GHSA

2016 Referee Soccer Rules Clinic

GHSA WEB SITE

- Important information at www.ghsa.net
- The “White Book” is on line
  * Constitution and By-laws
  * Sports Specific Procedures
  * Appendix B – Contest Brackets
  * Appendix F – Fine Schedule

GHSA WEB SITE

- Important information at www.ghsa.net
- Soccer Season Dates:
  * First Practice – January 18th
  * First Contest – February 8th
  * Complete Region/Area Soccer – April 23rd
  * State Playoffs – April 26th thru May 14th
POLICY & PROCEDURE

• **POST-SEASON COACHES/REFEREES MEETING** – They will be conducted as an “on-line” meeting and are mandatory for all schools competing in the State Tournament. Failure to complete this “on-line” meeting will result in a $100.00 fine to the guilty school(s). “Team Instructions” for school advancing to the State Tournament will be posted on the GHSA web site.
  
  • If a referee does not complete the “on-line” meeting, they will be ineligible to referee any post-season games.

• **EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN** – Each school shall have a written plan for practices and games (natural disasters, serious injuries, terroristic acts, etc.)

• **STATE TOURNAMENT GAMES** – All rounds through the semi-finals will be played at the “higher seed”, or designated “H” in the bracket. All championship finals will be played at a neutral site. Sites will be designated by the GHSA Executive Director.

• **EJECTIONS** - GHSA By-Law 2.72 (a) – Ejections are based on judgment calls by an official and are NOT reviewable or reversible. As such, once a player or coach has been ejected from a contest the ejection CANNOT be rescinded after the fact. Incidents that happen following the completion of the contest are the responsibility of “Game Management”, but should be reported to the GHSA Office on a “Game Report”.

• **COACHING** – An individual who is an active official, or officials’ assignor at the high school level, may not be a coach in the same sport.
POLICY & PROCEDURE

• APPROPRIATE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL – Officials may ask is an AHCP is at the site prior to the contest, but if an AHCP is not on-site a player may NOT return to the contest if sent off for concussion-like symptoms. An AHCP may include; licensed physician (MD/DO), nurse practitioner, physicians assistant, or certified athletic trainer.

• RULES INTERPRETATION – Tom Frazee is the GHSA Soccer Rules Interpreter, and represents the GHSA with the National Federation. For rules questions you may contact him at (tmfrazee43@gmail.com).

STATE TOURNAMENT DOUBLE HEADERS

When a school is hosting both boys’ and girls’ games . . .

• The host school must clear the double-headers through the tournament director (Michael Tomlich) and officials’ scheduling coordinator (Kay Argo).

• A revised financial agreement is in effect for a double header, and the form is available is the “Forms Book” or GHSA web site.

Sportsmanship

As NFHS has strongly recommended sportsmanship over the years, GHSA is requiring that sportsmanship be displayed throughout the contest, and recommends a formal acknowledgment of Sportsmanship at the beginning of the game to all players, coaches, and game officials.

After the game, the officials will leave the game site immediately and only the designated security should approach the game officials to escort them off the field. Any player, coach, or spectator approaching the officials after the game is not to be tolerated by GHSA.

Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship – Players, coaches, team officials and spectators MUST use appropriate language and refrain from insulting, offensive, and/or abusive language and gestures. These individuals shall be disqualified from the contest under NFHS Soccer Rule 12-8-2.
Caution or Yellow Card Offense

Rule 12 - Section 8 - Article 1c

c. – objecting by word or mouth or action to any decision given by an official (dissent);

Rule 12 – Section 8 - Article 1d

d. – any incidental use of vulgar or profane language

Caution or Disqualification Yellow/Red Card Offense

Rule 12 - Section 8 - Article 2b...Coaches responsibility:

b. – The coach may be cautioned or disqualified for team misconduct or bench misconduct that cannot be attributed to a specific individual.

Disqualification or Red Card Offenses

Rule 12 - Section 8 - Article 2b

b. Taunting - use of word or act to incite or degrade an opposing player, coach, referee or any other individual.

