2022-23 SOCCER RULES for FALL 2022

National Federation of State High School Associations

- Rules Changes
- Major Editorial Changes
- Points of Emphasis

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OTHER EQUIPMENT
4-2-2

Hair control devices and other adornments worn in the hair must meet the following criteria:

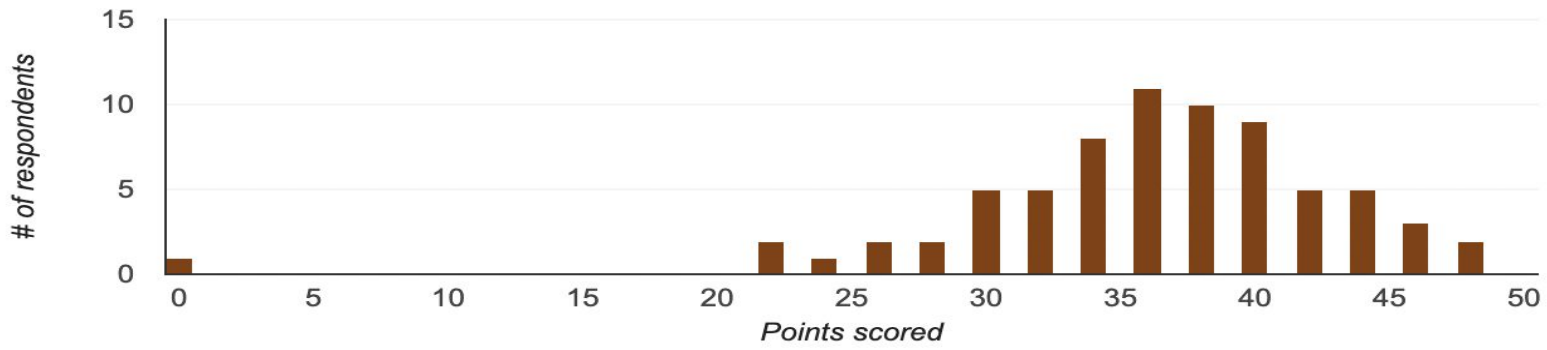
- Be securely fastened to the head.
- Do not present an increased risk to the player, teammates or opponent.
- This change promotes the inclusion of participants based on their cultural and religious beliefs.

Results of refresher Test

Insights

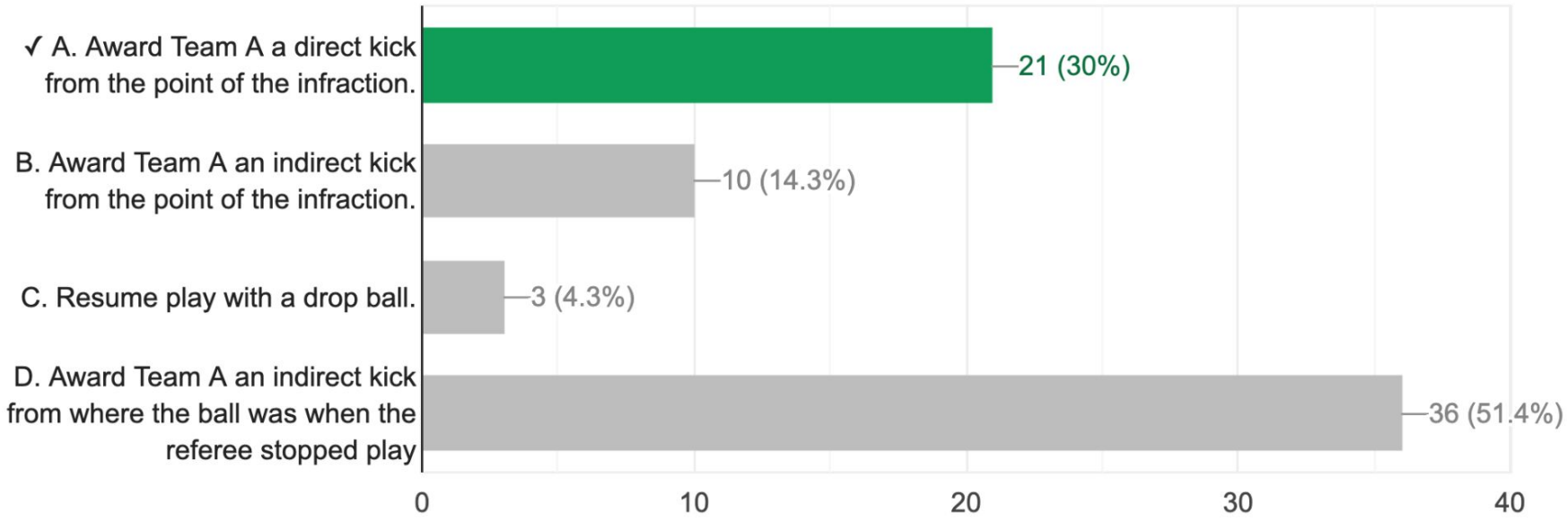
Average	Median	Range
36.03 / 50 points	36 / 50 points	0 - 48 points

Total points distribution



During active play, Team B's coach enters the playing field to argue a call with the official and interferes with active play

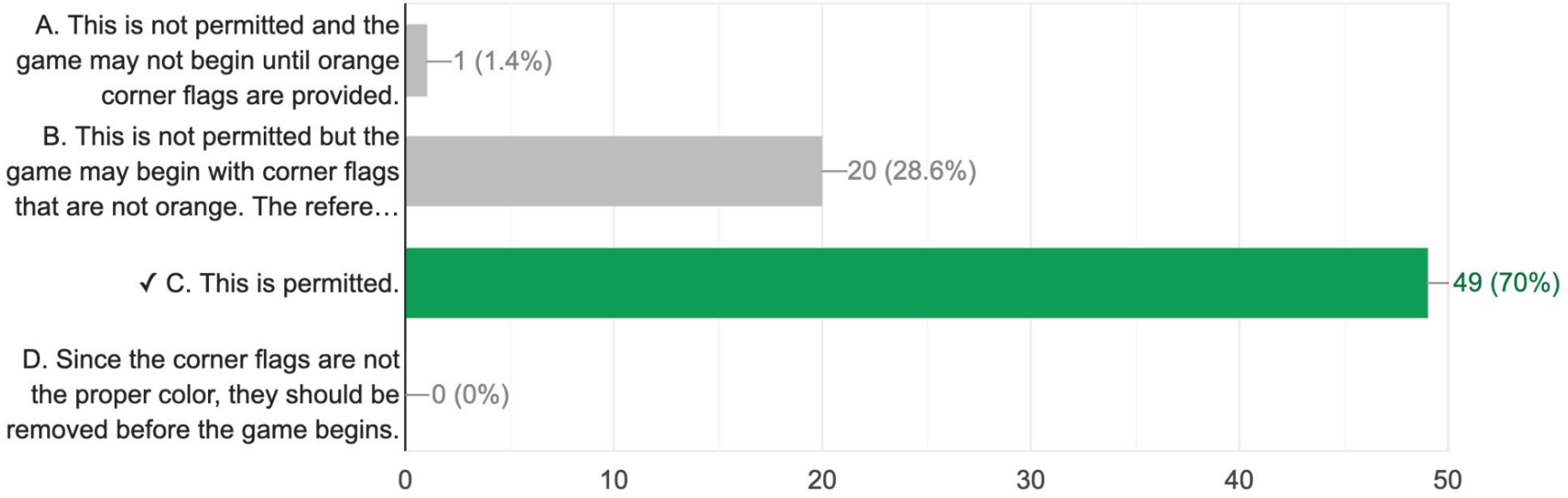
21 / 70 correct responses



Corner Flag Colors

During inspection of the field, the referees note that the corner flags are not orange. What should be the referee's response?

