



MINUTES SOCCER RULES COMMITTEE

Hyatt Regency Downtown

Indianapolis, IN

January 25-27, 2016

Committee members in attendance:

Chad Collins	Chair	2019
Stan Latta	Section 2	2018
Joe Manjone	Section 3	2017
Todd Tharp	Section 4	2018
Doug Epps	Section 5	2017
Susan Elza	Section 6	2016
Janet Allen	Section 7	2019
Scott Lockwood	Section 8	2017
Monty Hawkins	NFHS Coaches Association	2018
Steve Harvey	NFHS Officials Association	2016

Others/Guests in Attendance:

Theresa Wynns	NFHS Staff Liaison
Justin Marien	Guest – NASO/REI Representative
Greg Mauch	Guest – NSCAA Representative
Ross Meloan	Guest – NISOA Representative

Absent:

Steve Beals	Section 1
-------------	-----------

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTION, GENERAL INFORMATION

Chair Chad Collins welcomed new committee members, Susan Elza of Section 6, replacing Peter Contreras and Janet Allen of Section 7. Invited guests were introduced, Greg Mauch of National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA), Justin Marien of Referee Enterprises and Ross Meloan of National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association (NISOA). These guests assist the committee with keeping abreast of trends in the game and keep the lines of communication open between organizations. Theresa Wynns and Chad Collins reviewed several administrative items with the committee.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Sectional – Latta, Manjone, Tharp, Epps, Elza, Allen, Lockwood,
- B. Coaches – Hawkins
- C. Officials – Harvey

3. REVIEW QUESTIONNAIRES/SURVEYS

The following questionnaires/surveys were discussed:

- A. 2016 Rules Questionnaire
- B. 2014 NFHS State Association Soccer Survey

4. NFHS SPORTS MEDICINE REPORT/ISSUES

Bob Colgate, NFHS Assistant Director, liaison to the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, gave a report regarding the high school injury collection program and information regarding soccer injuries.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS FROM INVITED GUESTS

Each guest gave a brief report regarding their respective organizations and the trends occurring.

6. HEAD AND EYE PROTECTION

The committee discussed current trends in head and eye protection. The issue of securing the helmet on the head for the goalkeeper and how it should be secured was discussed at length. This discussion will continue next year when every state weighs in.

7. DISCUSSION/VOTING OF:

A. Rule Changes

No.	Rule Ref.	Rules Changes <u>Underlining</u> shows additions; strikethrough shows deletions	Pass	Fail	No Action
1	3-5	Penalty: Both players (goalkeepers) shall receive a <u>verbal</u> warning at the next stoppage Rationale: The change is for consistency (see page 22 3,5 Situation B) where the book uses the term VERBAL WARNING. While page 71 Rule 18, defines "WARNING" as "a verbal admonition". There have been many instances where referees have equated "warning" to a caution and have issued yellow cards. This change would avoid such confusion.		X (1-9)	
2	4-2-9 New	<u>A soft-padded headband is permitted.</u> Rationale: This information is not included in the rules. It is mentioned in a situation.	X (10-1) As Amended		
3	4-3	Each head coach shall be responsible for ensuring that each of his/her players is properly and legally equipped. Penalty: Illegally Equipped Players (18-1-1r) The head coach shall receive the first caution issued (yellow card) for an illegally equipped player. All subsequent cautions (yellow cards) for illegally equipped player(s) shall be issued directly to the player(s) and not to the head coach. An illegally equipped player shall be instructed to leave the field of play when the ball next ceases to be		X (1-9)	