Rule 12 – Section 8 - Article 2f

f. – using insulting, offensive, or abusive language or gestures

GHSA White Book Guidance and Direction for Referees

The Contest Officials Handbook and Accountability Program is located on the GHSA website under Officials at http://www.ghsa.net/officials-uniforms

SOCCER
1. Shirt – Standard gold with black stripes or black with white stripes.
2. Trousers/Shorts – Solid black
3. Shoes – Predominantly Black with black laces
4. Socks – Standard black with white stripes (all crew members must match)
5. Equipment - Whistles (2), coin, yellow and red cards, pencil, scorecard, and timing device
**GHSA White Book Guidance and Direction for Referees**

NOTE: *Effective 2015-16

1. ALL GHSA contest officials game shirts will have the GHSA logo on the left chest (either dye-sublimated or embroidered), and a 2” X 3” American flag trimmed in gold on the left sleeve 2” above the sleeve hem. It is recommended that indoor sports use the dye-sublimated shirts.

2. Baseball and softball caps will have the letters GHSA embroidered on the front of the crown.

3. During the “Pink Week and Blue Week” of each season contest officials are permitted to wear pink or blue officiating shirts that correspond with the calendar designation for each with the GHSA logo on the left chest. This shirt is optional, but if worn by one it must be worn by all crew members.

4. Effective immediately contest officials shall NOT wear insignias, logos, or patches to indicate membership in any local association on any apparel. This includes official’s identification numbers.

5. If you have any questions regarding the “GHSA Uniform Standards” contact your respective sport liaison, or Ernie Yarbrough (GHSA Coordinator of Officiating).

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**LIGHTNING OCCURRENCE**

- Est. 25,000,000 cloud-to-ground flashes each year
- Min. 93 people killed, 300 injured annually
- 90 percent of those struck survive; majority suffer life-long severe injury

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**MINIMIZING THE RISK OF BEING STRUCK**

- Referees MUST protect the safety of the participants by stopping the game sooner
WHEN SHOULD I SEEK SAFE SHELTER?

• Lightning can strike from as much as 8 miles away from the storm cell
• Six miles is about the distance you are able to hear the thunder
• If you can hear the thunder, you are within striking distance of the storm!

WHAT THE REFEREE SHOULD DO

USE COMMON SENSE!

• All schools are required to have a working lightning detector at the field
• If the administrator tells you the game should be stopped, stop the game and seek shelter
• Resume play after 30 minutes since hearing the thunder or seeing flash of lightning

“30-30 RULE”

• When thunder is heard or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the leading edge of the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play for 30 minutes and take shelter immediately.
• Thirty-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.

“30-30 RULE”

• Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30-minute count will reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.
GHSA WHITEBOOK RULES

Games involving schools from different classifications:
- Up to two-hour cumulative delay may be used to complete the contest
- Contest cannot go past GHSA 11:30 p.m. curfew
- If the contest is terminated prior to the end of the 1st half, “no contest” is declared
- If the contest is terminated after the 1st half is completed, the score at that point is final

Games involving schools from the same classification:
- The two-hour time delay does not exist
- The 11:30 p.m. GHSA curfew is waived (NOT the local government curfew)
- School administrators may agree to terminate the game and resume play at the point of interruption
- The trailing team may choose not to resume play at a later date

NFHS Interpretation Policy

• Each state high school association adopting these NFHS soccer rules is the sole and exclusive source of binding rules interpretations for contests involving its member schools. Any person having questions about the interpretation of NFHS soccer rules should contact the soccer rules interpreter designated by his or her state high school association.

NFHS Interpretation Policy cont.

• The NFHS is the sole and exclusive source of interpretations of NFHS soccer rules. State rules interpreters may contact the NFHS for soccer rules interpretations. Soccer rules interpretations from other rule making bodies should not be considered.
If the game is stopped to issue a caution to or to disqualify bench personnel, any player who has already reported to be a substitute can enter the game.

Socks of goalkeeper must differ from opponents.

Be aware of Exertional Heatstroke (EHS) and take proper measures during games involving high temperatures.
FIGHTING/RECKLESS PLAY

Players, coaches and officials must work together to model and demonstrate sportsmanship and fair play, to minimize risk and to maximize participation.