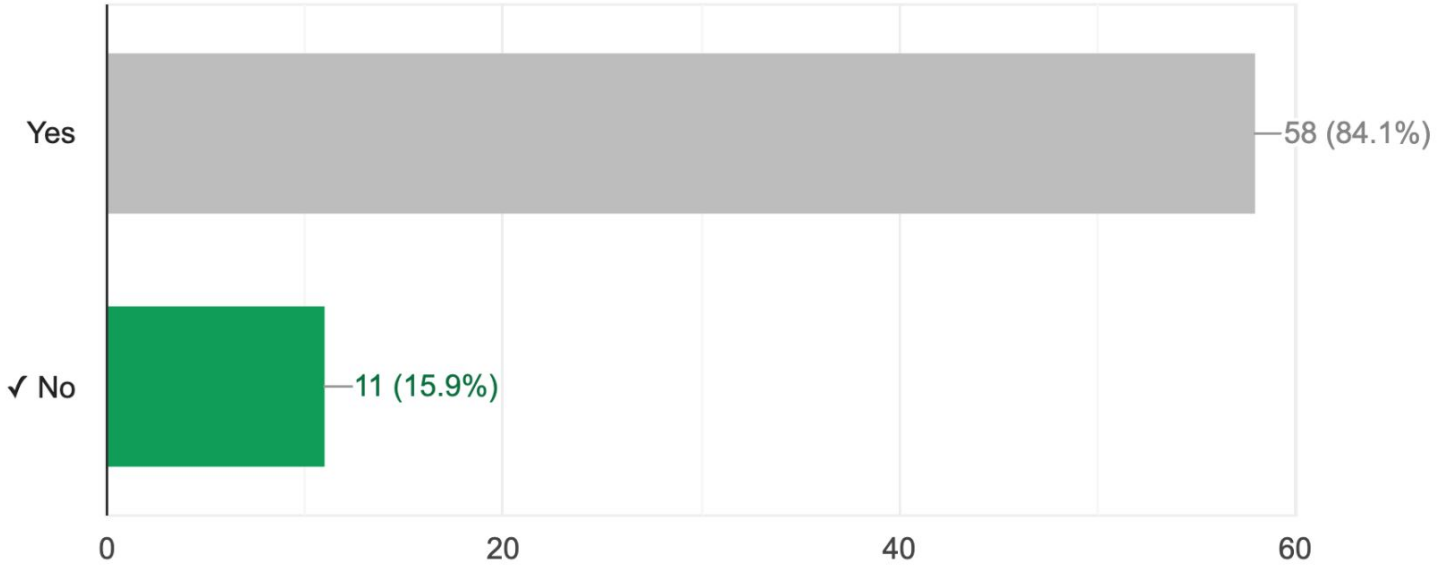
49 / 70 correct responses



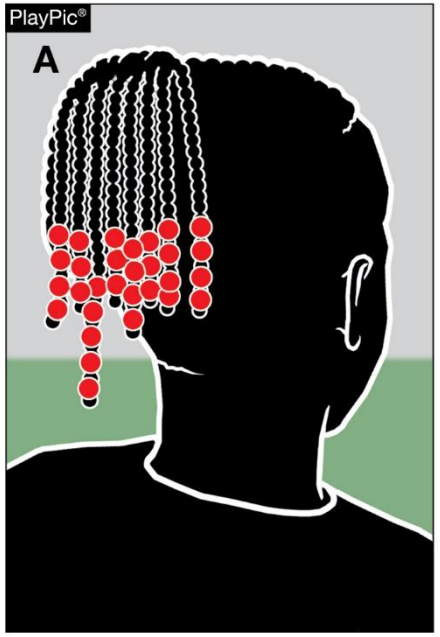
High Foot vs Dangerous Play

The white player is affected by the high foot play of red player. Is the restart for the referee whistle an indirect kick for the high foot?

