

2018 Pre-Season Bulletin 2

In the next two weeks prior to the start of the regular season, most teams will have scrimmages and/or jamborees with officials. Please take a few minutes and review the new rules for 2018, especially the new player equipment rules and the rules regarding modifications to the sub-varsity kicking game.

I'm sure the jamborees and scrimmages will produce questions and issues that Brad and myself would like to address prior to actual games being played. **Please call or email us with these questions.** Answers and interpretations will be communicated back to officials and schools ASAP in hopes of eliminating any confusion or mis-information before the season gets underway.

Sub-Varsity Rules Modifications

Question: In sub-varsity games where teams agree not to rush the punter, would it be a penalty if the punting team ran the ball? Or do you kill the play right away?

Answer: Per Brad Garrett. Shut the play down with no penalty when the offense starts to run or pass the ball. The ball is returned to the previous spot with the clock status reverting back to the previous play that was shut down. In other words, if the clock was running when Team A tried to run with or pass the ball, the game clock will start on the ready-for-play. If the game clock was stopped, it will start on the snap.

The offense gets to punt the ball in exchange for the defense not rushing. Likewise, the defense doesn't get to advance the ball; the ball becomes dead where caught.

Illegal Equipment

Regarding illegal cleats, the Oregon-only rule disqualifying a player who has illegal cleats supersedes the new 2018 NFHS rule that only requires a player with illegal equipment to leave the game for at least one play until his equipment can become legal. Remember, if more than one player is discovered to have illegal cleats, all offending players are disqualified, but the Head Coach is only charged with one UNS foul and only one distance penalty is enforced.

Calling Fouls

By saying the penalty out loud to yourself when throwing the flag, you gain the ability to remember the type of foul and the number of the fouling player and are thus better able to relay your penalty information to your crewmates and the Referee.

Encroachment-Free Kicks

On a "normal" free kick, it is an accepted practice to not flag a player who is slightly beyond his free-kick line at the kick. If a player's airborne foot breaks the plane of his free-kick line as the ball is kicked, let him get his foot down and continue his stride without penalty. Don't be too technical!

However, on an onside or short pooch kick, the free-kick line should be treated as a plane; it is a foul if a Team K player breaks the plane, since a big advantage can be gained.