TAPE OR SIMILAR MATERIALS ON SOCKS

If tape or a similar material is applied externally, it must be of similar color as the sock. Home team shall wear white (PlayPic A). Away team should have similar color, i.e. maroon could have red tape (PlayPic B).

COMMUNICATION

Game officials are encouraged to effectively communicate with other officials, players and coaches.

GOAL KICK

Players opposing the kicker shall remain outside the penalty area until the ball has cleared the penalty area.
NFHS Soccer
Major Editorial Changes

AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND PLAY
1.7 SITUATION B

The head referee has authority to suspend play.

REPLACEMENT OF GOALKEEPER
RULE 3-3-2(b)2

If the referee stops the clock for an apparent injury to a goalkeeper and/or a goalkeeper is attended to on the field (PlayPic A), the goalkeeper shall be replaced by a substitute or field player (PlayPic B).

DISQUALIFIED GOALKEEPER
DURING PENALTY KICK SITUATION
RULE 3-3-3(c)2

During a penalty kick situation, a disqualified goalkeeper’s (PlayPic A) replacement (PlayPic B) may not take the penalty kick.
BLEEDING AND OPEN WOUND
RULE 3-3-3(d)1

A player required to leave the field because of a communicable disease may be replaced from the bench.

UNIFORM
RULE 4-1-1(f)

Written state approval to wear an American flag (PlayPic A) is no longer needed. Approval is still needed to wear a commemorative patch (PlayPic B).

GOALKEEPER PANTS
RULE 4-1-1(h)2

Goalkeeper’s pants can have additions of numbers, names, patches and emblems of school logos.

STAYS AND STRAPS
4.1.1 SITUATION N

“Stays/straps” was added to the language of the rule to more clearly define what is used to keep player’s shin guards in place. “Stays/straps” must be similar to the color of the sock.
TOOTH/MOUTH PROTECTOR
RULE 4-2-7
Clarifies that a tooth and mouth protector is optional unless required by state adoption. States can deem them as required equipment.

PROTECTIVE FACE MASK
RULE 4-2-8
Removing “with no protrusion” from the rule clears the issue of the nose as a protrusion.

RULE OFFSIDE
11-1-3, 4
Player is offside and penalized if, at the time the ball touches or is played by a teammate, the player is involved in active play and interferes with play or with an opponent or seeks to gain an advantage by being in that position.