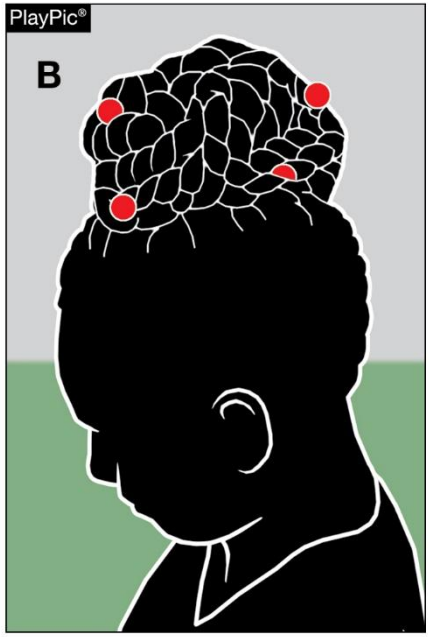
11 / 69 correct responses



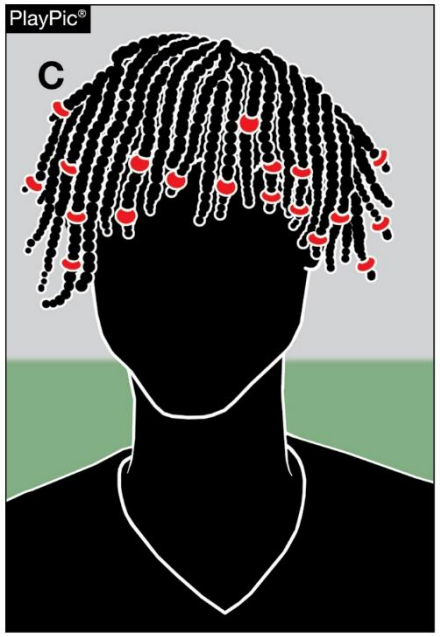
OTHER EQUIPMENT
4-2-2



Illegal



Legal



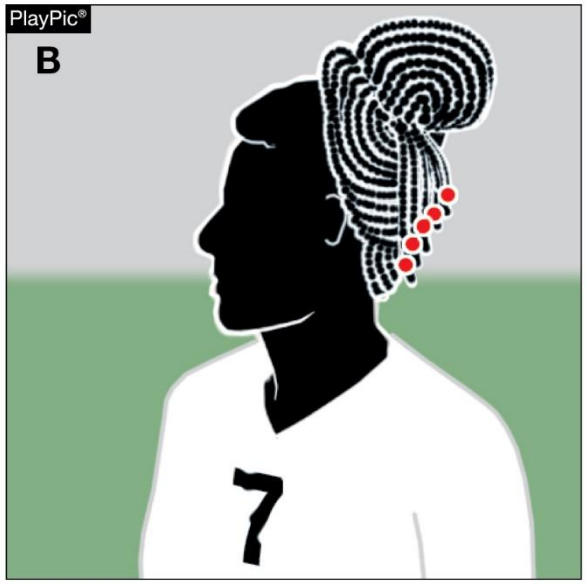
Illegal

Legal

In PlayPics A and C, the beads worn by each player are not securely fastened to the head.
In PlayPic B and D, the beads worn are securely fastened to the head.

OTHER EQUIPMENT
4-2-2

Illegal



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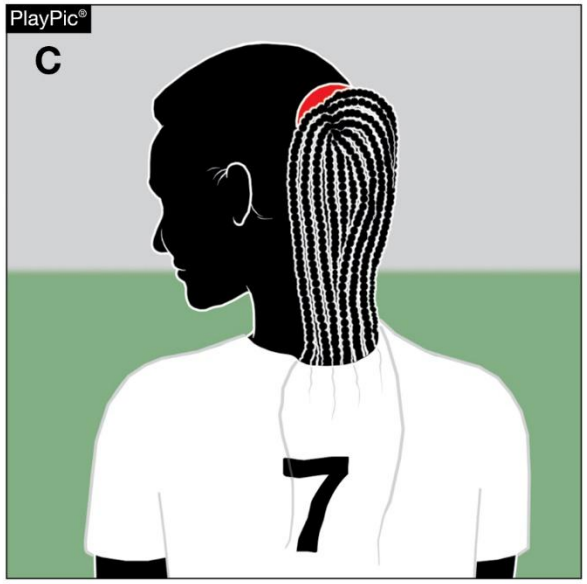


Legal

- In PlayPics A, the player cannot participate with the hair adornments worn in the current position since the adornments are not securely fastened to the head. Play Pics B and C are options to make legal.

EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES
4-2-article 4 (page 23)

NFHS JEWELRY RULE

- Jewelry — including **necklaces, bracelets and earrings** — shall not be worn except for religious or medical medals. A religious medal must be taped and worn under the uniform. A medical alert must be taped and may be visible.

- **Taping of earnings is still illegal equipment – NO TAPING!**
- There is no specific regard to gender of the player
- Officials should also abide with the rule - weddings rings are “religious”
- Watches are referee required equipment to manage the game
- **Taping of earnings is still illegal equipment – NO TAPING!**

Explain this before the game starts!

SUSPENDED GAME
7-1-3

- State associations may adopt game-ending procedures for suspended game.
- Unless set forth by state association adoption, unless tied, it is an official game if one complete half or more of the game has been played.
- State association procedures also govern games in which one complete half has not been completed

GOALS
10-1-2f, 10-1-3h NEW

- A goal may not be scored **directly from a goalkeeper's throw** into the opponent's goal.

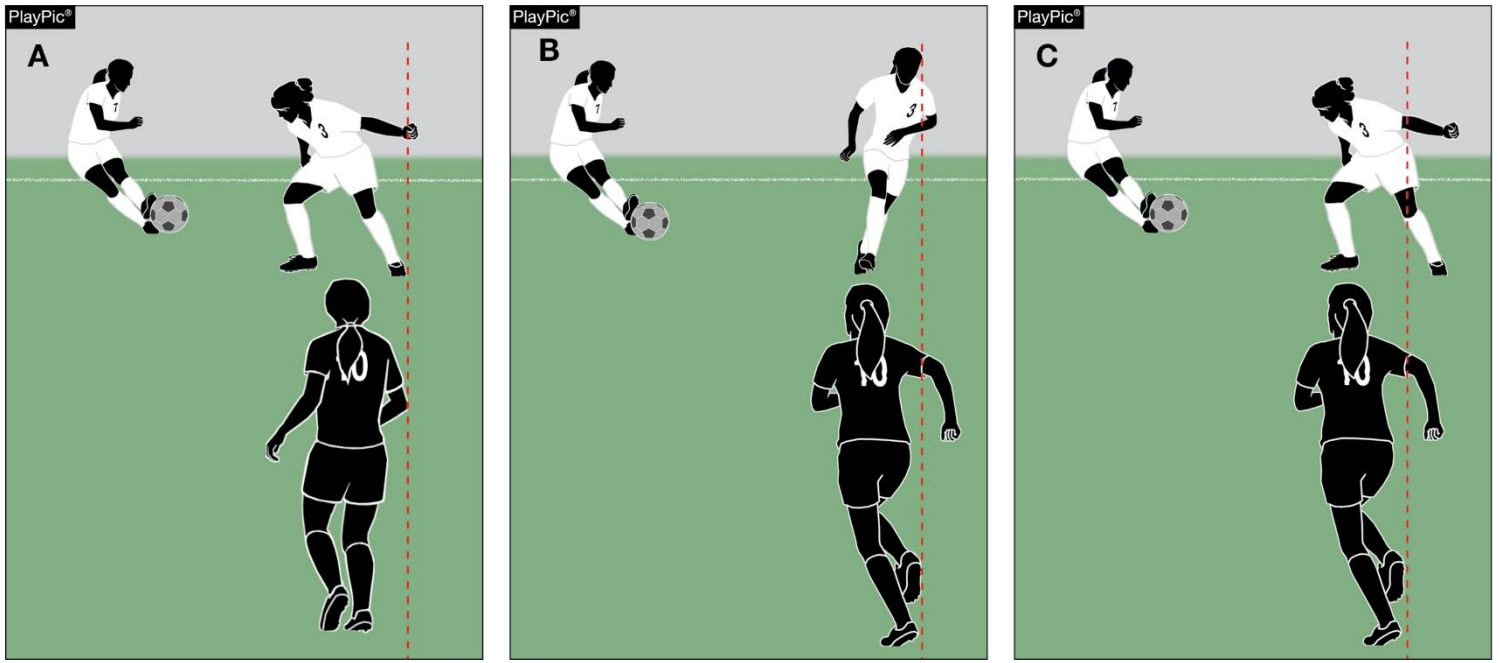
- A goal may be scored for the opponents when a **goalkeeper throws the ball into the team's own goal.**

HANDLING
12-2

For the purposes of determining handling offences, the upper boundary of the arm is in line with the bottom of the armpit.