		<p>in play. Play shall not be stopped for an infringement of this rule except where the referee may stop play immediately where there is a dangerous situation.</p> <p>The player(s) must be removed and may be replaced at the time of the caution to the coach or player(s).</p> <p>The removed player(s) may re-enter at the next legal substitution opportunity only after reporting to an official who shall be satisfied the player's equipment and uniform is in order.</p> <p><u>If a team is wearing illegal uniforms, the official must report the situation to the state association in addition to issuing the head coach a yellow card.</u></p> <p>Rationale: Most sports have a penalty associated with the wearing of illegal uniforms in the NFHS Rules Books. In Basketball, the penalty is a technical foul (unsportsmanlike) charged to the head coach. In Football, the game starts with an unsportsmanlike penalty against the offending team's head coach. In both cases, an additional unsportsmanlike occurrence by the head coach would result in the coach's ejection. As a result, we see very few uniform violations in the sports previously mentioned.</p>			
4	5-2-2b New	<p><u>Examine the uniform and equipment of each player to see that they comply with the rules.</u> (Re-label other points).</p> <p>Rationale: This pre-game procedure of the referee checking each player was previously included in the rules. Since it was removed, the amount of illegal equipment that appears for the referee to deal with in almost every game has greatly increased. These include: sock color, jersey color, size of numbers, no numbers on goalkeeper jersey, shin guards worn incorrectly, tape on socks, stays on socks, head gear, jewelry, fitness equipment, electronic equipment, etc. Having a formal equipment check prior to the game prevents problems occurring after the game has started. Safety of players is enhanced. Equipment is checked in other high school sports. The number of cautions for illegal equipment is reduced. Many referees do informal checks now. Having a formal check would require all referees to do this.</p>		X (0-9-1)	
5	7-4-3 New	<p><u>ART. 3...In each half of the game, a player of the team, that is awarded a throw-in and before the ball is released for the throw-in, may request and be granted, by the referee, a team time-out not to exceed one minute. During the time-out, the clock will be stopped and both teams may return to the touch line near their team areas. Players must remain on the field, and substitutes from either team who had</u></p>		X (2-8)	

		<p><u>checked in prior to the time-out being granted may be beckoned in by the referee. The game will be restarted with the throw-in that was awarded when the time-out was requested.</u></p> <p>Rationale: Allowing a time-out each half for each team allows soccer to better meet two of the very import goals of high school sport participation: Education through the meeting with the coach, and safety as players are allowed to rest and get hydrated. Also, these will prevent the need for referee called water breaks that are now allowed in many contests. In addition, most other high school team sports allow teams to take time-outs for similar reasons.</p>			
6	11-1-4	<p>A player is offside and penalized if, at the time the ball touches or is played by a teammate, the player is involved in active play and interferes with play or with an opponent or seeks to gain an advantage by being in that position. <u>A player in an offside position receiving the ball from an opponent, who deliberately plays the ball (except from a deliberate save), is not considered to have gained an advantage.</u></p> <p>Rationale: The addition of this information aligns NFHS with other rules codes.</p>	X (10-0)		
7	14-1-4	<p>ART. 4 . . . The ball shall be kicked while it is stationary on the ground from the spot or any place on the penalty mark. To be in play, the ball shall be moved forward. Once the kicker starts his/her approach toward the ball, he/she may not interrupt his/her movement. Failure to kick the ball as specified shall result in a rekick <u>if the ball goes into goal or both teams have a penalty kick violation. The play continues if the goalkeeper saves the penalty kick or the ball does not go into the goal.</u></p> <p>Rationale: When a kicker performs a “stutter step” and the kick is saved, the team should not be able to rekick. This change will make the punishment consistent with the other violations as described in the chart titled Penalty Kick Situations on page 64. In the Georgia quarter-finals, the game went through regulation and overtime with both teams tied 0 to 0. Georgia utilizes the NFHS Sample Tie-breaking Procedures. On the fifth kick, team 1 scored. Team 2’s kicker did a stutter-step and the kick was taken and saved. The referee did exactly as spelled out in Rule 14-1-4 and had the kick retaken and the kicker scored on the second try. This sent the kicks into the sixth set of kicks and Team 2 won the kicks and the game versus Team 1 winning the game on the fifth set of kicks because of the save.</p>			X
8	14-1-4	<p>....Once the kicker starts his/her approach toward the</p>	X		