NFHS Soccer
Major Editorial Changes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.7 Situation B</td>
<td>During the course of a game, a downpour occurs. The head referee or center referee suspends the contest. <strong>RULING:</strong> Legal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-3-2(b)2</td>
<td>If the referee stops the clock for an apparent injury to a field player or goalkeeper, the field player or goalkeeper will have to leave the field. The field player may be replaced, and the goalkeeper shall be replaced by either a substitute or a field player.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-3-3(c)2</td>
<td>If a disqualified goalkeeper is being replaced during a penalty kick situation, the substitute may not take the penalty kick.</td>
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<td>3-3-3(d)1</td>
<td>An athlete who is bleeding, has an open wound, has any amount of blood on his/her uniform or has blood on his/her person shall be directed to leave the field until the bleeding has stopped, the wound is covered, the uniform and/or body is appropriately cleaned, and/or the uniform is changed before returning to competition. That player shall leave the field and may be replaced from the bench. RULING: Illegal, unless Player A2 has been disqualified under the provisions of 12-8 that do not permit a substitution and provided that the other prerequisites for proper substitution have been met.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.3.2 Situation E</td>
<td>Delete former 3.3.2 SITUATION E</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.3.3 Situation J</td>
<td>Player A2 is injured during the course of play but manages to hobble across the touchline to avoid disrupting play and to allow the game to continue. At the next stoppage in play (not necessarily a stoppage for which Team A would normally be permitted to substitute), the coach for Team A substitutes for Player A2 directly from the bench. RULING: Illegal, unless Player A2 has been disqualified under the provisions of 12-8 that do not permit a substitution and provided that the other prerequisites for proper substitution have been met.</td>
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<td>4-1-1(f)</td>
<td>One American flag, not to exceed 2 inches by 3 inches, may be worn or occupy space on each item of uniform apparel. By state association adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the jersey without compromising its integrity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-1-1(h)2</td>
<td>Only those names, patches, emblems, logos or insignias referencing the school are permitted on the team jersey and/or shorts as well as undergarments and goalkeeper pants, except as in 4-1-1(f). The player's name may also appear on the team uniform.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.1 Situation N</td>
<td>Player A enters the game wearing (a) white socks with white tape/stays/straps, (b) blue socks with blue tape/stays/straps, (c) red socks with black tape/stays/straps, (d) white socks with green tape/stays/straps. RULING: (a) legal, (b) legal, (c) illegal and (d) illegal.</td>
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<td>3.3.3 Situation K</td>
<td>Team A substitutes an unlimited number of players that reported prior to (a) a player caution, (b) an injured player is required to leave the field, (c) a player has blood on his/her uniform or (d) a bench personnel caution or disqualification. RULING: Legal in (a), (b), (c) and (d).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.3 Situations</td>
<td>Former Situation 3.3.2 A-L changed to 3.3.3 A-L and 3.3.3 Situation A-E changed to 3.3.3 Situation M-P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-1-1(b)</td>
<td>Both socks shall be the same color, with the home team wearing solid white socks and the visiting team wearing socks of a single dominant color, but not necessarily the color of the jersey. If tape or a similar material (stays/straps) is applied externally to the socks, it must be of similar color as that part of the sock to which it is applied.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-2-7</td>
<td>A tooth and mouth protector (intraoral), if worn, shall: a. include an occlusal (protecting and separating the biting surfaces) portion; b. include a labial (protecting the teeth and supporting structures) portion; c. cover the posterior teeth with adequate thickness; d. be made of any readily visible color; e. not be completely white; and f. not be completely clear. NOTES: 1. It is recommended that the protector be properly fitted, protecting the anterior (leading) dental arch and: a. constructed from a model made from an impression of the individual’s teeth, or b. constructed and fitted to the individual by impressing the teeth into the tooth and mouth protector itself. 2. State associations may deem a tooth and mouth protector required equipment.</td>
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</table>
A protective face mask may be worn by a player with a facial injury. The mask may be made of hard material, but must be worn molded to the face. A medical release for the injured player signed by an appropriate health-care professional shall be available at the game site.

It is not an offense in itself to be in an offside position.

Player is offside and penalized if, at the time the ball touches or is played by a teammate, the player is involved in active play and interferes with play or with an opponent or seeks to gain an advantage by being in that position.

Using tobacco products or electronic cigarettes at the game site during the period of the jurisdiction of the officials.

During the game, while the ball is in play, (a) Coach A talks on a cell phone, (b) Coach B records video using a tablet, (c) Player A1 wears an electronic heart monitor, (d) A2 wears a hearing aid, (e) Coach A communicated with player A3 using a wireless mic/headphone system. RULING: (a) Legal; (b) legal; (c) legal; (d) legal; and (e) illegal and coach is shown the yellow card for misconduct per 12-8-1(e).

The 2015-16 rules book contains an updated comparison of the major differences among NFHS and NCAA rules and FIFA laws.
**2015-16 NFHS Soccer Rules Book as eBooks**

- Electronic Versions of the NFHS Soccer Rules are now available for purchase as eBooks.
- Apple users can visit iTunes for available books.
- Apple, Android and Kindle users can buy eBooks from Amazon.com and view them through the Kindle app.
- Price: $5.99/each
- Visit [www.nfhs.org/ebooks](http://www.nfhs.org/ebooks) for more information.
Free Courses
Concussion in Sports – What You Need to Know
The Role of the Parent in Sports
Sportsmanship
A Guide to Acclimatization and Heat Illness Prevention

NFHS Officials Association Central hub
https://nfhs-soccer.arbitersports.com

Contains
- Sport information
- Rules information
- Rules library
- Searchable rules book
- Video content on officiating sport, competition situations and interpretations

2015-16 Soccer Rules Reminders

The deadline for submitting proposals is November 1

Electronic approval – no signature required!
Thank You!

www.nfhs.org