Consider - did the player have their arm or hand in an unnatural position for soccer

OFFSIDE DEFINITIONS OF PLAYING TERMS
11-1-1, 18-1-1s



For the purposes of determining offside, the upper boundary of the arm is in line with the bottom of the armpit.

- In PlayPic A, offside is judged by the upper boundary of #10's arm — in line with the bottom of the armpit compared to #3 of the attacking team. **#3 of the attacking team is not offside.**
- In PlayPic B, even though #10's right arm is beyond #3's left shoulder, **#3 is offside.** The position of the hand/lower arm is not considered when determining offside.
- In PlayPic C, even though part of #10's hand/lower arm is beyond #3's left leg, **#3 is offside.**

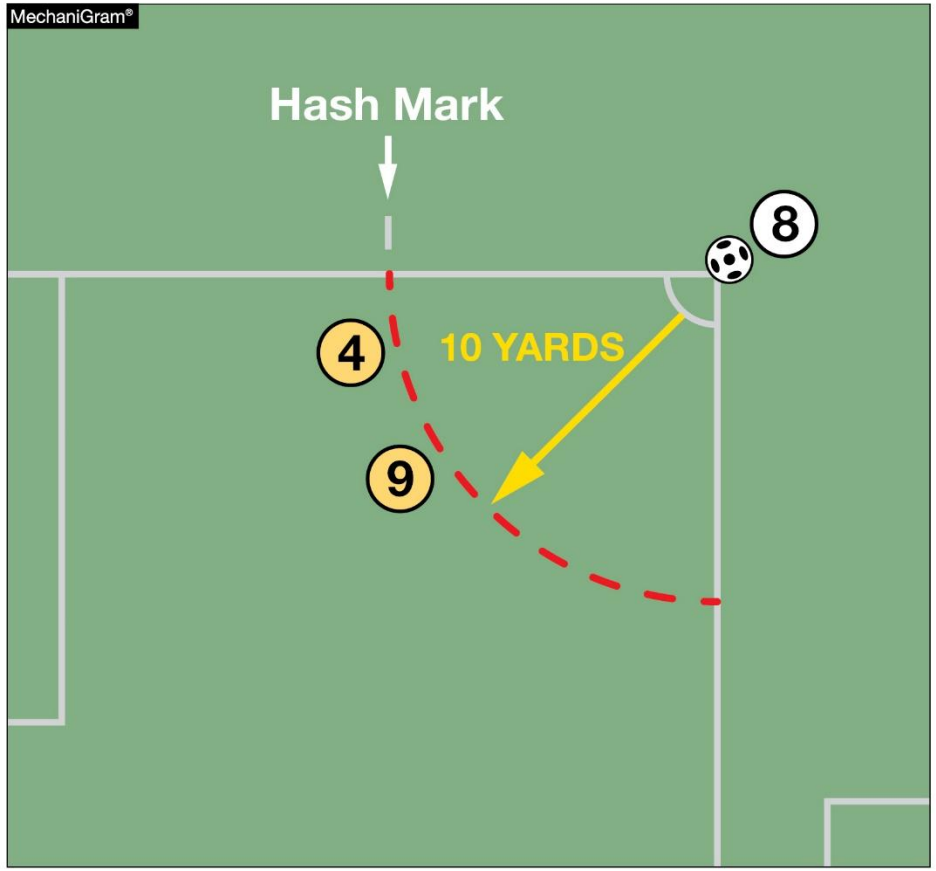
PENALTY KICK
14-1 PENALTY

Penalty Kick Situations

Result of Penalty Kick	No Violation	Violation by Attacking Team Only	Violation by Defense Only	Violation by Both
Enters Goal	Goal	Retake	Goal	Retake
Goes Directly Out of Bounds	Goalkick	Goalkick	Retake	Retake
Rebounds into Play From Goal/ Goalkeeper	Play Continues	Indirect Free Kick	Retake	Retake
Saved and Held by Goalkeeper	Play Continues	Play Continues	Rekick	Retake
Deflected Out of Bounds by Goalkeeper	Corner Kick	Indirect Free Kick	Retake	Retake
Ball not Kicked Forward	Indirect Free Kick for Defending Team			

- When the ball is not kicked forward on a penalty kick, the defending team is now awarded an indirect free kick. **The penalty kick is no longer retaken in this instance.**
- Additionally, language changes were made to the Penalty Kick Situations Chart to more accurately describe a kick taken again as a Retake.

