

HANDLING

- Are the hands or arms in a natural position? Is the player making his body bigger or taking space by moving the arms?
- Are the hands or arms on the body? Are they against the body for protection?
- Was the movement of the hands or arms a “deliberate action”? Remember that it does not have to be a big action, it can be minor but enough to affect the play.
- Is a player making his body bigger by taking a risk in blocking a pass, cross or shot?
- And is the defender taking a risk by trying to block a pass, cross or shot?

Positioning for an official and angle of view on the play are two key things that help us make the correct call. Don't be satisfied with staying one spot. The game moves quickly so we need to be moving as well.

TIME MANAGEMENT

The game clock shall be stopped in the following situations:

- Following the scoring of a goal.
- The cautioning (yellow card) or disqualification (red card) of a player or coach.
- The awarding of a penalty kick.
- The injury of a player.
- When the referee orders the clock to be stopped for certain circumstances.

Proper signaling that the clock has been stopped is key for your partner and for players and coaches. The clock is then re-started when the ball has been properly put into play and NOT as soon as you blow the whistle.

Regarding an injury, you do not have to stop the clock when you see an injured player down. Assess the extent of the injury and then if medical attention is required stop the clock and beckon the trainer or coach on to the field. **IMPORTANT**: once this has been done, the injured player must leave the game and be substituted for. This goes for field players as well as goalkeepers. (Rule 3 Section 3.2 .b2)

SITUATIONS

- NFHS rules state that the HOME team SHALL supply ball holders and the VISITING team MAY provide ball holders. We should strongly request the home team provide them. If they do not and the visiting team does.... fine.
- **QUESTION**: If neither team provides ball holders what do you do?
- **ANSWER**: have the home team supply extra game balls at midfield and behind each goal. Ask the home coach before the start of the game to have someone responsible

for retrieving the balls at intervals throughout the game. If this is not done then the home team **MUST NOT** profit from their not fulfilling their responsibility.

Therefore, you should do the following:

- - - - Stop the game clock on all out of bounds (throw-ins, corner kicks, goal kicks) if the ball is not readily available. Do this **ONLY** if the visiting team is losing.

- - - - If the **HOME** team is losing just let the clock run while they chase the ball down.

PLEASE REPORT TO YOUR ASSIGNOR IF A COACH IS NOT BEING COOPERATIVE.

This is consistent with what other boards in the state have been doing about this issue for both varsity and JV games. We need to be consistent and start enforcing this action immediately. As the official timer for the game, an official has the discretion to stop the game clock for any number of reasons. Make sure you correctly signal that time has been stopped so your partner (who may be the bench side official) knows as well.

SITUATION:

During the taking of a penalty kick, a player from the kicking team enters the penalty area before the kick is taken. The kick enters the goal. The official waves off the goal and signals that the kick is to be re-taken. The offending player becomes upset, takes off his shirt and proceeds to walk off the field towards his bench. The official follows him to the bench and then proceeds show him a caution (yellow card). Should the official give the player a second yellow (and subsequent red) for leaving the field without permission?

ANSWER: No, the initial yellow card requires the player to leave the field anyways and be replaced. In this instance the player most likely was unaware that his violation required the kick to be re-taken.

SITUATION:

A player scores a goal and immediately races towards his bench and does a flip in the air in front of his team bench. Should this player be cautioned for excessive celebration?

ANSWER: No, the celebration is immediate and limited to the area in front of his team's bench. So long as the player did not leave the field, celebrate in front of the opponent's bench, or celebrate in a taunting manner then the flip can be allowed. The player's reaction was one of exuberance. It did not delay the game or aggravate the opponents. Allowing this is keeping with the spirit of the game.