

2009 Soccer Manual

Pre-Season Information
For Coaches and Officials



OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

4080 Roselea Place ~ Columbus, OH 43214

(614) 267-2502 ~ (614) 267-1677 (fax)

www.ohsaa.org



Table of Contents

	PAGE
Cover Letter for Coaches and Officials	2
OHSAA Mission Statement	3
Calendar Items	3
2009 Important Soccer Dates	3
OHSAA Contact Information	4
2009 Rules Interpretation Meetings/Dates/Locations	
Coaches Information	
OSSCA Executive Board Directory	5
Soccer Links	6
Pre-Season Meeting Information	6
Coach Education Requirement	6
Coaches' Code of Ethics	7
OHSAA General and Soccer Sport Regulation Information	9
Game Procedures & Management	
Lightning & Inclement Weather Policy	9
Tournament Overtime Procedures	10-11
Rating Officials	12-13
Medical & Safety	
Reference Information	14
Heat Stress & Athletic Participation	14-15
Headgear	16
Protective Facemasks	16
Shinguards	16
Officials	
Uniform Information/Requirements	17
Pre-Match Conference	17
Tournament Selection Process	18
Weather Related Issues & Policies	18
Game Management	19
Signals	19
State & Local Meetings	19
Ejection Protocol	20-21
NFHS Officials' Code of Ethics	22
"Getting Along", Don Muenz, OHSAA Rules Interpreter	23
Helpful Hints for Officials	23
Rules Information	
Rules Changes 2009-10	24
Comments on Rule Changes	24
Editorial Changes 2009-10	25-26
Points of Emphasis 2009-10	27
OHSAA State Association Adoptions	27-28
Sportsmanship	
NFHS & OHSAA Sportsmanship Mission Statements	29
Sportsmanship Guidelines for Administrators, Coaches Officials & Student-Athletes	29-30
Online Resources	30



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Soccer Coaches and Officials
FROM: Jerry Snodgrass, Assistant Commissioner
DATE: June, 2009
RE: 2009 Pre-Season Mailing



Greetings and I hope this finds all of you enjoying the summer and preparing for another great soccer season. This "Soccer Manual" has been compiled for coaches **and** officials to serve as a reference throughout the year. It includes materials you have received in the past as well as easier to read copies of our regulations. Though information is contained for coaches and officials, both will receive the same manual.

As in the past, attendance at a state rules interpretation meeting is mandatory. I *strongly* recommend attendance by the **head coach**, however, OHSAA Bylaws require the head varsity coach, assistant coach, or an athletic administrator of **each** boys team and each girls team attend at least one meeting. Attendance is required in order to be eligible to enter the OHSAA sponsored tournament. Coaches of junior high teams are encouraged to attend as well. Attendance is also mandatory for all officials. In order to receive credit for attending a meeting, you must be present within 10 minutes of the start of the meeting and stay until the conclusion of the meeting.

Rules governing OHSAA soccer stem from the National Federation (NFHS) *and* the OHSAA. NFHS Rules govern all playing rules while **OHSAA Sport Regulations** govern specific rules to Ohio. No coach, administrator, or official has the authority to modify or set aside these rules.

Much of the information in this manual is **new** material that everyone should pay close attention to. New rule changes, points of emphasis and new policies (such as the lightning and inclement weather policy) are included.

Though this is addressed in the manual, Coaching of the school soccer squad may begin no earlier than Monday, August 10, 2009 with **ONLY** this exception:

Schools that start classes on or before August 21 may begin practice on August 7.

Communication is a key in the successful administration of any of our sports. I encourage you to ask questions or seek assistance by *first* going through your Athletic Administrator. With the extremely high volume of calls and emails, it truly is the most efficient way for us to meet the needs of our schools. Please take the time to review the materials provided. If you have any questions, or I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Due to the incredible high volume of calls, email is preferred (jsnodgrass@ohsaa.org).



OHSAA Mission Statement

The Ohio High School Athletic Association's mission is to regulate and administer interscholastic athletic competition in a fair and equitable manner while promoting the values of participation in interscholastic athletics as an integral part of a student's educational experience. The OHSAA represents its member schools by recognizing and promoting academics, the safety of participants, good citizenship and lifelong values as the foundation of interscholastic athletics.

2009 Important Soccer Dates	
August 1 – 10	The 10 coaching days may <u>only</u> be used between June 1 and July 31. From August 1-10, instruction in soccer skills is not permitted by the HS coach. Refer to OHSAA General Sports Regulations (provided within this manual and at www.ohsaa.org) for information regarding physical fitness programs and instructional programs.
August 7	First Day of Coaching (for schools with classes beginning before Aug. 21)
August 10	First Day of Coaching (for schools with classes beginning Aug. 21 or later)
August 21	First Day H.S. Preview Permitted
August 24 – October 17	Regular Season
September 28	Non-Interscholastic Competition No Longer Permitted (see Soccer Regulation 4.6 for additional information)
October 11	Draw/Seeding Meeting Date
October 19 – 24	Sectional Tournaments
October 26 – October 31	District Tournaments
November 3 - November 7	Regional Tournaments
November 10 – November 14	State Tournament at Crew Stadium
Coaches' No Contact Period begins on the first day after the last interscholastic contest and ends 28 days later (refer to the OHSAA soccer regulations for additional information).	

OHSAA Contact Information

Jerry Snodgrass	Assistant Commissioner	Oversees the sport & coordinates the tournaments	jsnodgrass@ohsaa.org
Henry Zaborniak	Assistant Commissioner	Oversees officials programs & tournament assignments	hزابorniak@ohsaa.org
Sharon Shoemaker	Administrative Assistant	Assists in the coordination of the sport & tournaments	sshoemaker@ohsaa.org
Don Muenz	State Rules Interpreter	Conducts state rules interpretation Meetings and fields rules inquires	butsir@columbus.rr.com

Rules Interpretation Meeting Information

As mentioned, Rules Interpretation meetings are mandatory for each school and every soccer official in Ohio. Few coaches realize that all officials in Ohio must not ONLY attend the State Rules meeting, but must also attend 4 LOCAL Association meetings that are educational in their nature. Please take the CARD that is located in the inside jacket of the mailing to Coaches and Officials and turn this in at the conclusion of the meeting you attend. Though any member of your school staff may attend, we *strongly encourage* attendance by Head Coaches. Meetings and their locations are listed below and can be viewed <http://myohsaa.ohsaa.org/public/stateMeetings.aspx>

2009 Soccer State Rules Interpretation Meetings

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
7/22/2009	11:15 a.m. Interpreters Clinic: OHSAA Office 40809 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214	Jerry Snodgrass
7/27/2009	7:15 p.m. Brush High School 4875 Glenlyn Road, Auditorium, Lyndhurst, OH 44124	Donald Cox
7/28/2009	7:15 p.m. Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy 4687 Wyoga Lake Road, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44224	Kevin Clark
7/29/2009	7:15 p.m. Granville High School 248 New Burg St. Granville, OH 43023	Robert Forche
7/30/2009	7:15 p.m. Ohio University, Chillicothe Campus 101 University Drive, Bennett Hall, Auditorium, Chillicothe, OH 45601	Jon Dick
7/31/2009	7:15 p.m. Ashland High School 1440 King Road, Ashland, OH 44805	Jeff Meyers
8/1/2009	10:00 a.m. Owens Community College 3033 Oregon Rd. A-V Ctr. Room 125, Northwood, OH 43619	Theresa Potter
8/2/2009	4:00 p.m. Olentangy Orange High School 2840 East Orange Rd., Multi-Purpose Room, Lewis Ctr., OH 43035	Walter Ersing
8/3/2009	7:15 p.m. Vermillion High School 1250 Sanford Dr. Vermillion, OH 44089	Steve Zeise
8/4/2009	7:15 p.m. Princeton High School 11080 Chester Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45246	Robert Young
8/5/2009	7:00 p.m. Dublin Coffman High School 6780 Coffman Road, Dublin, OH 43017	Russell Annis
8/6/2009	7:15 p.m. Ohio University-Zanesville 1425 Newark Rd., Elson Hall, Zanesville, OH 43720	Junior McCutcheon
8/7/2009	7:15 p.m. Niles Wellness Center 213 Sharkey Drive, Niles, OH 44446	David Anderson
8/8/2009	10:00 a.m. Centerville High School 500 E. Franklin, Centerville, OH 45459	Robert Sherman
8/9/2009	3:30 p.m. Bath High School 2850 Bible Rd., Lima, OH 45801	Franklin Dietz
8/10/2009	4:30 p.m. Make-Up Meeting (\$50.00 fee) OHSAA Office, 4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, OH 43214	Donald Muenz

Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association

Each year, the Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches(OSSCA) is afforded the opportunity to present proposals for changes to the Sports' Regulations that affect Soccer. This is done at the April meeting of the Board of Directors and the OSSCA is represented by the President of the organization. Board of Directors made up of elected individuals among the 6 Athletic Districts in Ohio listen to these proposals and decide on whether to implement these changes or not. The OHSAA assists the OSSCA by mailing out membership information to all boys' and girls' head soccer coaches in Ohio. Additionally, the OHSAA maintains current information helpful to coaches of all organizations through the "Coaches' Corner" page of the OHSAA's website at <http://www.ohsaa.org/members/coaches/default.asp>. This is a helpful resource for information relative to "Open Fields", Conditioning programs, General Sport s Regulations as well as helpful heat related information and information on "open dates" and game availability.

The Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches' Association

Title	Name/ Home Address	School/ E-Mail	Phone
President	John Johnson 137 Apple Drive, Wadsworth 44281	Wadsworth High School Wadsoccer@aol.com	H: 330-334-5023 W: 330-336-3260 C: 330-329-4611
Executive Director	Brian Stevens 841 Forest Drive, Wooster 44691	Bus50@sssn.net	330-264-3443
VP – Honors	George Hunter 16-C Hunterswoods, Canfield 44406	Canfield High School gghoh@aol.com	330-533-5994
VP – Banquet	VACANT Elect in 2009		
Treasurer	Bob Ellis 201 E. Rahn Road, Kettering 45429	Archbishop Alter High School ellisjme@erinet.com	937-434-7088
Secretary	John Sabol 622 East Park, Barberton 44203	Barberton High School jsabol@barberton.summit.k12.oh.us	330-848-3753
Akron Rep	Ruth Coney 12972 Clinton Road, Doylestown 44230	Chippewa High School Chipsoccer@aol.com	330-658-3316
Central Rep	Gene DeWeese 3242 Iveswood Court, Dublin 43017	Dublin Coffman High School gproxie1@aol.com	614-764-0412
Southwest Rep	Mike Haney 106 Burdsall Avenue, Ft. Mitchell, KY 41047	Mariemont High School mdhaneykr@fuse.net	859-344-0710
Cleveland Rep	Brady Dean 11690 Chillicothe Road, Chesterland 44026	Mentor High School Bdean1021@aol.com	440-729-3137
East Rep	Dave Kridler 49951 Mill Creek TR. 215, Fresno 43824	River View High School Kricor@coshocton.com	740-623-8760
Miami Valley Rep	Daniel Ludwick 1035 Sycamore Street, New Carlisle 45344	Greeneview High School soccergump@hotmail.com	937 671-6619
North Central Rep	Jerry White 614 King Ridge Drive, Ashland 44805	Ashland High School Jewwhite@ashland-city.k12.oh.us	419-289-8966
Northwest Rep	John Orozco 2649 Midwood, Toledo 43606	jorozco@ststoledo.org	419-872-0852
Southeast Rep	Paul Boll 1227 Sprouse Lane, Wheelersburg 45694	Wheelersburg High School boll34@earthlink.net	740-574-8801
Youngstown Rep	George Stevens 9607 Cain Drive NE, Warren 44484	Howland High School geojudste@aol.com	330-856-5054
Webmaster	Gene Pitstick	5	H: 937-342-1840 C: 937-360-4356

Soccer Links

National Association of Sports Officials	www.naso.org
National Federation of State High School Associations	www.nfhs.org
National Soccer Coaches Association of America	www.nscaa.com
Ohio Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association	www.ossca.org
Ohio Soccer Stats	www.ohiosoccerstats.org
Greater Cleveland Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association	www.gcssca.com
Miami Valley Scholastic Soccer Coaches Association	www.mvssca.org
Decatur Sports – provides training activities for coaches	www.swcaturports.com/soccerdrills.htm

Pre-Season Meetings

We have encouraged coaches to invite local officials to meet with their team during pre-season workouts or early practices. It allows the officials to meet the athletes and discuss new rules. It gives athletes an opportunity to ask questions and have a discussion prior to game days. We also recommended inviting an official(s) to a pre-season meeting with team parents. Again, it provides a forum for healthy discussions and an opportunity for parents to learn more about the game.

Pre-season meetings with parents are now mandatory and will most likely occur along with other fall sport teams. This is determined by each school's Athletic Administrator. This is the time to cover such things as eligibility requirements, individual school policies, individual sport policies, sportsmanship issues and expectations travel plans for away contests, etc.

Nike & Game Ball Information

Nike is the official ball provider for soccer as well as supporting the OSSCA with various products. Nike provides additional marketing support of the OHSAA State Championships. Though there is no official game ball for Sectional and District tournaments, the Nike T-90 Catalyst is the official ball that will be used at Regional and State Tournaments. Thanks to Nike, teams that participate in the Regional and State Tournaments receive 3 T-90 Catalyst balls at the conclusion of their Regional and State Tournament games.

Coach Education Requirement

In June of 2008, the OHSAA's Board of Directors passed the requirement for all coaches in Ohio to complete the NFHS "Fundamentals of Coaching" class on the schedule listed below. There currently are two methods of completing the course; a "blended" delivery instructed by trained instructors in a classroom setting or "online" accessed through the OHSAA website by clicking on the "Coach Education" logo on the right or going directly to the site at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/EducationAcademy/Coach/default.htm>. Complete listings of classes through the site at <http://www.ohsaa.org/EducationAcademy/Coach/default.htm>. Several mailings were sent to school administrators over the course of the 2008-09 school year providing background information and compliance information. Completion of the course is a one time requirement and *Coaches* in Ohio must complete this course on the following schedule:

New coaches who have never held a Pupil Activity Certificate:	Completion required beginning Jan. 1, 2010
Coaches who will Re-new their current Pupil Activity Certificate:	Upon Next Renewal after Jan. 1, 2010



Coaches' Code of Ethics

From the NFHS Soccer Rules Book

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each student should be treated with the utmost respect and his or her welfare should be considered in decisions by the coach at all times. Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by the NFHS Board of Directors.

The Coach shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.

The Coach shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. IN all personal contact with students, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.

The Coach shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.

The Coach shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct the program in harmony with the total school program.

The Coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.

The Coach shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster clubs, and administrators.

The Coach shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.

The Coach should meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after the contest.

The Coach shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give students special consideration.

The Coach shall not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the league and/or state high school athletic association.



OHSAA Sports' Regulations



Regulations governing the sport of soccer are divided into two basic categories: **GENERAL Sports' Regulations** and **SOCCER Regulations (sports specific)**. These are reviewed annually and approved by the OHSAA's Board of Directors.

General Sports' Regulations

These regulations can be accessed and address regulations that affect all sports governed by the OHSAA. They include, but are not limited to, such things as Instructional Programs outside the window of the season, Physical Fitness Programs, Open Facility Regulations, No Contact Periods, Player and Coach Ejection Policies. These are important and *most* areas of concern can be addressed simply by reading through these Regulations or contacting your Athletic Administrator. They are easily accessed via the web by navigating to the "Soccer" webpage (boys' or girls') at <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/so/girls/default.asp> or <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/so/boys/default.asp>

Soccer Specific Regulations

Each spring, regulations for the upcoming school year are approved by the Board of Directors for every sport the OHSAA sponsors. These address areas such as (but not limited to) Non-Interscholastic competition, number of contests (game, scrimmage or preview) that are permitted, season start and end dates, out of state travel, etc. All coaches should familiarize themselves with these regulations. Coaches should familiarize their entire staff with the importance of these Regulations as they directly affect the eligibility of student-athletes. These are also available through the boys' and girls' soccer web pages at <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/so/girls/default.asp> or <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/so/boys/default.asp>. Soccer specific AND the General Sports' Regulations are found on the left side of the page. A few of the Sports' Regulation *highlights* are listed below but you are encouraged to read the entire regulations at the above listed website.

Non-Interscholastic Competition

A member of an interscholastic soccer squad sponsored by the Board of Education **cannot participate in a non-interscholastic soccer program** (such as 'club' or 'travel' soccer), which includes tryouts, practice and contests as an individual OR a member of a team in the sport of soccer anytime during the school team's season. This is explained in OHSAA Bylaw 10-3-1. A student-athlete becomes a member of the school team when he/she participates in a scrimmage, preview OR regular season or tournament game as a substitute OR as a starter.

