

Weekly Bulletin week ending 9/3/21

* **Classification Exam fail** – I announced at the 8/18 meeting that there was a problem with Arbiter and that it was failing everyone. I said it several times. I got no fewer than 40 emails telling me they took the test and they failed with 100%. It’s frustrating guys. I’m trying hard to teach you as best I can and if you’re not listening then I’m wasting my time. Please don’t send me emails apologizing or explain. Just pay attention.
* **Rest of tests –** Please go here <https://ocfoa.org/2021/09/02/testing-as-of-9-1-21/> to get the lowdown on the required testing. Due dates, who has passed, and a link to Meeting 2 video
* **Meeting Attendance Tracking -**Please make sure you submit on the attendance app for every meeting. Meeting 1 was code 1000, Meeting 2 was 2000, can you guess what the code will be for Meeting 3? If you didn’t attend do not say that you did until I give you the OK. You will have to pass a short quiz to get credit. If you submit an attendance code and you didn’t attend, that is an ethics violation. I have other records of who attended the meetings
* **Naming of plays sent to me –** I really appreciatethose of you that have sent me clips for instruction. Please name the clips like this <foul><schools><play #><date>
 i.e BBW by A76 Mater Dei vs Bosco Play 31 8-19-21 I need the play # because HUDL renumbers the plays when you create a playlist. If you want to send me something but don’t know how, give me a call.
* **N word warn the players, warn the coach.** I’ve spoken to Steve Cooper about this. Our policy is if the N word is used between teammates, we warn the coach and we warn the players. If it happens again between teammates issue another warning and make sure they know the next time it will be an unsportsmanlike conduct foul. If the word is used against an opponent it’s an ejection and an unsportsmanlike foul with penalty.
* **Multiple unsportsmanlike fouls on the same play against the same team-** Record an unsportsmanlike foul against each individual player. However, only enforce one 15 yard penalty
* **Assisting the runner** – An assisting the runner foul should only be called when a teammate is pulling the runner from the front, exception QB sneak at the GL, all three backs pushing the QB
* **Umpire positioning, turning on passes** as you might imagine, I am watching a lot of game film and most of the time the umpire is in the wrong position. The new mechanic is the umpire is lined up with the tackle or tight end 10 to 12 yds back on the opposite side of the center that the referee is on. His responsibilities are the offensive blockers on that side. This is not an option, This is to facilitate zone coverage and hopefully make it a little bit safer for the umpires. I know this is a big change but if I see umpires consistently refusing to take up this new position. It will affect your rating
* **Do not let the winner of a coin toss choose defense**- This happened in a lower level game recently. We cannot let these kids make this mistake. If the winner of the coin toss states they want to be on defense you simply explain that they want to choose to defer otherwise they’d be on defense at the beginning of both halves.
* **BJ Sideline to sideline coverage –** I can’t believe I have to say this, but as I said I have been watching a lot of film and I am seeing a lot of back judges standing in one spot. Back judges need to work sideline to sideline. Back judges should be helping out on running plays particularly those that go towards the sideline. You should begin to move towards that sideline and develop an angle on the lead blockers and be ready to assist if the play goes out of bounds. I am not only seeing Back Judges standing in one place during running plays. I am watching them give up their cushion and ultimately get beat to the goal line or the end line or both. This can’t happen!
* **Players coming on to the field-** Ejection for anyone who comes on to the field, allow them to make a U turn back to the bench, particularly when the play involves a change of possession. These kids are programmed to get on the field quickly when there is a change of possession, give them the chance to turn around but if they don’t start writing down numbers and they will be ejected.
* **Helmet to Helmet foul, there’s no such thing –** There is no foul in the NFHS rule book that’s labeled helmet to helmet contact. Despite that I have heard it used during games and even on television. The phrase “Helmet-to-Helmet contact” appears only once in the rulebook. You’ll see it below in 9-4-3i(3). Learn to use the proper terminology for the foul that occurred. “Targeting”, “Illegal helmet contact” (which includes spearing, butt block and face tackle), and “Illegal contact against a defenseless player” are the terms that should be used.

Rule 2 Definition Section 20

### ART 1 Illegal helmet contact is an act of initiating contact with the helmet against an opponent. There are several types of illegal helmet contact:

1. Butt Blocking is an act by any player who initiates contact against an opponent who is not a ball carrier with the front of his helmet.
2. Face Tackling is an act by a defensive player who initiates contact against a runner with the front of his helmet.
3. Spearing is an act by any player who initiates contact against an opponent at the shoulders or below with the crown (top portion) of his helmet.

ART 2 Targeting is an act by any player who takes aim and initiates contact against an opponent above the shoulders with the helmet, forearm, hand, fist, elbow or shoulders

### Rule 9 Prohibition Section 4

### ART 3 No player or nonplayer shall:

1. Initiate illegal helmet contact. (butt block, face tackle or spear)

NOTE: Illegal helmet contact may be judged by the game official a flagrant act. Acts that may be judged to be a flagrant act include, but are not limited to:

1. Illegal helmet contact against an opponent lying on the ground,
2. Illegal helmet contact against an opponent being held up by other players, and/or
3. Illegal helmet-to-helmet contact against a defenseless opponent.