorts for varsity games only.
- D. Predominately black football shoes with black laces. Shoes should be shined before each game.
- E. Black baseball cap with white piping, except for the **R** who shall wear a white cap during varsity games. Hats with the OHSAA Logo are optional for Weeks 1 – 10 & mandatory for Weeks 11 – 15.
- F. Black leather belt, 1 ½" to 2" wide, with a plain buckle.
- G. A black jacket or black & white striped jacket may be worn prior to the game. The black & white striped jacket may not be worn during varsity games.
- H. Blue bean bag (Exception: White bean bags may be used on a blue football turf field).
- I. Gold penalty flag(s) with a black ball located in the front.
- J. The **U** shall use an all-black towel.
- K. Jewelry shall not be worn except for a wedding band and/or a medical alert necklace or bracelet. A religious medallion which is not visible is permitted.
- L. Black plastic whistle (**Exception:** Pink whistles may be used during October regular season games only if all crew members have them).