A member of an interscholastic soccer squad sponsored by the Board of Education **MAY** participate in non-interscholastic soccer (such as 'club' or 'travel' soccer) PRIOR TO and AFTER the school season under the following conditions:

- The number of interscholastic soccer players from the same school on a non-interscholastic team is limited to **FIVE on the roster** of that non-interscholastic team. This number includes all players that played on the school team in the previous season from grades 9-11*.
- A player may continue to play with a non-interscholastic squad in a national qualifying tournament only in excess of the five player limit until the squad is eliminated but no later than Labor Day.
- A player may play in non-interscholastic soccer ONLY WHEN the student's team has completed its season.

*Graduating seniors are exempt from this particular 5 player limitation.

Indoor Soccer

Participation in INDOOR SOCCER is NOT a violation of OHSAA non-interscholastic team bylaw 10-3-3 **only if the Indoor Soccer program follows USSF (United States Soccer Federation) Indoor Soccer Rules.**

Out of State Travel

A soccer team may travel out of state to compete in scrimmages, previews and games in states OR provinces in Canada that are contiguous to Ohio regardless of distance. This would include the states of Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania and West Virginia and the province of Ontario in Canada. A team may travel out of state one time to state or province NOT contiguous to Ohio but only if there is no loss of school time.

Lightning & Inclement Weather Policy



Beginning in the fall of 2009, the policy on *lightning and inclement* weather has changed from recent policies. The current Lightning and Inclement Weather Policy (which is also OHSAA Sports Regulation 20) states:

WEATHER

Recognition:

Coaches, athletic trainers, athletes, administrators and contest officials should be educated regarding the signs indicating thunderstorm development . Since the average distance between successive lightening flashes is approximately two to three miles ANYTIME that lightning can be seen or heard, the risk is already present. Weather can be monitored using the following methods:

- **Monitor Weather Patterns** – Be aware of potential thunderstorms by monitoring local weather forecasts the day before and morning of the competition, and by scanning the sky for signs of potential thunderstorm activity.
- **National Weather Service** – Weather can also be monitored using small, portable weather radios from the NWS. The NWS uses a system of severe storm watches and warnings watch indicates conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in an area; a warning indicates severe weather has been reported in an area, and everyone should take proper precautions. Any thunderstorm poses a risk of injury or death even if it does not meet the criteria for severe weather. Therefore, anytime thunderstorms are in the forecast (even if it is only a 20 percent chance), event organizers should be at a heightened level of awareness to the potential danger of lightning.

Management:

- **Evacuation-** If lightening is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators should evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced and displayed on placards at all athletic venues.
- **Thirty-minute rule-** Competition or practice should be suspended once lightning has been recognized or thunder is heard. It is recommended to wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard prior to resuming practice or competition. Given the average rates of thunderstorm travel, the storm should move 10-12 miles away from the area. This significantly reduces the risk of local lightning flashes. **Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count shall reset the clock, and Another count shall begin.**

Tournament Overtime Procedures

An overtime procedure, approved in the OHSAA Soccer Tournament Regulations is used for all Sectional, District, Regional and State tournament games.

When the score is tied at the end of regulation time, the referee will instruct both teams to return to their respective team benches. There will be five minutes during which both teams may confer with their coaches and the head referee will instruct both teams as to proper procedures.

- A. Teams will play one 15-minute sudden victory overtime period. If neither team scores during the first overtime period, teams will play a second 15-minute sudden victory overtime period.
1. Prior to the first overtime period, a coin toss shall be held as in Rule 5-2-2(d) (3).
 2. If neither team scores during the first 15-minute overtime period, teams shall change ends for the second overtime period.
 3. There shall be a two-minute interval between periods.
- B. If neither team scores during the overtimes, all coaches, officials and team captains following a two minute interval shall assemble at the halfway line to review the procedures for a penalty kick shootout as outlined below:

1. GAME MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

- a) The head referee shall choose the goal at which all of the penalty kicks shall be taken based upon field and weather conditions.
- b) Per Rule 1-6-1, spectators shall be confined to areas at least 10 feet from the touch line, team / official area and goal line. No one shall be permitted directly behind either goal unless seated in bleachers
- c) The coin toss shall be held as in Rule 5-2-2(d) (3) and the team winning the coin toss will have the choice of kicking first or second.
- d) Prior to commencement of each set of penalty kicks, each coach will submit a list of five kickers by name, number, and sequence (i.e. first through the fifth) to the head referee. Substitution for a kicker is only permitted for injury or as provided for in II(C), "Misconduct Procedures," and must be coordinated through the head referee.
- e) Teams will alternate kickers.
- f) The ball may not be played by anyone except the goalkeeper after it has been kicked. There is no follow-up.
- g) During all tie-breaker penalty kicks, the ball remains alive until its momentum is spent, it goes out of bounds, or it is retouched by the kicker.
- h) The defending team may change the goalkeeper prior to each kick.
- i) The tie-breaker procedure initially requires a maximum of five kicks per team. The team scoring the greater number of goals from their kicks shall be declared the winner. Where a team has taken fewer than five kicks and has already scored a greater number of goals than their opponent can score if that opponent is permitted to take all five of its kicks, the tie-breaker procedure is terminated and the winner is declared to be the team which has already scored the greater number of goals.

- j) Sudden victory begins with the second set of kicks, wherein if one team scores and the other teams does not score, the game is ended without more kicks being taken. There will be two minutes between each set of five kickers, in order to allow each coach to prepare a list of five kickers.
- k) Both teams are permitted to be on the field, at the halfway line, with only each team's kickers within the center circle.

2. SELECTION OF KICKERS

- a) Eligible Players – players eligible to participate in the penalty kick shootout include the goalkeeper and any players on or off the field, except those who may have been disqualified or ejected.
- b) Each coach will select five players per set of kicks based upon the following guidelines:

Step	Set of Kicks	Available Players	Status
1	1 st set of 5	All eligible players	All 10 players kick (5 per team)
2	2 nd set of 5	All eligible players except those who participated in the 1 st set	SUDDEN VICTORY
3	3 rd set of 5	All eligible players	SUDDEN VICTORY
4	4 th set of 5	All eligible players except those who participated in the immediately preceding set	SUDDEN VICTORY

If a tie still remains, repeat steps 3 and 4 until a winner is determined.

3. MISCONDUCT PROCEDURES

- a) Cautioned Players
 - i. One of the five players listed to take a kick is cautioned after he/she takes the kick. That player is not eligible to kick again until one complete set of five kicks has been completed beyond the set of kicks in which the caution was issued.
 - 1. Player "X" is one of the first five kickers, and is cautioned after taking his/her kick. Player "X" is not eligible to kick again until the set beginning with the 11th kick.
 - 2. Player "Y" is one of the second set of five kickers and is cautioned after taking his/her kick. Player "Y" is not eligible to kick again until the set beginning with the 16th kick.
 - ii. One of the five players listed to take a kick is cautioned before he/she takes the kick. That player is not eligible to kick until the next set of five kicks. Another eligible player not listed in that set of kicks must take the cautioned player's original turn.
 - iii. When a goalkeeper is issued a caution during any set of five kicks, he/she cannot re-enter until the next opponent completes his/her kick. A substitution is permitted for the cautioned goalkeeper.
- b) Disqualified Players
 - i. Any player, including the goalkeeper who is disqualified, may not participate any further. If his/her kick is not already completed, a substitute is permitted.

Rating & Voting for Officials

You often hear at tournament contests that “the tournament officials have been selected by a process approved by the Board of Directors”. That ‘process’ is an important one for both coaches AND officials. To make this process work it requires Coaches and Athletic Directors to do their part. Officials take this process seriously and it is in everyone’s best interest to have the correct input for the assignment of officials. A few important things to note:

1. Coaches **RATE** Officials, other approved individuals **VOTE FOR** Officials.
2. Ratings are done at the conclusion of a game; voting is done at the end of the season.
3. “Pools” of officials are created as a result of ratings and votes.
4. District Athletic Boards utilize the various pools to assign officials to sectional and district tournaments in their respective Athletic Districts.
5. The OHSAA Office utilizes the pools to assign officials to the Regional and State Tournament.
6. All Rating and Voting is done through the *myOHSAA* Data Management System.
7. Coaches obtain a User Name and Password for access to the *myOHSAA* system



In order for the process, games and officials must be entered into the *myOHSAA Data Management System* by a school's Athletic Administrator. Schools that are the home team in a contest are the ones required to enter the contest and the officials. In some cases, league assignors have this capability. IF a contest is not entered, there can be no rating of officials. If this is not done, eventually, this will lead to a fine for not rating officials. Please encourage your Athletic Administrator to enter contests into the system.