		<p>ball, he/she may not interrupt his/her movement. Failure to kick the ball as specified shall result in a re-kick <u>will be considered a violation by the attacking team, and the appropriate penalties shall apply.</u></p> <p>Rationale: As the rule is currently written, even though the attacking team has committed the infringement, it penalizes the defending team if it successfully stops a penalty kick. If the penalty kick is unsuccessful, the defending team should be awarded the ball as the attacking team has incorrectly taken the penalty kick. The current interpretation that the ball has not been put into play so a re-kick must take place is difficult to justify because rarely does the referee blow the whistle in time to prevent the kick from being taken. Thus the ball moves forward and is considered in play under all other interpretations of the rules. Trying to rationalize this rule to the defending team's players and coaches is very difficult considering they have just prevented a goal even though their opponents committed a violation. Finally, changing the restart in this case to an IFK or the other appropriate penalties aligns NFHS rules with other rules codes.</p>	(8-2)		
9	18-1-1 New o	<p><u>GAINING AN ADVANTAGE BY BEING IN THAT POSITION-A player who plays a ball that rebounds to him/her off a goal post or the crossbar after having been in an offside position or a player who plays a ball that rebounds to him/her off an opponent after having been in an offside position.</u></p> <p>Rationale: Gaining An Advantage by being in that Position is in Rule 11-1-4, but it has never been defined. This new definition aligns NFHS with other rules codes.</p>	X (10-0)		
10	18-1-1r	<p>Illegally Equipped – A player not wearing equipment required by rule, or wearing an item / items, <u>including uniforms,</u> not allowed by rule.</p> <p>Rationale: This addition to the definition of an illegally equipped player is necessary to supplement the proposed change to Rule 4-3. The proposed change for Rule 4-3 would result in the head coach receiving a yellow card when his/her team is wearing illegal uniforms.</p>			X
11	18-1-1 New u	<p><u>INTERFERING WITH AN OPPONENT – Preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent's line of vision or movement of challenging an opponent for the ball.</u></p> <p>Rationale: Interfering with an Opponent is in Rule 11-1-4, but it has never been defined. This new definition aligns NFHS with other rules codes..</p>	X (9-0) Committee member left the room		
12	18-1-1 New v	<p><u>INTERFERING WITH PLAY – Playing or touching the ball passed or touched by a team-mate.</u></p>	X (9-0)		

		Rationale: Interfering with Play is in Rule 11-1-4, but what it means has never been defined. This new definition aligns NFHS with other rules codes..	Committee member left the room		
13	Pregame Conference	Remove the entire note. Rationale: There is not a fourth official when a dual officiating system is used.		X (0-9) Committee member left the room	

B. Editorial changes:

No.	Ref.	Editorial Changes Underlining shows additions; strikethrough shows deletions	Pass	Fail	No Action
1	1-2-1	The field of play shall be marked in accordance with the <u>Soccer Field</u> diagram, on the previous page , with non-caustic, distinctively colored material that is not injurious to the participants. Rationale: The provisions of this rule refer to a “diagram” in the first sentence. There is little doubt the reference is to the previous page that contains a diagram of a soccer field. It is advantageous and clearer to simply add: “Soccer Field” before diagram.	X (10-0) As Amended		
2	1-2-10	A 1-yard long hash mark may be made perpendicular to the goal line, <u>but not touching</u> , outside the field of play 11 yards from the corner of the field to assist the officials in enforcement of encroachment during corner kicks. Rationale: This helps clarify the fact that this marking is in no way on the field.	X (10-0)		
3	1-2 Playing Rulings	Add State Association notification to 1.2.4 and 1.2.6. Rationale: 1.2.1B, 1.2.4, and 1.2.6 all deal with improper markings on the field. In 1.2.1B, the referee is directed to notify the state association. However, in 1.2.4 and 1.2.6, they are directed to only notify the home coach.	X (10-0)		
4	1-4-2	Nets shall be attached to the posts and crossbar and be firmly fastened to the ground behind the goals. Each net shall be supported so that it will extend backward to the level of the crossbar for a distance of 24 inches from the crossbar. No advertising other than a single manufacturer’s identification logo, may appear on the net. <u>Nets may be multicolored; however, no markings other than a single manufacturer’ identification/logo may appear on the net.</u> Rationale: There have been many questions in recent years concerning the color of the net and whether school logos, names, mascots, etc. can be placed on the net. This addition will be consistent with responses that were given to these questions.	X (9-1)		
5	1-5	There shall be designated <u>specific marked</u> areas for	X		

