

Some follow up comments regarding the discussions at the October 10th meeting:

- When a player taking a PK starts his/her approach to the ball and does not kick the ball, they shall be cautioned and the kick is taken by another player. Rule 14, Art. 4 (page 70)
- If the player taking a PK starts his/her approach to the ball, stops their movement to the ball and then the kick goes into the goal, the goal shall be disallowed and the kick re-taken. This is an infringement by the attacking team. No caution is warranted.

MIAA Tournament – if you are eligible for the MIAA State Tournament games make sure you print out and read the entire section of rules for the tournament. The link to the rules is below:

http://www.miaa.net/gen/miaa_generated_bin/documents/basic_module/Soccerformat2018.pdf

If you are assigned a tournament game make sure you bring these rules to the game and have them with you on the sideline. You must know these rules inside and out. A two-official system is used up to the sectional semi-finals where it changes to a three-official system, similar to the USSF system. Most of the tournament games are played at night, crowds are larger and more vocal, and player and coaches are more on edge. Make sure everyone is clear on substitution protocol, on the tie-breaking procedures, and the importance of staying in the “team/bench” area. Many coaches and team tend to creep up on the touchline during the game, obstructing your view of the touchline and preventing you from making correct calls. Correct this situation early on in the game. Some other recommendations:

- Get to the field at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start time. Do not hang out near fans or the stands, meet your partner and enter the field together.
- Check in with the site administrator and identify the ball holders working the game. For games not played at a neutral site, the home team **MUST** provide ball holders for the match.

- Go over the tie-breaking procedures with each member of your crew before the game, identifying which official will administer the kicks from the penalty spot and which one will spot the keeper. Choose a goal for the PKs before the game.
- The MIAA wants officials to be consistent with what uniforms they wear during the tournament. Each crew should have the same color and same sleeve length for their jersey. Solid black shorts and solid black socks with three white stripes at the top (the Official Sports style with logo mid-leg is not allowed). Hats can be worn in extreme cold conditions (black only).
- Once the game has ended, handshakes have been made, and your responsibilities for officiating the game are complete, leave the venue immediately. Do not hang around to watch team celebrations or warm downs.
- Other notes from the MIAA regarding the tournament:
 - a) All boys' games must have a game manager provided by the home team.
 - b) For games played at neutral sites, the site director will assign ball persons. In the earlier rounds, the home team **MUST** supply ball persons. Do not start the game unless these individuals have been provided.
 - c) All teams must have rosters and there must be a game sheet.
 - d) Official time is kept on the field by the officials.
 - e) Timeouts – each team is allowed a one-minute timeout per half and each extended time period. Timeouts, if not used, are **NOT** cumulative. Timeouts cannot be granted during any set of overtime penalty kicks. If a time out is called during dead ball time to attend to an injured player: the injured player **MAY** re-enter the game after the time out. If a timeout is called during dead ball time to administer a caution to a player: the cautioned player **MAY NOT** re-enter the game after the time out. It must be at the next legal substitution opportunity after the game has been re-started. If a time out is called prior to penalty kick, the kicker **MUST** be someone who was on the field when the foul was called. It is best to identify the kicker prior to allowing the teams the time out.
 - f) Officials have the authority to determine what is “dangerous” on the playing field.
 - g) If the entire first half or more of a game is played, the game is considered official

- h) If the game continues to PKs, the officials choose which goal to use for the kicks.

Game Situations

- A keeper steps 10 feet outside of the box to intercept a cross and catches the ball. The official whistles for a direct free kick at the spot of the infraction. The keeper drops the ball and heads back to the goal. As this is happening, the coach for the kicking team tells his players to take a quick re-start. As the keeper and a defender are running back towards the goal the kick is taken and the defender (a field player) reaches up and swats the ball preventing it from going into the goal. The official whistles for a PK and shows the defender a red card. ***Correct action by the official??*** The team with a direct or indirect free kick has the option of re-starting play immediately or taking their time to set a more deliberate shot or set play. The official needs to be aware of the kicking team's intent to re-start quickly. So long as the official has not stopped play because of some issue (ball not stationary; players fighting over the ball; a defender standing over the ball delaying the game; marking off 10 yards at the request of an offensive player, etc...) the kicking team can get the ball into play as soon as they want. ***IMPORTANT: the official must be clear to everyone that he/she is stopping play. Raise your arm or whistle and say to the kicking team "on my whistle."***
- A cross comes into the box from the touchline and the defending keeper goes up to grab the ball. She comes down with the ball, bumps into an attacking player (no foul) and falls hard on the ground. Lying on the ground on top of the ball it appears she may be hurt. The official asks from several yards away if she is okay, she says yes, just had the wind knocked out. The official gestures with his arm for play to continue and says "let's play. As the keeper very slowly gets up, one of her teammates, a field player, takes the ball out of the keeper's arms, moves a few feet away and places the ball on the ground, still within the penalty area. The official whistles for handling and points to the spot for a PK. ***Correct action by the official??*** The correct protocol for determining whether a player has a minor or serious injury was followed. He

gave the player time to get up and respond to his question about whether she was okay to continue. He kept his distance from the injured player and also signaled for play to continue. The coach for the keeper's team went a bit crazy when the PK was called but a quick meeting with both coaches to explain what happened calmed things down.