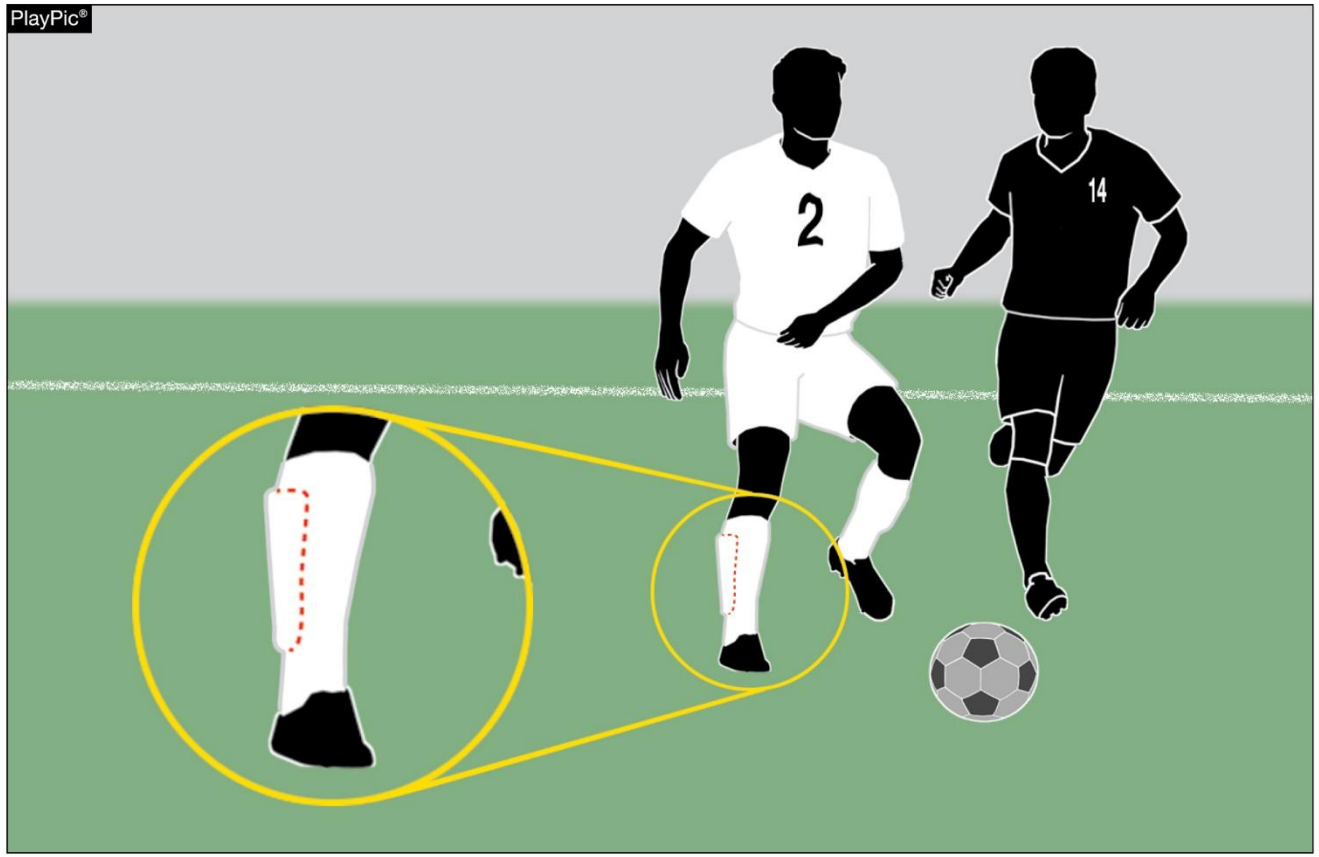
CORNER KICK
17-1-2, 17-1-3



- Players of the defending team shall be at least 10 yards from the corner arc circle until the ball has been kicked.
- The distance is now measured from the corner arc instead of the ball.

2022-2023 NFHS SOCCER EDITORIAL CHANGES

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT
4-1-1

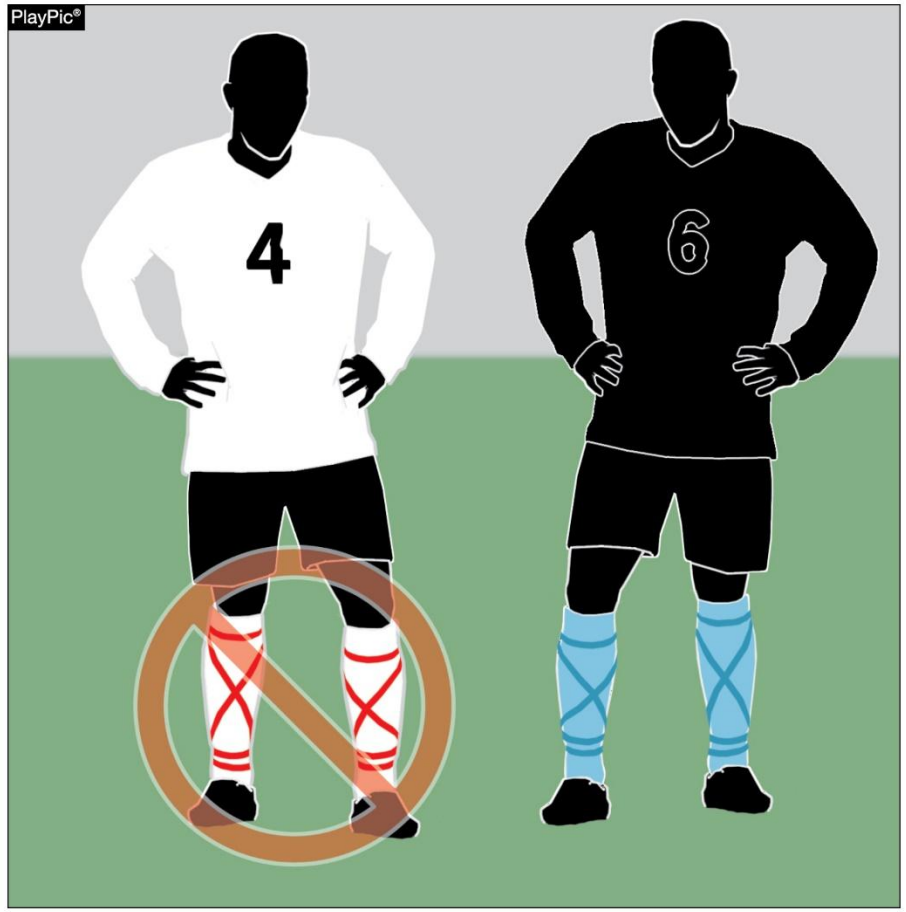


4-1-1 was reorganized to assist with easier flow and understanding.

Shinguards must:

- Provide adequate and reasonable protection.
- Be professionally manufactured.
- Be age and size-appropriate.
- Not be altered to decrease protection.
- Be worn under the socks and worn with the bottom edge no higher than 2 inches about the ankle.
- Meet the NOCSAE standards at the time of manufacture.
- Additionally, shinguards must be worn properly.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT
4-1-1 (SOCKS)