You will note that using the *myOHSAA* system will allow you to view other teams' schedules to assist you with possible scouting opportunities as well as serve as a 'double check' with often changing schedules due to cancellations or additions of contests.

Instructions for Rating Officials

1. Access the *myOHSAA* system at <http://myohsaa.ohsaa.org> OR from the home page of the www.ohsaa.org
2. Logon to *myOHSAA* using the login credentials provided by your athletic administrator. After logging in, you may be directed to set a new password and provide a security question and answer. Follow the on screen instructions for setting a new password and save your account information.
3. The home page will appear which contains all the tools and information currently available to a Head Coach. A summary of post game reports appears at the top of the home page.
 1. Click on your sport in the list of post game reports. The varsity schedule will appear.
 2. Click “Record” under the score column of the varsity schedule. The *Report Score/Rate Officials* page will appear.
4. **To Report The Score:**
 - Click “Report ” in the section labeled “Score”.
 - Enter the score for each team and click “Save”.
5. **To Rate Officials:**
 - Scroll down to the “Rate Officials” section.
 - In the box marked “Requested Officials”, the names of those officials that did not accept the contract prior to the contest will appear. If these officials worked the contest, click the box in front of their name(s) and then click the “Add Official” button. This adds the official(s) to the rating form below. Note: officials that electronically accepted the contract before the contest will automatically display on the rating form.
 - If you were the away team and your opponent has not entered the officials for the contest, “Click to Add Officials for Rating” will allow you to enter the officials for rating after the event has occurred.
 - **Officials may now be rated as a group or individually.**
 - To rate officials as a group: simply click the number of the rating.
 - To rate officials individually: remove the check mark from the “Rate All Officials” box by clicking on it. Each official's name will activate. Uncheck any official you do not

want to rate or that did not officiate the contest. Click on the number of the rating you want to give to the official.

- **CLICK the "Submit Ratings" Button.**

NOTE: for volleyball the button is labeled "Submit Scores/Ratings" The list of rated officials will appear in the "Details" section of the page.

- **Exit the page by clicking the "Cancel" button.** You will be directed back to your varsity schedule.
- **Repeat** these steps to report the scores and rate officials of all your varsity contests (home or away). Sub-varsity contests may be rated but are not required.

Official's Ratings may also be accessed through the team's schedule page. To do this, simply

1. **Access your team's schedule:** In the left column locate the drop down box labeled "Select Calendar", using the drop down select your teams calendar from the list.
2. Once your team's schedule has appeared, **click on the double red stars** in the rating column.
3. Repeat the steps under Number 3 above parts c through h to complete the ratings.

Athletic Administrators receive separate instructions for VOTING for officials at the conclusion of the season. Additional individuals that VOTE for officials include:

1. League Assignors
2. Local Associations
3. District Athletic Board Members
4. OHSAA Commissioners

Medical Information

The safety of our student-athletes is of utmost concern at all times. Information regarding the following important topics can be found at the OHSAA's "Healthy Lifestyles and Sports Medicine" webpage at <http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/default.asp>. Additional information relative to various equipment and rules relative to medical issues can be found throughout this manual as well.

- Heat Stress and Athletic Participation
- Recommendations for Hydration to Prevent Heat Illness
- Suggested Guidelines for Management of Head Trauma in Sports
- Communicable Disease Procedures (can also be found on page nine of the NFHS 2009-10 Rules Book)
- Links to the following sites:
 - Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine
 - Ohio Athletic Trainers Association
 - American Medical Society for Sports Medicine
 - Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth
 - National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA)
 - Gatorade Sports Science Institute News

Heat Stress & Athletic Participation

By Frederick O. Mueller, Ph.D.
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Early fall football, cross country, soccer and field hockey practice are conducted in very hot and humid weather in many parts of the United States. Due to the equipment and uniform needed in football most of the heat problems have been associated with football.

Under such conditions the athlete is subject to the following:

Heat Cramps- painful cramps involving abdominal muscles and extremities caused by intense, prolonged exercise in the heat and depletion of salt and water due to profuse sweating.

Heat Syncope - weakness, fatigue and fainting due to loss of salt and water in sweat and exercise in the heat. Predisposes to heat stroke.

Heat Exhaustion (Water Depletion) - excessive weight loss, reduced sweating, elevated skin and deep body temperature, excessive thirst, weakness, headache and sometimes unconsciousness.

Heat Exhaustion (Salt Depletion) - exhaustion, nausea, vomiting, muscle cramps, and dizziness due to profuse sweating and inadequate replacement of body salts.

Heat Stroke - an acute medical emergency related to thermoregulatory failure. Associated with nausea, seizures, disorientation, and possible unconsciousness or coma. It may occur suddenly without being preceded by any of the other clinical signs. The individual is usually unconscious with a high body temperature and hot, dry skin (heat stroke victims, contrary to popular belief, may sweat profusely).

It is believed that the above mentioned heat stress problems can be controlled provided certain precautions are taken. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Sports Medicine, heat related illnesses are all preventable. (Sports Medicine: Health Care for Young Athletes, American Academy of Pediatrics, 1991). The following practices and precautions are recommended.

1. Each athlete should have a physical examination with a medical history when first entering a program and an annual health history update. History of previous heat illness and type of training activities before organized practice begins should be included. State High School Associations recommendations should be followed.

2. It is clear that top physical performance can only be achieved by an athlete who is in top physical condition. Lack of physical fitness impairs the performance of an athlete who participates in high temperatures. Coaches should know the **Physical Condition** of their athletes and set practice schedules accordingly.
3. Along with physical conditioning the factor of acclimatization to heat is important. Acclimatization is the process of becoming adjusted to heat and it is essential to provide for **Gradual Acclimation to Hot Weather Activities**. It is necessary for an athlete to exercise in the heat if he/she is to become acclimatized to it. It is suggested that a graduated physical conditioning program be used and that 80% acclimatization can be expected to occur after the first 7-10 days. Final stages of acclimatization to heat are marked by increased sweating and reduced salt concentration in the sweat.
4. The old idea that water should be withheld from athletes during workouts has **NO SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATION**. The most important safeguard to the health of the athlete is the replacement of water. Water must be on the field and readily available to the athlete at all times. It is recommended that a minimum of 10 minutes water break be scheduled for every half-hour of heavy exercise in the heat. Athletes should rest in a shaded area during the break. **WATER SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IN UNLIMITED QUANTITIES**. Check and be sure athletes are drinking the water. Cold water is preferable. Taking ample water before practice or games has also been found to aid performance in the heat.
5. Salt should be replaced daily. Modest salting of foods after practice or games will accomplish this purpose. Salt tablets are not recommended. **ATTENTION MUST BE DIRECTED TO REPLACING WATER -- FLUID REPLACEMENT IS ESSENTIAL**.
6. Know both the Temperature and Humidity. The greater the humidity the more difficult it is for the body to cool itself. Test the air prior to practice or game using a wet bulb, globe, temperature index (WBGT index) which is based on the combined effects of air temperature, relative humidity, radiant heat and air movement. The following precautions are recommended when using the WBGT Index: (ACSM's Guidelines for the Team Physician, 1991)
 - Below 64 - Unlimited activity
 - 65-72 - Moderate risk
 - 74-82 - High Risk
 - 82 plus - Very high risk

There is also a weather guide for activities that last 30 minutes or more (Fox and Mathews, 1981) which involves knowing the relative humidity and air temperature:

AIR TEMP	DANGER ZONE	CRITICAL ZONE
70 F	80% RH	100% RH
75 F	70% RH	100% RH
80 F	50% RH	80% RH
85 F	40% RH	68% RH
90 F	30% RH	55% RH
95 F	20% RH	40% RH
100 F	10% RH	30% RH

RH = RELATIVE HUMIDITY

One other method of measuring the relative humidity is the use of a sling psychrometer, which measures wet bulb temperature. The wet bulb temperature should be measured prior to practice and the intensity and duration of practice adjusted accordingly. Recommendations are as follows:

Under 60 F	Safe but always observe athletes
61-65 F	Observe players carefully
66-70 F	Caution
71-75 F	Shorter practice sessions and more frequent water and rest breaks
75+ F	Danger level and extreme caution

7. Cooling by evaporation is proportional to the area of skin exposed. In extremely hot and humid weather reduce the amount of clothing covering the body as much as possible. Never Use Rubberized Clothing.

