

**Time Outs, Quarter Changes, and Period Between PAT and Kickoff** – Keep the tempo high but relax if a team is requesting some additional time to complete their hydration with individual water bottles.  Players are required to have individual water bottles, so if players are observed having to leave the field to get their hydration, the flank officials should monitor and signal, or use their radios, to inform the referee of the need to hold up the ready for play.  Again, if not necessary, keep the game tempo high.  But be prepared to allow some extra time under the Covid Football Protocols.  Thank you for your patience and professionalism.

**Location of Chains** - The NFHS rules state the chains are to be opposite the press box.   There is nothing in any of our current protocols calling for the chains to be on the home side at this time.  The chain crew is a cohort separate from the two teams.  It is only a matter of choice that they would be assigned to the home team cohort of players.  State CIF sees no reason for a change to the NFHS rule at this time.  Chains will be opposite the press box.

**Sideline Personnel** – The following individuals are allowed on the sidelines (but “masked up” at all times):  Chain Crew, Ball Persons; Administrators, Ads, Media (including school newspaper/yearbook/photographer) and Athletic Trainers/Doctors.  Spectators must be removed by the game administration.

**Halftime/Post Game List** – The expectation is that you conduct a thorough review of the 1st half at halftime.  Then you do the same for the 2nd half immediately after the game.  Here is the sample list to follow:

* How are the chains?
* How are your sidelines/restricted areas?
* How are your head coaches doing?
* Timer?
* How is our game tempo?
* Let’s review the foul report & plays of interest to be included in Hudl game cutups.
* Were there any other unusual plays or necessary adjustments we need to make?
* How did our “players to watch” do in the first half/second half?
* What does this game need?  Blowout/Overtime?
* How did we do on our crew goals in the first half/second half?

**California State Mercy Rule** - At the conclusion of the third quarter or any point thereafter, if there is a point differential of 35 or more points, a running clock shall be instituted for the remainder of the game regardless of the score.  The game clock shall stop only for a score, a free kick following a fair catch or awarded fair catch, a charged team timeout, a coach-referee conference or an official’s timeout.  This bylaw applies to all levels of play.

**Overtime Rules-** The overtime rules in California are hodge podge and vary from section to section. For instance San Diego uses the California State Overtime Rules. CIF-SS has not voted to adopt those rules and no one seems to have a definitive document for the CIF-SS overtime rules. I have submitted a document to the crew chiefs for their review. It is a combination of the summary of overtime rules posted on the CIF-SS website and the NFHS Resolving Tie Games in the rule book. I hope to have these posted to the website in the next couple of days.

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct**- We had some awfully bad behavior during our first week of football. One game had 7 Unsportsmanlike fouls and an ejection (flagrant foul). I’ve been told that we had 3 ejections the first week. Stay vigilant and don’t take crap from the coaches or players. Stay professional and polite but if unsporting behavior continues, flag it. The same goes for flagrant fouls. I’ve got your back and so does Paul. If you do have an ejection refer to the procedure on the website https://ocfoa.org/members-area/cif-ss-incident-ejection-report/

**Sanitary Balls-** I’ve been told by several officials that teams had no idea that they were supposed to sanitize the footballs. This is particularly true on the lower levels. Referees of Varsity and Weight games must contact the school ahead of time and make sure they understand the requirement for sanitizing the balls.

Last thought – WEAR A MASK AND HAVE FUN