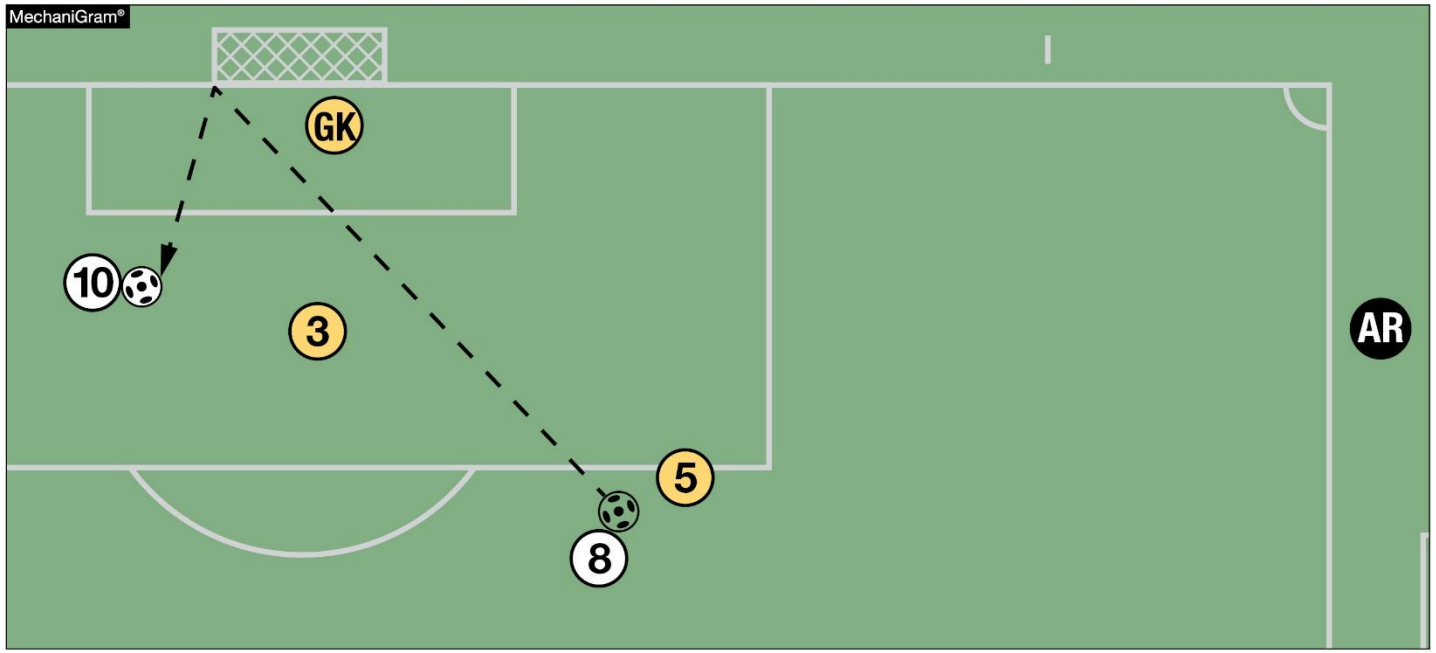


- Teammates shall wear the same-colored socks.
- Visiting team players wear solid white socks
- Home team players wear socks of a single dominant color, but not necessarily the color of the jersey.
- If tape or a similar material (stays/straps) is applied externally to the socks, it must be of similar color as that part of the sock to which it is applied.

• If sock is modified by cutting off the foot of the sock, then any visible material worn under the sock and above the ankle must be of similar color to the predominant color of the sock.

OFFSIDE
11-1-4b

11-1-4b was revised to clarify that offside shall be ruled if the player is gaining an advantage by being in an offside position.



In this MechaniGram, **A10 is offside** since the player is gaining an advantage by playing the ball after it hits the post.

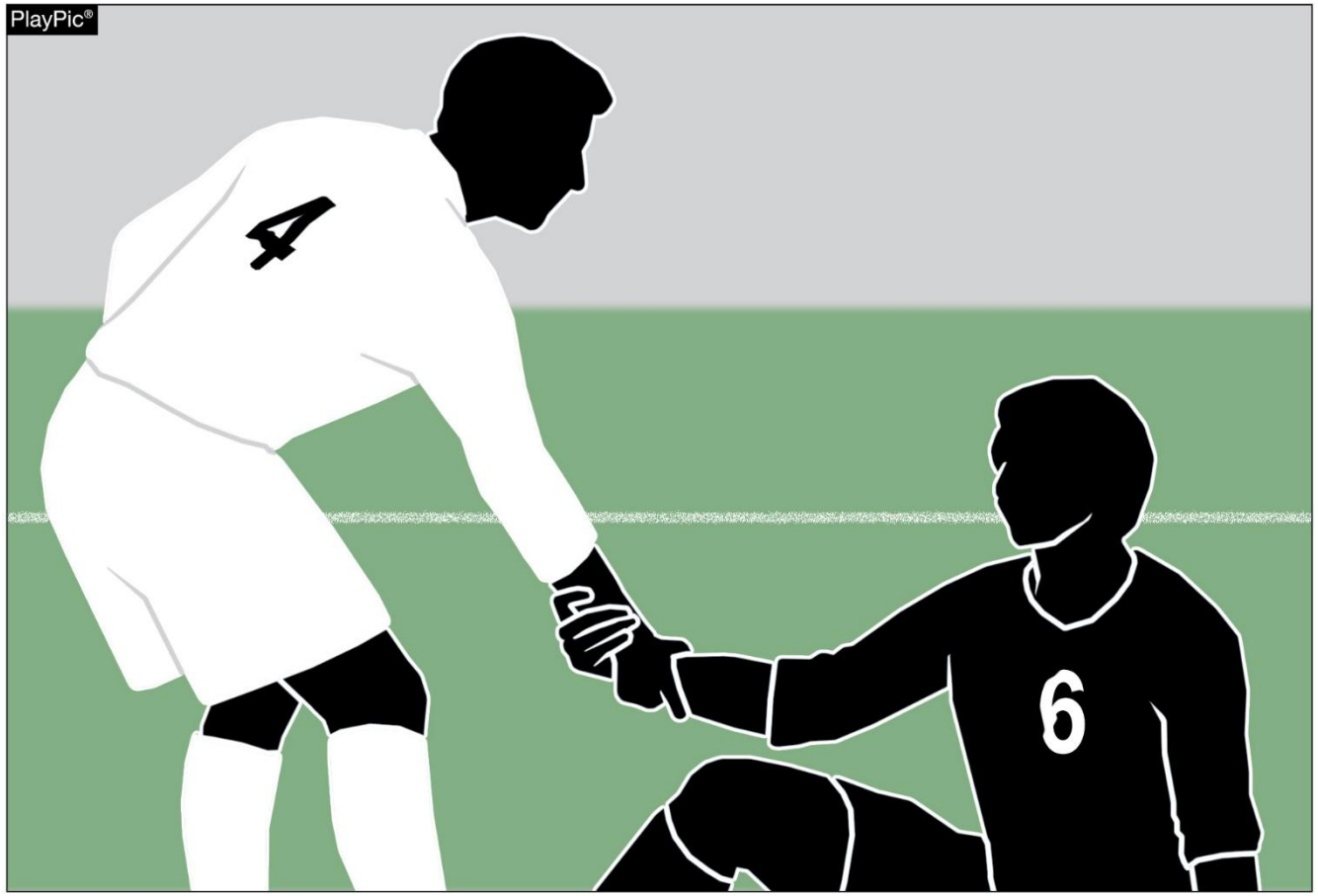
RJ: if in that position when ball was "served"

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

SPORTSMANSHIP

- The NFHS is concerned that unsporting behavior in education-based athletic has increased across all sports. As a result, the NFHS has made sportsmanship the no. 1 Point of Emphasis for the 2022-23 school year.
- The interscholastic coach is responsible for setting the tone at athletic contests and must act in a sportsmanlike manner.
- If coaches are complaining constantly about the decision of contest officials, spectators are likely to do the same.

SPORTSMANSHIP



- A positive, open line of communication between officials and coaches ultimately leads to better behavior by student-athletes.
- Good sporting behavior is expected before, during and after every contest.

SPORTSMANSHIP

- Contest officials should **never engage with spectators** who are exhibiting unsporting behavior. Instead, school administration, or in their absence, the home team's head coach is responsible for dealing with unruly spectators.
- The NFHS is concerned about unsporting behavior inhibiting the recruitment and retainment of officials.
- In addition, an environment with demeaning language, taunting and/or hate speech directed at players does not further the mission of education-based activity programs.

STRATEGIC TIME-WASTING TECHNIQUES

Time-wasting techniques disrupt the flow of the game and allow a team to gain an unfair advantage.

Officials must be aware of these tactics including:

- Goalkeepers holding the ball for longer than 6 seconds before releasing the ball into play.
- Delays on restarts such as free kicks or throw-ins. For example, when players take unnecessary time to set up a free kick or throw-in by re-tying their shoe or adjusting their uniform.
- Team excessively substituting before the 5-minute rule applies.