Equipment/Safety Information

Headgear

There are many questions regarding whether or not certain headgear (e.g., Full90) is permissible for field players. NFHS 4-2-1 (f) indicates that types of equipment which are illegal include helmets, hats, caps, or visors. So as a general rule, protective headgear is illegal for field players. However, if in the opinion of the official, a headband is made of soft material that is soft in its final form and does not contain any hard and unyielding materials it may be deemed legal.

Please note, the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee has concluded that, "While padded headbands may assist in reducing the incidence of abrasions, the risk of concussions and other serious head injuries will remain a concern in the sport of soccer. A head band is not a substitute for an appropriate post-injury recuperative period."

Protective Facemasks

RULE 4.2.8: "A protective face mask may be worn by a player with a facial injury. The mask may be made of a hard material, but must be worn molded to the face with no protrusions. A medical release for the injured player signed by a physician (MD/DO) shall be available at the game site."

NFHS Soccer Rules Committee Rationale: "Permits participation by an injured player when a doctor signs a release. Masks protect the player and do not pose a threat to other players."

2006-2007 NFHS Comments on the Rules: "Prior to this rule [i.e., NFHS 4.2.8], face protection of any kind was declared illegal. Manufacturers have now developed protection for the face that is safe to the player wearing it and to other players. The committee is concerned that players would play without protection, putting them at serious risk. This new rule allows players to play as long as they have a medical release from a physician (MD/DO). Officials still have the authority to declare any equipment illegal if it is dangerous or confusing."

NFHS Press Release, February 2, 2006: "Rule 4-2-8 was added so that players who have incurred facial injuries can continue to play without fear of re-injury. This rule was made possible as a result of new technology in protective face masks. 'The new masks are molded to the face with no protrusions, providing no additional risks to the player or opponents, and are legal with appropriate medical sign-offs,' said Bob Lombardi, chair of the NFHS Soccer Rules Committee and associate executive director of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association. According to Lombardi, this new rule will also prevent players with facial injuries from continuing to play with no protection."

Shinguards

All players are required to wear shinguards with the NOCSAE seal of approval.

- Those shinguards need NOT have the NFHS seal on them. **These shinguards must also contain a height maximum or height range.**
- Shinguards with BOTH the NOCSAE and NFHS seals are legal for play, as long as they also contain a height maximum or height range.
- Shinguards with ONLY the NFHS seal are not legal beginning this season (Fall 2009).

The Ohio High School Athletic Association's "8-Inch Rule" for shinguards has been superseded by the NOCSAE seal requirement and will no longer be enforced. There is no longer any "8-Inch Rule" for Ohio high school soccer. Referees will only enforce the NOCSAE seal **and height maximum or height range requirement.**

Official Specific Information



Uniform Information



The OHSAA soccer officials uniform is the gold/black pinstriped jersey, either long or short sleeved, with all game officials wearing the same jersey. Black shorts, socks and shoes are required. Officials may wear either the red/black pinstriped jersey or black/white pinstriped jersey when they determine the gold does not contrast with a team's uniform. The OHSAA officials patch shall be worn on the left breast pocket. Jewelry may not be worn except for a medical ID, wedding band and watch. The USSF logo is permissible on a shirt as long as the OHSAA patch is worn on the left breast pocket. If you would like to order additional patches, contact Connie Scherpf (cscherpf@ohsaa.org).

Penalty - Fine not to exceed \$100.

Fines will continue to be assessed for those not wearing the proper uniform.

HOW THE NEW USSF UNIFORM AFFECTS YOUR OHSAA UNIFORM

As you know, USSF recently adopted a newly designed shirt with broader stripes. Here is the OHSAA position:

1. The gold shirt is still the primary shirt, with the red and black shirts as the ONLY approved alternate shirts. There is no order of preference for red or black if an alternate shirt must be worn due to color conflict with either or both teams.
2. Officials need NOT buy the blue or the green shirts. They are NOT recognized by OHSAA as approved alternate shirts and may not be worn.
3. Because the primary shirt supplier, Official Sports International, no longer makes the pinstriped shirt, only the new, more broadly striped shirt will be available for purchase from that supplier. We understand that other suppliers still sell the pinstriped shirt.
4. Officials who wear either the pinstriped shirt or the new, broadly striped shirt will be considered in proper uniform. There is no need for officials to purchase the new, broadly striped shirts, UNLESS THEY CHOOSE TO DO SO. Bottom line, buy the new, broadly striped shirts if you wish, but you are not required to do so by the OHSAA.
5. Officiating crews wearing a mixture of pinstripes and broad stripes will be considered properly uniformed. CREWS' SHIRTS NEED NOT BE ALL PINSTRIPES OR ALL BROAD STRIPES.

We sincerely hope that this resolves any ambiguity occasioned by USSF's recent adoption of the broadly-striped shirt and the green alternate shirt.

You are asked to please contact Don Muenz, OHSAA Rules Interpreter with any questions via email at butsir@columbus.rr.com.

Pre-Match Conference

Regular Season

- Coaches are guaranteed a minimum of 20 minutes of uninterrupted warm-up time
- Pre-match sportsmanship conference takes place 10 minutes prior to kickoff (captains and head coaches remain for the coin toss)
- Beginning with the 2008 season, only captains and coaches are required to attend the pre-match sportsmanship conference, NF 5.2.2(d)(2).

Tournament

- Refer to tournament regulations for information regarding timing during tournament play.

Tournament Selection Process

Tournament selection and contracting is done through the *myOHSAA* management system. It is utilized to capture and certify the availability and eligibility of OHSAA tournament eligible officials in ALL sports. All officials who are tournament eligible are sent an email with step-by-step instructions on how to access and complete the OHSAA tournament application. Applications **must** be completed in *myOHSAA* by the posted deadline and officials will receive this notification approximately 14-20 days prior to the application deadline.

Contracts for tournament contests are issued electronically through the *myOHSAA* system. District Athletic Boards are given the responsibility of assignment of officials at the Sectional/District level; the OHSAA office is responsible for Regional and State assignments.

Being an OHSAA tournament ELIGIBLE official is **not a guarantee** of an OHSAA Tournament assignment.

Weather Related Issues/Policies

Hot, Humid Weather Break: On hot, humid days, the referee may stop play for a water break. Note: This is usually done at a stoppage midway through each half. The referee should inform the teams of the water break stoppages prior to the match, to avoid any misunderstandings.

Lightning & Inclement Weather Policy

The Lightning & Inclement Weather Policy is NEW for 2009! Current policy reads:

WEATHER

Recognition:

Coaches, athletic trainers, athletes, administrators and contest officials should be educated regarding the signs indicating thunderstorm development. Since the average distance between successive lightening flashes is approximately two to three miles ANYTIME that lightning can be seen or heard, the risk is already present. Weather can be monitored using the following methods:

- **Monitor Weather Patterns** – Be aware of potential thunderstorms by monitoring local weather forecasts the day before and morning of the competition, and by scanning the sky for signs of potential thunderstorm activity.

- **National Weather Service** – Weather can also be monitored using small, portable weather radios from the NWS. The NWS uses a system of severe storm watches and warnings watch indicates conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in an area; a warning indicates severe weather has been reported in an area, and everyone should take proper precautions. Any thunderstorm poses a risk of injury or death even if it does not meet the criteria for severe weather. Therefore, anytime thunderstorms are in the forecast (even if it is only a 20 percent chance), event organizers should be at a heightened level of awareness to the potential danger of lightning.

Management:

- **Evacuation-** If lightening is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators should evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced and displayed on placards at all athletic venues.
- **Thirty-minute rule-** Competition or practice should be suspended once lightning has been recognized or thunder is heard. It is recommended to wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard prior to resuming practice or competition. Given the average rates of thunderstorm travel, the storm should move 10-12 miles away from the area. This significantly reduces the risk of local lightning flashes. **Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count shall reset the clock, and Another count shall begin.**



Game Management

The Information below is **also** provided to Athletic Administrators and Coaches relative to game management.

Placement of Teams: The Board of Directors strongly recommends that when possible, team benches be placed on opposite sides of the field. This will be at the direction of the home Athletic Department. When teams are placed on opposite sides of the field, the team area shall extend 10 yards from the halfway line on each side of the field of play. The home team shall supply a person who is situated at a table at the halfway line on each side of the field to signal substitutions. If time is kept at field level, the official time shall be kept on the home side.