		<p>each team’s bench, separated by an official area for entering substitutes, scorers and timers. These areas shall be <u>marked</u> at least 10 feet from the touchline. The state association should be notified if team areas are not marked.</p> <p>Rationale: In many, if not most cases, the team areas are not marked. This rule change will give specific directions on marking the team areas, as well as what to do in the event it is not marked.</p>	(10-0)		
6	1-6	<p>No one shall be permitted directly behind either goal unless seated in bleachers.</p> <p>Rationale: Removing the word “seated” helps to avoid confusion on where fans should be if directly behind the goal.</p>	X (10-0)		
7	3-3-3 Situation J	<p>Ruling: Illegal, unless Player A2 has been disqualified under the provisions of 12-8 that do not permit a substitution and provided that the other prerequisites for proper substitutions have <u>not</u> been met.</p> <p>Rationale: The word “not” was inadvertently removed from the ruling.</p>	X (10-0)		
8	4-1-1h2	<p>Only those names, patches, emblems, logos or insignias referencing the school are permitted on the team jersey and/or shorts, as well as <u>on visible</u> undergarments and goalkeeper pants, except as in 4-1-1(f). The player’s name may also appear on the team uniform.</p> <p>Rationale: Logos etc. on garments that are not normally visible on the field (e.g. sports bras, athletic supporters) are not a problem in the conduct of an interscholastic contest. It would also be inappropriate for coaches or officials to be checking those garments for possible violations of the rule as it is currently written.</p>	X (10-0)		
9	4-1-1i	<p>(second sentence) Shoes with soles containing metal (aluminum, magnesium, titanium, etc.), leather, rubber, nylon or plastic cleats, studs, or bars, whether molded as part of the sole or detachable, are allowed as long as the referee does not consider them dangerous or they have been altered in any way creating sharp edges thus rendering them unsafe.</p> <p>Rationale: Second clause simply duplicates first clause about referee ruling whether they are dangerous or not. Whether they are dangerous or not does not depend on whether they have been altered or not.</p>	X (10-0)		
10	Situation 4-1-1 H Ruling	<p>Ruling...If unable to correct, the game shall be played and the referee must notify the proper authority <u>the state association</u> following the game.</p> <p>Rationale: Changed to the “state association” as</p>	X (10-0)		

		used in other parts of the book.			
11	4-1-2	It is recommended that team captains wear an upper arm band or a contrasting color. <u>The arm band, if worn, shall be worn on the upper arm.</u> Rationale: The added gives specific direction as to the expectation of where the armband should be worn.	X (10-0)		
12	4-2-9 New Situation	During pregame warm-up, the referee observes A5 is wearing a soft-padded headwear <u>headband</u> . COMMENT: The use of a soft-padded soccer headwear <u>headband</u> is permitted but not required. Rationale: the term headgear suggests headband and helmet.	X (10-0)		
13	5-1-2	State associations may intercede <u>intervene</u> in the event of unusual incidents that occur before, during or after the officials' jurisdiction has ended or in the event that a contest is terminated prior to the conclusion of regulation play. Rationale: "intercede" means to ask someone to do something. Whom would the state association be asking to act? The intent of the clause is to grant state associations the right to act on their own initiative in unusual situations.		X (0-9) Committee member left the room	
14	12-5	In this section, no consideration (in the rule or any play ruling) is given to whether the player in question (possibly obstructing) is within playing distance of the ball. In other rules bodies, consideration is given to whether the ball is within playing distances. If it is, obstruction is not possible.			X
15	12-8-1 Situation C	During the game, while the ball is in play, (c) Player A1 wears an electric heart monitor on the chest <u>under the jersey</u> . Rationale: This proposal is for item c only. The additional wording is needed because there are heart monitors that are worn on the wrist that would be illegal.	X (10-0) As Amended		
16	12-8-2	Add Penalty to this Article. Rationale: In Article 1, a "penalty" is clearly laid out where the player shall leave the field. However, Article 2 does not have a similar provision. Would it not be worth consider adding this? I know "disqualified" should be clear enough, but adding this and making it clear that the team shall not be allowed to replace the player would add clarity here.	X (9-0) Committee member left the room		

C. Case Book

The committee discussed interpretations and specific case situations.

D. 2016 Points of Emphasis

Rules Book

1. Rough Play
2. Team Member Equipment Check
3. Referee Checking for Injury After a Goal

4. Ball Holders

8. SUBCOMMITTEE WORK

Committee members were divided into subcommittees and worked on their assigned duties.

Comments on the Rules: Lockwood, Allan
Exams I and II (New/Revised): Hawkins, Latta
Case Book (New/Revised) and
Rule Interpretation Situations: Tharp, Harvey
Points of Emphasis: Manjone, Epps
Rule Book Revisions: Collins, Wynns

9. 2016-17 QUESTIONNAIRE

A. PART III – About the rules for 2016-17, would you favor?

1. TBD

10. 2016-17 SOCCER MEETINGS

- A. Online Soccer Rules Interpreters Meeting – July 18, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.
- B. Rules Committee – January 23-25, 2017

11. TERM EXPIRATIONS

Steve Beal of New Hampshire, Susan Elza of Texas and Steve Harvey of Officials Association concluded their four-year terms of service. They were thanked and recognized for their many significant contributions to the NFHS Soccer Rules Committee with a certificate and a watch.

12. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, January 27, 2016.