PENALTY KICK

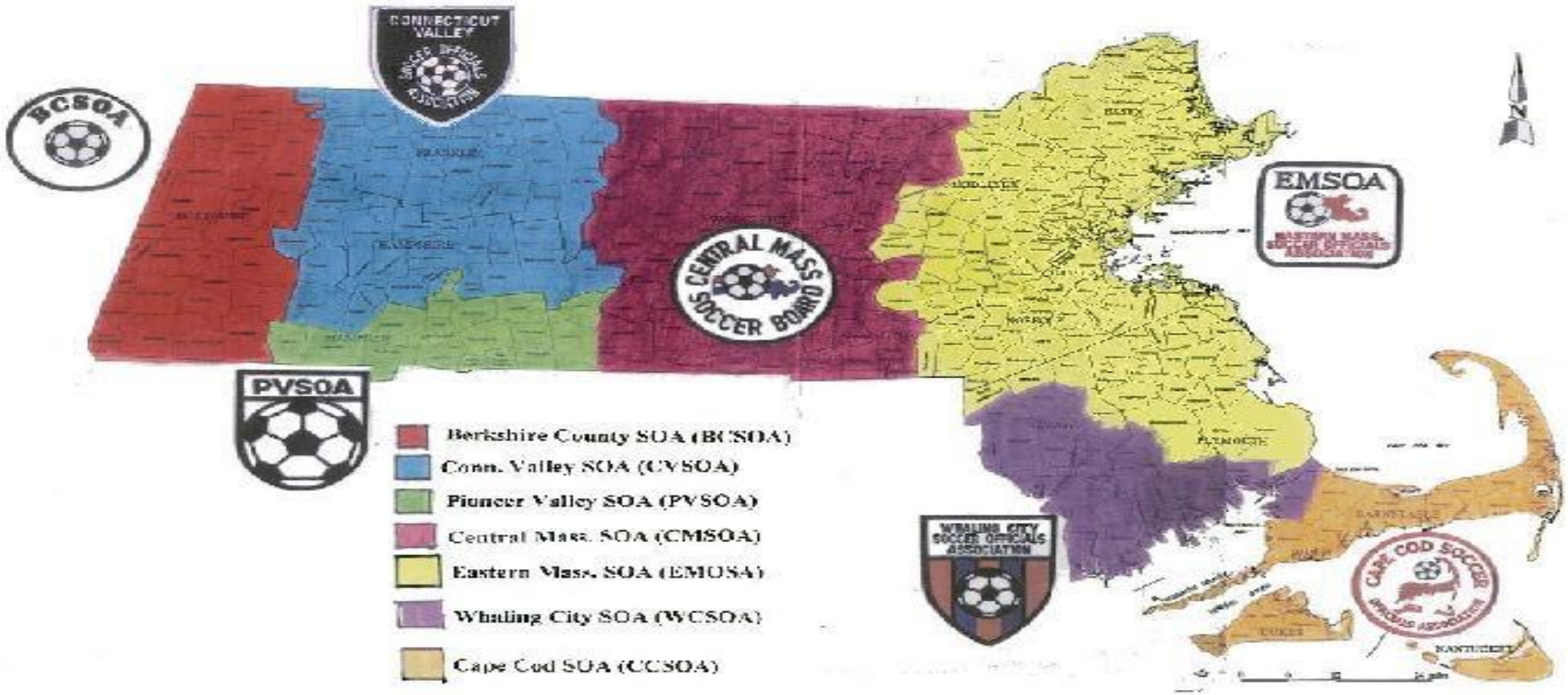
- A stutter step or a hesitation move **is permissible**.
  - No stopping - in your opinion
- The ball must be kicked forward.
  - If the ball is not kicked forward, an indirect free kick is awarded to the defending team from the penalty kick mark.

DISSENT

Rule 12-8-1c defines dissent.

- Expressions of frustration or disappointment or private dissatisfaction not directed at anyone can usually be handled by a verbal warning or private discussion with the player.
- Simply disagreeing with an official's decision isn't always dissent. Several factors to consider in each situation.
- Continual public complaining, prolonged and repeated actions or personally directing comments at the referees must be dealt with.

