



Ohio Soccer Weekly

The Ohio High School Athletic Association

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“Backpass to the Keeper”

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The “Backpass Rule” is a bit misleading as backward direction of the kick from Player A to the keeper is NOT a requirement of the foul. The ball must merely be deliberately kicked to the keeper of left with the foot for the keeper. Let’s look at the actual rule:

12.7.3: *On any occasion when a player deliberately kicks the ball to his/her own goalkeeper, the goalkeeper is not permitted to touch it with his/her hands.*

12.7.3 Penalty: **Indirect free kick awarded to the opponent at the spot of the violation unless in the goal area.**

Now let’s look at Rule **18.1.1(g) Deliberate Foul:**

A purposely planned act done to disrupt the game and to gain an advantage through the unfair act.

Any deliberate kick, i.e. touching the foot ONLY, to the keeper, or to a spot where the keeper is able to touch the ball with the hand(s), qualifies under this particular rule. For identification reasons...the foot runs from the tip of toes to the top of the ankle bone. Here are a few situations:

1993 Situation #21: *The goalkeeper picks up the ball with her hands from:A) a teammate who deliberately kicks it to her; b) heads or knees it to her; c) an accidental deflection off the foot of a teammate*

Ruling:
A – indirect free kick to opponents
B & c – no violation (12.7.3)

1992 Situation #17: *An attacking player A1 takes a shot on goal which goes directly at goalkeeper B1 who parries the ball down to his feet. B1 then passes the ball to B2 who is inside Team B’s penalty area. B2 passes the ball back to B1 who picks the ball up with his hands.*

Ruling:
Illegal. Indirect free kick for Team A

The ‘Heart of the Season’ is definitely upon us. Coaches often look for ways to lighten up practice, seek for new ways of doing things, or simply find a way to break the practice routine a little. Consider this....You coach a sport that is Educational Based. We stress it and you are part of a school that recognizes it. I have taken the liberty to offer a few things here that really dig into the bag of resources that help you do what you do best....educate our student-athletes; and use the soccer field to accomplish it. I hope you find it helpful.

BAD WEATHER NOT LIMITED TO LIGHTNING

Inclement weather last week around Ohio reminded officials, coaches and administrators that ‘bad’ weather is not limited to lightning. Schools have Crisis Management Plans for their facilities and even as fall arrives today, strong winds and tornadoes remain a threat in our state. Crisis Management Plans list evacuation plans when bad weather hits. Though we at the OHSAA do not *mandate* what occurs when **warnings** and **watches** are posted, most schools will continue with contests when ‘watches’ are posted. “Warnings” however, indicate bad weather is imminent and evacuation plans detailed in Crisis Management Plans would provide clear directions for evacuation. A Point of Emphasis at this year’s Rules Interp.meetings reminded **coaches** of the fact that THEY serve as the Administrator at a contest in absence of an Athletic Director/Principal. With this, it is a reminder to coaches to make sure your site has an up-to-date Crisis Management Plan that is posted at your facility and to familiarize yourself with that plan. Better safe than sorry.

Coaches Influence Players WAY Beyond the Field

We continue to expound on the virtues of Education-based Athletics and the strong influence coaches have on the lives of those they coach. Many coaches spend more time with kids than their own parents do during this time of the year. I encourage you to be that role model and do as SO many coaches in Ohio do; go *beyond* the “x’s and o’s” of the game. In my communications with coaches, many ask for resources to utilize with their players. I have offered a few here and when you are looking for resources and things to do on a ‘slower’ recovery day after a game or a day when you are simply looking for ways to build team unit. I think you will find these as tools to ‘reach into the bag’ and provide experiences that they will take beyond the field and beyond wins and losses.

New Mexico Launches Unique Alcohol Education Program

Recently, the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) launched a unique online program that chronicled the life of a former great high school athlete who remains in prison for causing a fatal crash that took the lives of several individuals. The program is a great tool for ANY high school athlete in America, where nearly 60% of all seniors and 50% of all juniors report regular drinking activity. Coaches...don’t be afraid to step in and offer this to your players...together we CAN make a difference. The free course is available at: <http://www.lifeofanathlete.com/courses.aspx>

The Influence of Social Networking?

A 4:25 cliip from “YouTube” on Social Networking and its power. You may have seen this but it is a good informational tool and something you might want to show parents. You can access it directly at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFZ0z5Fm-Ng> If you have not seen this, I promise you’ll find this extremely interesting!

Pre-Game Music? Listen first.....

Today’s youth listens to music ‘we’ did not listen to. Cassette players and CD players are a thing of the past. Music is part of just about everyone’s pre-game today. But...have you listened? In the spirit of education-based athletics, I URGE you to listen to that music before you play it. You are requested to turn music off during the pre-game conference. It is the responsibility of game administration to screen music for appropriate content and decibel level. Consider fans of all aces.

By the Numbers

Next Issue: Friday, October 1

83

The number of player ejections in 2009 out of total of 242 due to foul lanuaage.

57

The percentage of people today that view their television programs recorded (such as DVR).

21

The number of Division I Boys’ teams in NW Ohio.

70

The number of Division I Boys’ teams in NE Ohio

With 21 Div. I teams in one district and 70 in another, how do create ‘fairness’ in the number of teams that make it to the Regional? Be sure to read the Oct. 1 issue.