Officials to Leave Immediately at End of Match: All contest officials are to leave the field immediately at the conclusion of the match. Supervision of all post-match activities of any nature is not the responsibility of the match officials. Supervision of all post-match activities is the responsibility of the authorized institutional representatives of the participating schools.

Administrator at Varsity Matches: The Board of Directors **strongly** recommends that a school administrator be present at all varsity boys' and girls' soccer matches.

Signals

Signals are required. They are an important way to communicate with the players, coaches, and fans. Your signals let them know what is going on with the game. They can be found on the NFHS website (www.nfhs.org) and in the soccer rules book on pages 104-105.

Use signals.....they are not optional.

State and Local Meetings

State Rules Interpretation meetings are listed on page 5 of this manual. Additionally, OHSAA Local Association Meetings are available at on the web at www.ohsaa.org. Under "Officiating" select "Local/State Rules Meetings" then "Local Rules Meetings" and on the left side, select "Soccer".



Ejection Protocol

Unfortunately, the number of ejections of players and coaches is rising across the state. The increase is seen primarily at the junior high, freshmen, junior varsity and assistant coaching levels. Please remember that coaches are role models for our student-athletes and behaviors of student-athletes model that of the people the people that play an important part in their lives. Coaches should be models for that behavior. I strongly encourage all head coaches to do their part to reduce a disturbing trend and educate and work with assistant coaches on identifying acceptable behaviors. Together we will continue to strengthen the great sport of soccer.

General Ejection Procedures

- OHSAA does not require an Official Report for a double yellow card disqualification, i.e., for a subsequent caution for a player, NF 12.8.2(b), or for a coach or bench personnel, NF 12.8.3(c).
- Reporting procedures are unchanged for a straight red card, NF 12.8.3(a), -(b), -(d), -(e), -(f), -(g) and -(h) and for a red/yellow disqualification for focusing attention on oneself/preventing a timely restart after a goal (NF 12-8-2(a)).
- Per OHSAA Bylaw 4.5.4, any student ejected or disqualified from a match must immediately be placed under direct supervision of a school official. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of such players.

Specific Card Procedures

Straight RED CARD

- Given to player, coach or bench personnel under NF 12-8-3(a), -(b), -(d), -(e), -(f), -(g) or -(h), OHSAA Tobacco Regulation for tobacco use, or to a player under OHSAA Soccer Regulation 10.A.1.1 for playing more than three halves in one day or more than 38 halves in one season. NOTE: NF 12.8.3(c) is NOT a straight red card offense for a coach or bench personnel. It is a double yellow or subsequent caution for coach or bench personnel and is discussed in a separate section below.
- A red card only is displayed.
- File an Official Report and follow the Ejection Protocol. Go to <http://www.ohsaa.org/officials/sptsmnshp/ejections.htm> from the Officials' Home page.
- The disqualified individual is also prohibited from playing, coaching or participating in any match for the rest of the day on which he/she is disqualified.
- The disqualified person is suspended for at least two matches at the same level as the disqualification. A player, coach or bench personnel disqualified with a straight red card is "ejected" for purposes of OHSAA Soccer Regulations.
- Number of players on the field is reduced for a straight red card given to a player.

RED/YELLOW CARD for focusing attention on oneself/preventing timely restart after a goal

- Given to player under NF 12-8-2(a) for focusing attention on oneself / preventing a timely restart after a goal. This misconduct and only be committed by a player after a goal.
- Exactly same prohibition against playing on the same day, same two-match suspension and same Official Report Requirements as for the Straight Red Card listed above.
- A player disqualified under NF 12.8.2(a) is considered "ejected" for purposes of OHSAA Regulations.
- Both the red and yellow cards are displayed in the same hand at the same time.
- Number of players on the field shall not be reduced.

RED/YELLOW CARD---the *SUBSEQUENT CAUTION* or “*DOUBLE YELLOW*” for Players

- Given to a player for a second yellow-card offense in the same match, under NF 12-8-2(b).
- The disqualified player is prohibited from participation in the remainder of the match.
- The disqualified player can play in OTHER matches on the same day.
- The disqualified player is not subject to any additional suspension.
- A player disqualified under NF 12.8.2(b) is NOT considered “ejected” for purposes of OHSAA Regulations.
- Both the red and yellow cards are displayed in the same hand at the same time.
- An official report is not required.
- The school does not need to be notified.
- Number of players on the field shall not be reduced.
- In a nutshell: For a Subsequent Caution or “Double Yellow-Card” Disqualification for a player, the total penalty for the disqualified player is limited to sitting out the remainder of the match in which disqualified.

RED/YELLOW CARD—the *SUBSEQUENT CAUTION* or “*DOUBLE YELLOW*” for Coach or Bench Personnel

- Given to a coach or bench personnel for a second yellow-card offense in the same match, under NF 12-8-3(c).
- The disqualified coach or bench personnel are prohibited from participation in the remainder of the match.
- The disqualified coach or bench personnel may participate in OTHER matches on the same day.
- The disqualified coach or bench personnel are not subject to any additional suspension.
- The yellow card is first displayed and returned to the pocket. The red card is then displayed and returned to the pocket. Though the mechanics are different for card display, this is STILL A DOUBLE YELLOW OR SUBSEQUENT CAUTION OFFENSE FOR THE COACH OR BENCH PERSONNEL. No suspension beyond the match wherein disqualified, is required. Coach or bench personnel disqualified under NF 12.8.3(c), is NOT considered “ejected” for purposes of OHSAA Regulations.
- An official report is not required.
- The school does not need to be notified.
- Number of players on the field shall not be reduced.
-

In a nutshell: For a Subsequent Caution or “Double Yellow-Card” Disqualification for a coach or bench personnel: the total penalty for the disqualified player is limited to sitting out the remainder of the match in which disqualified.

In the event of **any player or coach ejection**, the proper form **MUST** be filed with the OHSAA and the Athletic Administrator or Principal of the school **must be notified within 24 hours**.

Additionally for COACH EJECTIONS:

General Sports’ Regulation 10.2 (passed by the OHSAA’s Board of Directors in 2008) requires any coach ejected from a contest (paid OR volunteer) to complete the Fundamentals of Coaching course through the NFHS and submit payment of a \$100.00 fine within 30 days of the ejection.



Officials' Code of Ethics

(From www.ohsaa.org and the OHSAA Handbook for Officials)

Our member schools have entrusted officials to assist them in the education and development of their youth through athletics. This requires officials to be independent, impartial, and responsible to the people they serve. In recognition of these expectations there is an established **Code of Ethics** and **Code of Conduct** for all officials. The purpose of the code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all officials.

An Official must devote time, thought and study to the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to carry out these rules so that one may render effective and credible service in a fair and unbiased manner.

An Official must work with fellow officials and the state association in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during debate of points or rules at issue.

An Official must resist every temptation and outside pressure to use one's position as an official to benefit oneself. Under all circumstances, officials must avoid promoting the special interest of any person or group of persons other than the athletes we serve.

An Official must constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the avocation in all personal conduct and relations with the student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public, to be a worthy example to the athletes under one's jurisdiction.

An Official will be prepared both physically and mentally, dress accordingly to expectations and maintain a proper appearance that is befitting the importance of the game.

An Official shall avoid the use of **tobacco and related products** at the contest site.

An Official must remember and recognize that it is important to honor contracts regardless of possible inconvenience or financial loss.

Every member of the officiating profession carries a responsibility to act in a manner becoming a professional person. The conduct of any official influences the attitude of the public toward the profession in general as well as toward the official in particular.

Sports officials bear great responsibility for engendering public confidence in sports. They are critical to the health of athletic competitions. Officials ensure games are played fairly, by the rules, within the spirit of the rules and in a safe manner. Officiating takes a great deal of preparation, continuing education and commitment of time.

“Getting Along”

By Don Muenz,
OHSAA Rules Interpreter

“Ref, would you please explain that call?”

“Don’t talk to me, you’re not the captain!”

“But, Ma’m.”

“You’ve got the card.”

Sound familiar?

All too often it is. A referee who is her own worst enemy. We, as officials, all too often appear aloof, out of tune with the game or, worse yet, condescending or “above the game.” In other areas of life, we have all met such people. It is too often an unhappy experience.

To have credibility with players and coaches, we must be human, approachable. We begin to earn respect by being professional and adding that extra touch. Shake hands with each head coach, assistant coach and trainer. Engage them in a bit of small talk. Show you are interested in them. Be approachable. Some of the very worst match situations occur simply because a referee chooses to ignore a player or coach who asks a reasonable question in a civil way. Part of our job as referees is to listen to match participants. After all, we do expect them to listen to us.

