

2018 Regular Season Bulletin 5

Penalty Enforcement:

Play: “After a TD, we had a dead-ball UNS foul on #3 of the defense followed by an UNS foul on #12 from the scoring team; both players using profanity directed at each other. On the try we first enforced half-the-distance against the defense, then came back the full 15 yards against the offense and completed the try.”

Ruling: INCORRECT enforcement. Rule 10-2-5b says these penalties offset. Absent any other penalties, the ball is snapped from team B’s 3-yard line for the try.

6 Player Football:

In a game played with 6 players, all players are eligible to catch a forward pass. Therefore, there can be no foul for an ineligible player going downfield. Rule 7e, page 89, NFHS Rules Book.

Play: QB takes the snap either from under the snapper or in a shotgun formation. He turns and passes (pitches) the ball backward to a teammate who then either runs or throws a forward pass.

Ruling: Legal play; a clear pass can be in any direction. The intent is for there to be a legal change of player possession before the ball is carried across the line of scrimmage. A handoff or a pass in any direction meets this requirement.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct by a Spectator:

A parent who was allowed on the field to see his injured son chose to verbally abuse a nearby official. The official flagged the team for UNS.

There are no provisions in the rules to call a foul on a team for the actions of a spectator. Under no circumstance should an official ever confront, challenge, rebuke, or threaten a spectator before, during, or after a contest. Addressing a spectator directly is a no-win situation. Don’t make any situation worse by engaging in a conversation with spectators. Spectator behavior is the responsibility of game administrators.

Kicker Protection:

The rules offer protection to a scrimmage kick kicker in the form of two fouls — roughing and running into the kicker. The punter’s non-kicking leg is vulnerable, whether or not it is planted on the ground. When the defender contacts that leg, roughing the kicker is the call. The lesser foul is usually appropriate for contact on the kicking leg, including when the defender rolls under the kicker. When in question, the foul is roughing, not for running into the kicker.

Most Missed Test Questions:

The top 3 missed questions by Oregon officials on the NFHS test are noted below.

“It is recommended that goal lines be marked in a color that contrasts with other field markings.” Correct answer is FALSE. Rule 1-2-3a recommends that lines be white. 30% missed.

“A back may not wear a jersey with a number 50 through 79.” Correct answer is FALSE. A back may be numbered 50-79, but if he is, he’s ineligible by number. Rule 7-5-6a. 30% missed.

“After a safety, unless moved by a penalty, R’s free-kick line is K’s 30-yard line.” Correct answer is TRUE. Free kick lines are always 10 yards apart. Rule 6-1-1. 28% missed.

End of the Play:

A runner is down when any part of his body other than a hand or foot touches the ground; the ankle or wrist are considered part of the foot or hand. A runner is not down if any part of his body touches another player (teammate or opponent) who is lying on the ground.

Forward Progress-QB Sack:

When the QB is taken backwards and sacked, there is often a substantial difference between the spot where he is first contacted by the defense and where he goes to the ground. In this case, forward progress is the spot where he was originally contacted by the defense, not the spot where he is tackled.

Training Video:

Another chapter from the 2018 LeMonnier training video has been posted to the Central Hub. I’m still looking for good local video to share with all Oregon football officials.