

The Journey Continues as Our Officiating is Improving!

1. **OUR MISSION:** We Will Improve Our Officiating significantly this year thru the Use of Additional Educational Tools, & the Study & Application of Mechanics & Rules.
2. **Why It Is Working:** An email was forwarded to us: “As you probably realize last night was my first playoff game. My last was the first year of the Gold Book & everyone was still in the learning mode. The Crew last night consisted of members of 4 different Central District Crews. We had a relatively brief pre-game discussion about mechanics & it was immediately apparent we were all on the same page. We took the field & quickly realized this was 100% accurate. It was as if we had all worked together for years! From the opening KO we jelled & were working like a well-oiled machine. Amazing! Kudos to you for your work on standardizing the mechanics! It not only made the game easier to officiate, but also made it a truly enjoyable experience! Truly incredible how far we have come in just a few years.”
3. **What’s Happening in 2021:** A Lot!! Some of the many significant **Highlights** include:
 - A. Gold Book: Crews that use 6 Officials have been incorporated into the Mechanics Section under the appropriate subject. Also, changes have been made to Regulations & State Requirements based upon questions from officials. These are shaded. There are approximately 14 changes & clarifications from last year. Many of these were suggested by our fellow officials. Please review them thoroughly.
 - B. Gold Book: Our Far Reaching Goal is when an Official arrives on site, he/she has 3 publications: 1. FB Rules Book; 2. FB Case Book; & 3. Gold Book. Just about every question or challenging situation can be answered in one of these 3. Will the Gold Book have all the answers for this year? No, but as the Journey Continues we will add these unique situations. Please continue to send them to us.
 - C. WWW.OHSAAFB.COM: Our interscholastic FB website was a resounding success last year as evidenced by the nearly 81,000 visits from officials around the world. The website can be accessed by your tablet, smart phone, & desktop computer. Included will be: 1. Gold Book; 2. Gold Book Mechanics by Position; 3. Expanded Rules Index; 4. Recognition Section; 5. 2020 State Regular Season & Playoff Bulletins (Updated with 2021 Mechanics); 6. Ask the DOD/SRI’s Q’s and A’s About Rules, Mechanics, & Philosophy; 7. Weekly Practice Rules Tests; & 8. PPT Mechanics Presentations.
 - D. The NFHS Penalty Summary & Signals PPT was developed by Garry Mosier. This is a great study & reference tool for learning & refreshing our memories regarding the distance, special enforcements, & appropriate hand signals. It can be found on the WWW.OHSAAFB.COM website.
 - E. Mechanics PPT Presentations: A wonderful “6 Types of Kicking Plays” was developed in 2011 & 5 Non Kick Plays in 2013. They will be updated with the Mechanics Changes for this year.
 - F. Practice Rules Tests: Rules Geek, The Whistle, & Upon Further Review will continue this year on WWW.OHSAAFB.COM. Beginning Week 1, officials can take Rules & Mechanics Q’s & A’s weekly – Great Way to Study.
 - G. Rules Index: Included in the Gold Book, the Rules Index has 337 listings. Each time someone asked me for a rules clarification I first went to the Index. We added to it. A great tool for all officials.
 - H. There is one change to the FB Officials Uniform this year – Orange bean bags (BB) are optional for 2021 & mandatory for 2022. Orange BB is mandatory for State Playoff Games this year. These are your personal BB used to mark the spot of fumbles, PSK, etc, NOT used to spot the FB (5/22/21)

We Hope You & Your Crew Have a Tremendous FB Season. Best Wishes & Good Luck!!!