When listening, do not interrupt. Besides being boorish, it defeats the very purpose of listening. Don’t allow your body language to defeat the listening by standing with arms folded across your chest or with hands on hips. Don’t look away from your speaker. Don’t stare the speaker down. Being confrontational while “listening,” defeats your purpose: defusing a potentially volatile situation through preventive officiating. Often, the mere act of listening is sufficient to defuse the situation. How often, in other facets of our lives, have we said to ourselves, “That person did not even listen to what I had to say?”

What is difficult for anyone to do, i.e., admitting a mistake to a player or coach, short-circuits potentially confrontational situations. Of course, you do not want to do this often.

When conducting the pre-match, set a positive tone. Recall one of your more enjoyable matches and indicate how good, hard, sporting play made that match so very enjoyable and how the players and coaches greatly contributed to the enjoyment of all participants. During play, verbally acknowledge good sportsmanship. If a player goes out of her way to avoid harmful physical contact, acknowledge that loudly enough for both teams to hear.

Think about it. This player has just saved you from dealing with a potentially dangerous and difficult misconduct situation. A few words of thanks shows an understanding of the game and earns the respect of the players. If a teammate causes a collision with another teammate, make sure to let them know, “Your number 13 back is going to have to be more careful or he will kill you next time. Do you feel well enough to continue?”

Helpful Hints for Officials

Never

1. Never be intimidated by a coach or spectator
2. Never argue with a coach or spectator
3. Never yell at or use foul language to a coach or spectator
4. Never confront a coach or spectator after a game
5. Never leave your bag by team benches
6. Never get close enough to coaches/spectators to be touched
7. Never deal with a spectator. That is the home team coach’s job
8. Never show a card to a coach or spectator
9. Never stand by an injured player after calling the coach on field
10. Never wait to stop play when and under 5-8 is injured

Always

1. Always be polite
2. Always write every bad word a coach or spectator says to you in your report
3. Always leave the field to write your report
4. Always get together with your assistants as quickly as possible after a game
5. Always keep the players in view when talking to the coach
6. Always be positive and helpful
7. Always protect your assistants
8. Always get a roster before the game
9. Always cover bench management in your pre-game
10. Always make sure spectator and coach restraining lines or field marshals are on the field.



2009-10 Rules Information

2009-10 NFHS Rules Changes

3-1-3 Each team shall submit a team roster, containing the names of all players, all bench personnel and all coaches, to the officials at least five minutes prior to the start of the contest. The game shall not begin until this is complete. Players, bench personnel and coaches may be added to the roster after the start of play.

4-1-1 Shinguards must meet the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) specifications. The NOCSAE seal and the appropriate height range of the player shall appear on the shinguard. Beginning with the 2012 fall season, the NOCSAE seal and height range shall be permanently marked on the front of the shinguard

4-2-1g Illegal equipment shall not be worn by any player. This applies to any equipment which, in the opinion of the referee, is dangerous or confusing. Types of equipment that are illegal include, but are not limited to, the following:

(g) ankle braces made of metal or unyielding materials, unless covered by a stocking or other suitable material. Ankle braces not made of metal or unyielding material may be worn outside a stocking.

5-1-3a The officials shall be dressed alike in the uniforms primarily consisting of:

(a) a shirt approved by the state association; in the event of a color conflict between the officials and the field players of either team, the officials shall change to a jersey of a color distinct from the field players of both teams.

Comments on Rule Changes

3-1-3: Coaches are usually very busy with other matters just prior to the start of each game and may delegate this task to a team manager, assistant coach, or even a student or player.

4-1-1: This assists with the enforcement of this risk minimization rule and stays consistent with the spirit of the rule. This standardizes the way the shinguards are marked.

4-2-1g: The current rule allows wearing of ankle braces but requires that they be worn under stockings or other suitable material. However, many ankle braces are designed to be worn over the stocking.

5-1-3a: This amendment would permit the referee to wear the primary shirt.

2009-10 NFHS Editorial Changes

- 3-2-1b** taking the kickoff (5-2-2d 3)
- 3-3-2e 2** If the removed player is being replaced during a penalty kick situation, the substitute may not take the penalty kick
- 3-3-2 Situation K Comment** An injured player leaving the field under his/her own power would not be considered a violation of 12-8-1a
- 4-1-1i 2** The jersey of the goalkeeper shall be distinctly different from that of any teammate or opponent, except the other goalkeeper. The shorts and stockings of the goalkeeper are not required to be the same color as his/her teammates.
- 4-3 Situation A** Prior to the start of the contest, the referee meets with the team's head coaches and captains and after reciting a sportsmanship message asks both head coaches if their teams are properly and legally equipped according to NFHS Soccer Rules. Each coach answers in the affirmative. (a) After the contest has started, Player A is noticed to have a shinguard that has the NOCSAE seal indicating that the shinguard is undersized for the player's height; (b) after the second half starts, Player A is noticed to be wearing illegal jewelry; (c) during the course of play, a knee brace is dislodged by a collision between two players. **RULING:** In (a) and (b), if it is the first offense, the player is sent off the field and the coach of Team A is cautioned for the team not being legally equipped. If it is the second offense, the player is cautioned. In (c), player is not cautioned, leaves the field and may re-enter after reporting to an official, who shall be satisfied that the knee brace is now in order.
- 5-2-3a** assist the head referee or center referee in inspecting the game balls and field of play;
- 8-1-3** The ball shall be kicked while it is stationary on the ground in the center of the field of play. A goal may be scored directly from the kickoff. The ball is in play when it moves forward. If the kickoff is taken improperly, it must be retaken.
- 9-2-2** (Also see 9-3)
- 10-1-3** d. goal kick into a team's own goal
e. corner kick into a team's own goal
- 12-1-1** A player shall not kick, attempt to kick, strike, attempt to strike, spit at, or jump at an opponent.
- 12-1-3 Situation** (See definition of SLIDING TACKLE in 18-1-1)
- 12-8-3 Situation C** A person within Team A's team area spits at the referee. **RULING:** Situation C The person, if identifiable, is disqualified. If not identifiable, the coach is disqualified (12-8-4b).
- 13-2-1** Direct free kicks are awarded and taken from the point of the infraction: (Except as in 13-1-3 and 14-1-1)
- 13-2-1d, e, f** d. if a player, other than the goalkeeper in his/her own penalty area, deliberately handles the ball (12-2);
e. if a player pushes an opponent with the hand(s) or arm(s) extended from the body (12-3);
f. if a player holds an opponent (12-3);
- 13-2-1g** If a player charges an opponent in a dangerous or reckless manner or using excessive force (12-4-1);
- 13-2-2** Indirect free kicks are awarded and taken from the point of the infraction (except as in 13-1-3 and 13-1-4);

- 13-2-2i, j, k
- i. If the goalkeeper touches the ball again with his/her hands before it has been touched or played by another player (12-7-1);
 - j. If the goalkeeper touches the ball with his/her hands after it is deliberately kicked by a player to his/her own goalkeeper (12-7-3);
 - k. If the goalkeeper touches the ball with his/her hands when receiving it directly from a throw-in by a teammate (12-7-4);

13-3-1 Players opposing the kicker shall be at least 10 yards from the ball until it is kicked, unless they are standing on their own goal line between the goal posts. If the free kick is awarded to the defending team in its penalty area, players opposing the kicker shall be outside the penalty area at least 10 yards from the ball and must remain there until the ball clears the penalty area.

14-1-2,3
Penalty Encroachment by the defending team is not penalized if the goal is scored. If a goal is not scored on the penalty kick, it is retaken. If there is an infringement by the attacking team and the ball enters the goal, the goal does not count and the kick shall be retaken. If there is an infringement by the attacking team and the ball does not go into the goal, there is no re-kick. If the ball rebounds into play or is deflected out of bounds by the goalkeeper, the game shall be stopped and restarted with an indirect free kick for the defending team at the spot of the foul. If the ball is saved and held by the goalkeeper, play shall continue. In cases where players from both teams are guilty of infringements, the kick shall be retaken regardless of the outcome of the kick.

Sample Tournament Progression, B-2a

a. Any player, including the goalkeeper, who is disqualified may not participate any further. If his/her kick is not already completed, an eligible substitute is permitted. Dual-Officiating System, Pregame Conference, Paragraph 2, Last Sentence The head referee will speak with both team captains and coaches prior to the game about good sportsmanship.

