

## **2017 Regular Season Bulletin 1**

### **Pants and Knee Pads**

I am hearing about teams that are using long socks or compression pants to cover the knees. Remember, while the knees can be covered with socks or undergarments, they must also be padded/covered with **in-pant pads** to be in compliance with Rule 1-5-1c6e. Wrestling and volleyball knee pads may be used as supplemental pads but **these have to be covered by the pant**. Some players/teams wrap tape around the top of the in-pant knee pad to keep the pant from riding up. This is legal.

### **Protection of a Sliding Runner**

Oregon has adopted the philosophy that a sliding runner is down and the play ends when the sliding runner starts his slide. Defenseless player protection also attaches when a runner starts his slide. Rule 2-32-16f. Therefore, any resulting contact that is judged as excessive against a sliding runner will be penalized as a dead ball foul.

### **Timing Devices**

Cell phones, iPhones and mini-iPads **are not** approved devices for game and play clock timing.

### **Free-Kick Out-of-Bounds**

Question: B is penalized following a score by A. The 15-yard penalty moves the ball to R's 45-yard line for the free kick. The free kick goes out-of-bounds at R's 5-yard line. Do you place the ball at the 20-yard line (25 yards from the free kick line) or go half the distance and place at the 22.5-yard line? If it's always 25 yards from the free kick line, what happens if there isn't a spot in the field of play to place the ball 25 yards from the free kick line?

Answer: Your options are: 5-yard penalty and re-kick from R's 45 yard line, R's ball at the out-of-bounds spot, the 5-yard line, OR, R's ball, as you suggest, at the 20 yard line. This penalty is not a distance penalty, but, by rule, 25-yards from the previous spot. If there is no spot to place the ball 25 yards from K's free kick line, that option cannot be offered. Rule 6-1-9b and Penalty. Case Book play 6.1.9H.

### **Personal Foul vs. Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

A player was disqualified for his second Unsportsmanlike Conduct foul for shoving an opponent after the play. Two earlier shoving incidents involving other players were also recorded as Unsportsmanlike Conduct fouls.

Comment: The above action is a dead ball Personal Foul, not a foul for Unsportsmanlike Conduct. Please make sure you know the difference.

## **Remembering September 11th**

With the September 11th anniversary coming early next week, schools may have some special ceremonies and announcements. If the coin toss or either half kickoff is delayed a few minutes, go along with the program....be flexible, be respectful, be professional.

## **Mouthpieces....Again**

Several officials have noted what appeared to be an incomplete last sentence in the last Bulletin regarding mouthpieces. Let me clarify. If a player is using a mouthpiece which contains profane symbolism or a demeaning message, this shall be considered a flagrant act of Unsportsmanlike Conduct and will subject the player to immediate disqualification per Rule 9-8-1a.

Brad and I have received several reports of players wearing mouthpieces with fangs on them. Keep these reports coming; Brad will deal with the schools involved.

## **Momentum**

Play: Free kick to R1, where the receiver makes the catch and his momentum takes him into the end zone. The receiver brings the ball out of the end zone and is tackled at the R12.

Ruling: This play is not a touchback as the kick did not break the goal line plane. Momentum does not apply since the ball didn't become dead in the end zone. The result of the play is R's ball, 1/10 at the R-12 yard line. Please review Rule 8-5-2a Exception.

## **Training Video**

We'll start this season's training videos with a rules and mechanics video from South Dakota. Most of the information is pretty basic, but a good review as we start the season.

Here's the link: <https://youtu.be/N--K6fJ8WNc>