

2017 MIAA Tournament Update

- The one rule change for soccer has to do with allowing games to continue if a coach is dismissed (red card disqualification). The game can continue only if:
 - 1) There is no significant delay in the resumption of the contest – three to five minutes maximum.
 - 2) There is an assistant coach to step in.
 - 3) If no assistant then there is a principal, assistant principal, or athletic director immediately available (see number 1).
- This rule change is now applicable to all games during the regular season and the criteria remains the same for both.
- All state finals will be held on Saturday, November 18th.

Team Properly & Legally Equipped

- A reminder that we all MUST be asking both coaches this before each game” Will your team be properly and legally equipped at kick off?” It is in the handbook (pg. 28) that the coach is to be responsible for ensuring that his/her players are properly and legally equipped. By asking the coach we are confirming that he/she is responsible. **MAKE SURE THIS IS PART OF EVERY PRE-GAME !!**
- Some coaches are thinking that they are entitled to some leeway if an illegally equipped player is discovered on the field during the game. (i.e. a warning) Not so... first instance is a yellow to the coach, second instance a yellow to the offending player. The coaches (and players) should have this down by now.

Captain’s Armbands

- These are armbands and must be worn on the arm and not the leg.

Jewelry and Adornments

- No jewelry or adornments are allowed. The exception is medical or religious and those must be taped to the body. No wristbands of ANY KIND.

Clock Management

- Be aware of when the game clock is required to be stopped:
 - after a goal is scored.
 - when a penalty kick is called.

- when an injured player requires medical attention.
- when a yellow or red card is issued.
- when a timeout is called.
- whenever an official uses their discretion to stop the game.
- Clock starts when the ball is in play, NOT when the whistle is blown to re-start play.
- Clock should be stopped for games of all levels, not just varsity.

Advantage and “Slowing” Your Whistle

- As was the case last year at this time I am hearing about officials not allowing play to continue when advantage should be applied. Players that had been fouled retained control of the ball and had clear paths towards the goal when officials whistled for the foul and brought the ball back for a free kick. Our instincts in a fast-paced game is to react immediately to fouls and blow our whistle. Instead, be patient, allow the play to develop and see if the attacking player makes it through the foul. Use both verbal and physical signals to allow a “play on” situation. However, you MUST make a signal of some sort. By not signaling “play on” players and coaches think you are allowing fouls to occur.

Incidental Foul Language

- have heard complaints from coaches about cautions being given for incidental foul language.....this means we are doing our job. Just because foul language is not directed at someone does not mean it is allowed (MIAA 78.2.2). Keep up the good work.

Field Issues

- continue to report any issues with fields, goals, ball holders or equipment/uniforms to your assignors. They are responsible for channeling all information to the Ads.