Diagonal-Officiating System, Paragraph 2, Last Sentence

Referee will speak with both team captains and coaches prior to the game about good sportsmanship.

Rules Comparison

The 2009-10 rules book contains an updated comparison of the the major differences among NFHS and NCAA rules and FIFA laws

2009-10 Points of Emphasis

Unconscious Player

If the player is determined to be unconscious or apparently unconscious by game officials the player cannot return to the game until written authorization by a physician is presented.

Ankle Braces

Technological advances in "joint" braces have made them safer over the past decade. A player may wear an ankle brace over the sock providing there is no exposed metal or unyielding material.

Shinguard Replacement

Shinguards need to be placed no higher than 2 inches above the ankle for safety purposes.

NFHS Code of Ethics

Coaches and officials should read the NFHS Code of Ethics and Incorporate them into their game preparations.

NFHS Soccer Signals

Officials in the course of enforcing the rules of play need to properly and consistently use the NFHS Official Soccer Signals.

Ball Holders

At least two ball holders should be provided by the home team to prevent delays. Ball holders are under the direct supervision of the official(s).

Team Areas

The team areas shall be at least 10 feet from the touchline and extend 10 yards on each side of the halfway line, for a distance of 20 yards. When placed on opposite sides, each team area shall be placed diagonally across from each other.

1. Unconscious Player

OHSAA State Association Adoptions

The National Federation has identified the following items (page 67 of the NFHS rules book) that may or may not be adopted by each state association. The OHSAA adoptions are indicated as such:

1. Players may wear caps in inclement weather (NFHS 4-2-1f exception 3) – **Adopted in Ohio**
Players may wear soft and yielding caps in inclement weather. Caps must be alike in color.
2. Artificial limbs (NFHS 4-2-5) – **Adopted in Ohio**
The coach or athletic administrator must request permission in writing from the OHSAA in order to secure permission for the prostheses to be worn during play. Photos of the prostheses in place on the individual must accompany the written request. Once it has been determined that the prostheses meets the guidelines in NFHS 4-2-5, written permission will be provided. No student may play with an artificial limb until such permission has been granted.
3. Systems of Officiating (NFHS 5-1-1) – **Adopted in Ohio**
The officials shall be a head referee and a referee, a single referee and two assistant referees, or a center referee and two side referees assisted by a timer, scorer and at least two ball holders. Competing schools may select one of the above systems by mutual agreement.
4. Officials Shirt Color (NFHS 5-1-3) – **Adopted in Ohio**
The officiating uniform for soccer officials is provided in the OHSAA Handbook for Officials, on our website (www.ohsaa.org) and within this manual. The uniform indicated shall be worn in all OHSAA games, regular season and the entire post-season tournament. **Please see "How the New USSF Uniform Affects Your OHSAA Uniform", above.**
5. Time kept on field (NFHS 6-2-1) – **Adopted in Ohio** (in part)

The home school timer shall be the official timer. However, the head referee is permitted, at his / her discretion, to take the clock onto the field when the timer has failed in his / her duty so many times as to imperil match control.

6. Score kept by referee (NFHS 6-3-1) – **NOT Adopted in Ohio**

7. Reserve official as scorer (NFHS 6-3-3) – **NOT Adopted in Ohio**

Refer to OHSAA tournament regulations for additional information regarding use of reserve officials during tournament play.

8. Four equal quarters rather than halves (NFHS 7-1-1) – **NOT adopted in Ohio**

9. Shortened periods (NFHS 7-1-2) – **NOT Adopted in Ohio**

10. Suspended games (NFHS 7-1-3) – **Adopted in Ohio**

In the event a game must be suspended because of conditions which make it impossible to continue play, the head referee shall declare it an official game if one complete half or more of the game has been played. Per OHSAA Board adopted policy, if less than one half has been completed, the game may be restarted from the point of suspension of play.

Tournament games interrupted because of events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be continued from the point of suspension. Any ejected player or coach cannot participate in the resumed game. Teams playing short will continue to play short. NFHS 7-1-3 is not in effect for tournament games.

11. Goal differential (NFHS 7-1-5) – **NOT adopted in Ohio**

12. Regular Season Overtime procedure (NFHS 7-3-1) – **NOT adopted in Ohio**

NFHS 7-3-1 refers to overtime procedures during regular season play. No overtime procedures will be conducted during regular season play in Ohio.

13. Disqualified player barred from competition (NFHS 12-8-5 Note) – **Adopted in Ohio**

Refer to OHSAA Soccer Regulations for specific penalties for disqualified or ejected players and / or coaches.

14. Tournament progression – **Adopted in Ohio**

Please refer to "Game Procedures: Tournament Overtime Procedures", above.

Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship is EVERYONE'S Responsibility!

NFHS Sportsmanship Mission Statement

Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation of State High School Associations as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all activity disciplines. Individuals, regardless of their role in activities, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship.

The OHSAA & Sportsmanship

As we prepare for the upcoming seasons, the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) wishes to emphasize to each of you the importance of your leadership role in the promotion of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. The professional manner in which officials and coaches conduct themselves prior to, during and following a contest unquestionably impacts the behavior of others who may be involved.

The OHSAA has joined the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) in its quest to improve sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. We are involved in an ongoing campaign in every sport to do just that. Printed below is the mission statement of the NFHS concerning sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity. Please take the time to read and digest this statement and then carefully consider your impact upon students, officials, coaches, and fans. Thank you and have a great season!

The Ohio High School Athletic Association challenges all of us in the soccer community to take positive steps toward the goal of attaining the high ideal of good sportsmanship. It is the responsibility of each of us to serve as a positive role model and set high expectations for others.

Roxanne Price

Assistant Commissioner

ADMINISTRATORS

Athletic departments are comprehensive, pre-eminent teaching departments with a subject matter all their own: self-confidence, leadership, teamwork, discipline, perseverance, respect for others, strategic thinking, dedication, the importance of rules, and sportsmanship. These are true life lessons and participation in athletics provides another forum for learning. Coaches and Officials are responsible for promoting sportsmanship and positive behavior on the field. Administrators, we need your continued assistance in promoting sportsmanship and controlling fan behavior in the stands! Let the parents and fans know what you expect!

COACHES

Your athletes will demonstrate the attitudes and behaviors they have learned from you, either through direct instruction or through observation of your actions. ***Never underestimate the influence you have on your players!*** You must:

- Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Set a good example for players and spectators to follow.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will serve to create a positive impression of you and your team.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.

- Develop a program that rewards participants and spectators for displaying proper sportsmanship and enforces penalties on those who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.

It is difficult to develop a great finisher, a great centerback or a great goalkeeper. That is true. However, your greatest challenge is to develop mature young adults who will become great citizens and role models in your community.

OFFICIALS

Your job is not an easy one, but the official must be aware that they are an important component in the educational development of students. To carry out this responsibility, you must:

- Know the rules and mechanics of our sport and the philosophy behind them.
- Get fit and stay fit. An official with all of the rules and mechanics knowledge and people skills in the world does no good if he or she cannot physically keep up with play.
- Maintain professional and ethical relationships with athletic administrators, especially in the area of fulfilling game contracts.
- Work cooperatively with fellow officials during games and within the referees' association to improve members' performances.
- Maintain at all times and when interacting with all participants, an attitude of civility and professionalism.
- Practice effective preventive officiating as much as possible before, during, and after a match. The quiet word, proper signals, timely verbal instructions, a simple thank-you to a player for avoiding an unsporting act, and well-thought-out pre-game conferences with the teams and other game officials will result in an improvement of sportsmanship by eliminating the chance for things to go wrong.

STUDENT-ATHLETES

You serve as a role model for your younger siblings, young fans in the stands, your teammates, and your classmates. Set high expectations for everyone and help them follow-through! You must:

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and the community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with others. This will assist everyone in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
- Treat opponents as you would like to be treated.....with respect.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will serve to create a positive impression of you and your team.

CONCLUSION

Good sportsmanship is everyone's responsibility. It is the essence of interscholastic athletics. Remember...some may question an official's call or a coach's substitution, but no one can question the value of good sportsmanship.

Sportsmanship Online Resources

On our website (www.ohsaa.org – click on “Sportsmanship” on the right side of the screen) you will find **Fair Play Codes** for athletes, coaches, and fans, as well as additional information regarding **parents' role in interscholastic athletics**. The sportsmanship page also includes information about the Harold A. Meyer Sportsmanship Award and the Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award. Please feel free to contact us with any additional questions.

Speak with Courtesy

Act with Dignity

Play or Observe with Pride