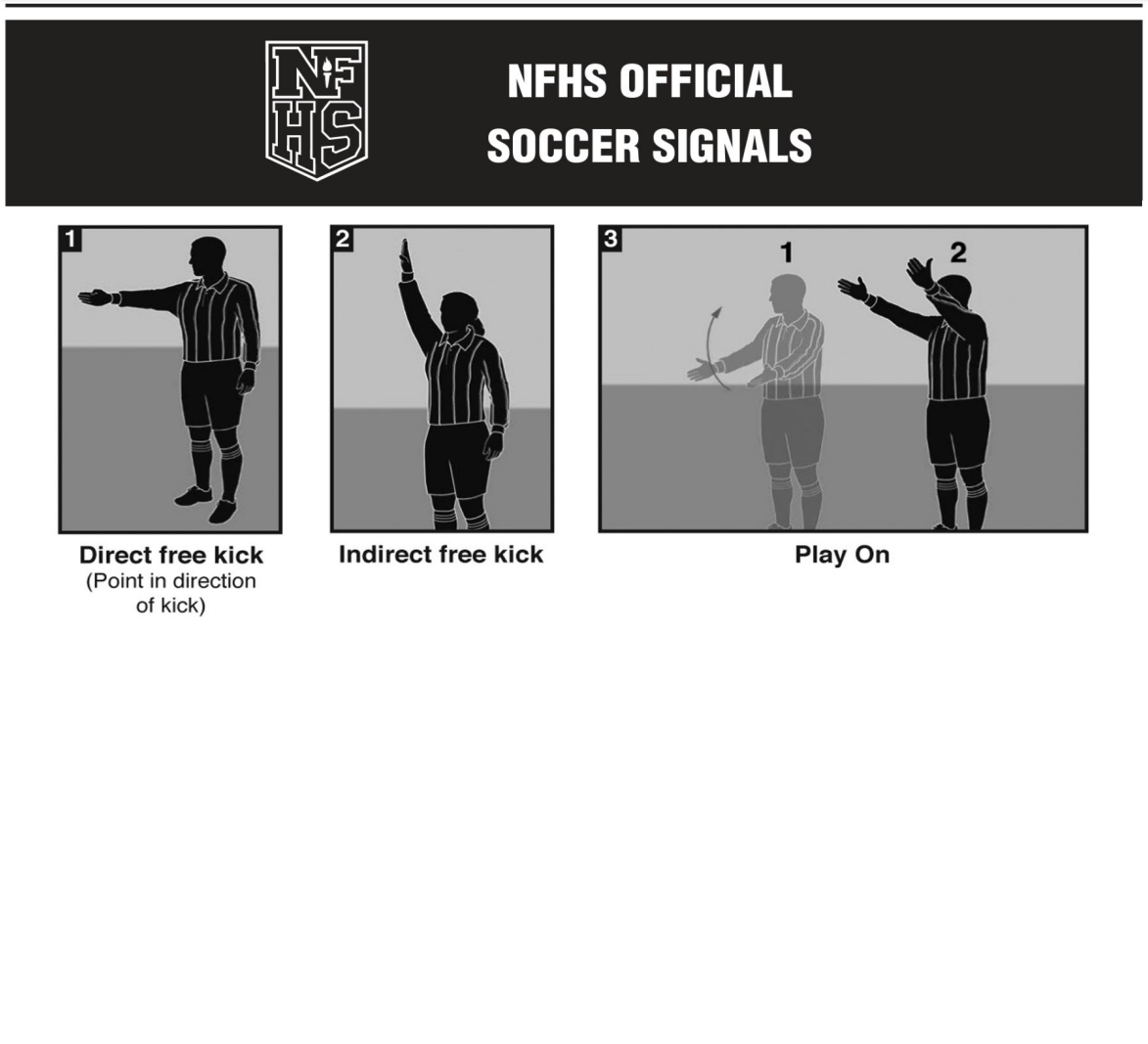
MIAA Soccer Boards



Referee Mechanics

Communication sets the tone for all

Mechanics should be formal, shows confidence



Casts ~ Allowed with Referee Discreation

Softly padded and protected - with YOUR discretion!

Rule 5 - The Officials

Pre-Match: Arrive 30min before kickoff, dressed and ready to go. Yellow is the default jersey color, black sox, shorts and shoes. Tucked in shirts, look professional, you're getting paid - look the part!

If match has a scorer or time keeper - cover their duties, you time-out signals

PreGame conference with crew, meet you partner in a 2 person system, walk field and discuss how to coordinate the overlapping areas of the field, sportsmanship, signals and who will start on which side.

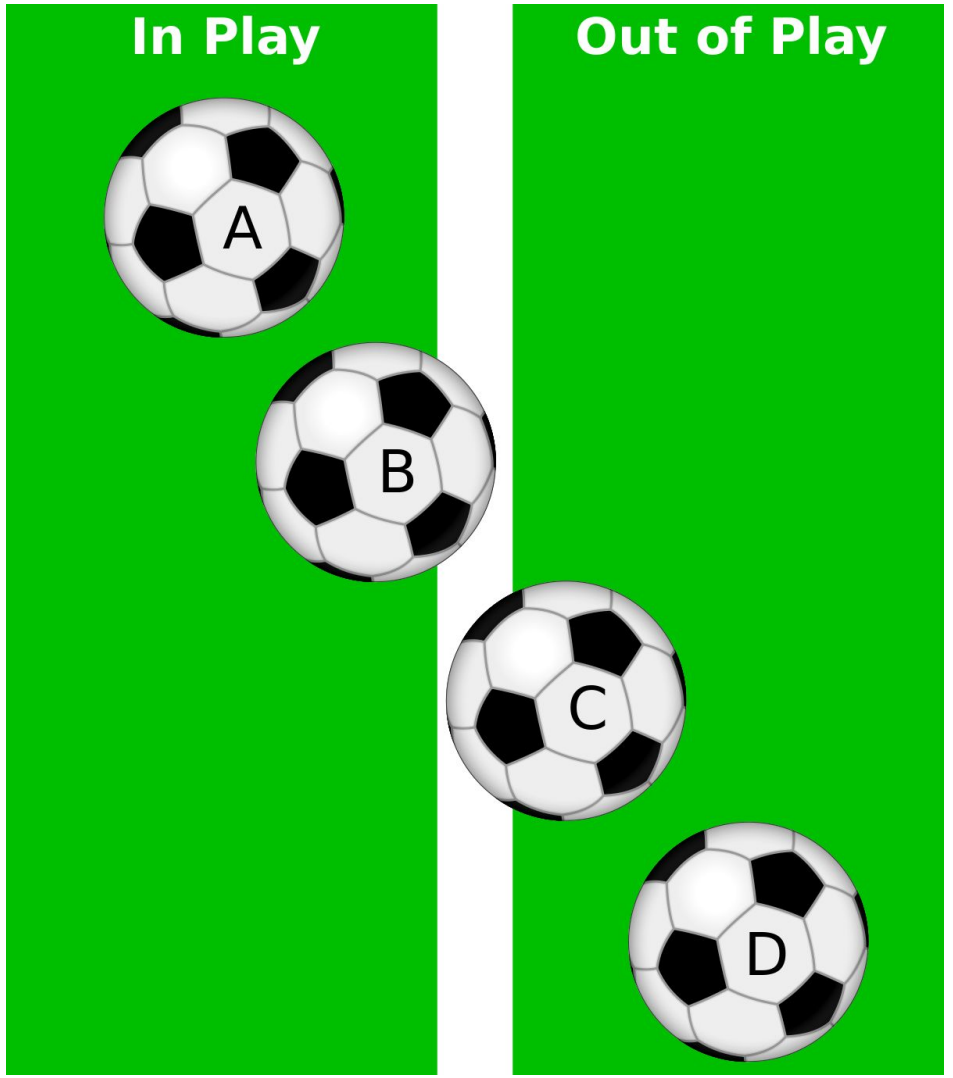
Ready to Play: Coachees are verbally asked - (Coaches verbally acknowledge that their team is ready to play with regard to equipment, safety and sportsmanship **PRIOR** to Kickoff - Coin Toss is best time for this

Equipment : Required inspection - walk the field, check the goals nets and flags; visually inspect players for proper equipment, don't have them click their shin guards :)

SubVaristy- verify score at half time and end of game, verify cautions with coaches; You likely will have no scoreboard. Let them know when when there is 5min and two minutes left.

Rule 9 - Ball In & Out of play

Ron's Recommendation: "the whole ball and the whole line" decides if the ball is in the field of play.



Rule 9 - Ball In & Out of play

Dropped ball: Uncontested drop ball from the referee hand at *waist level* which touches the ground before being kicked by the team in last possession when play was topped.

Opponents must be **4yds** in any direction until the ball is kicked and moves

Yellow Cards

A yellow card, or booking, is **an official warning by a referee to a soccer player for their action during a game**. If a player receives two yellow cards during the same game, they receive a red card, which means they are out of the game.

In NFHS - player must leave the field of play for one legal substitution - let the team sub and ensure the clock is stopped.

If a player earns a “Caution” or Yellow card, and it is not clear why, stop the clock and explain to the COACH only, not the player

The caution dplayer may re-enter at next legal substitution opportunity

Avoid the drama -stay calm and collected - it emotional for them - not you.

Red Cards

A red card is shown by a referee to signify that a player must be sent off. A player who has been sent off is required to leave the field of play immediately, must take no further part in the game and cannot be replaced by a substitute, forcing their team to play with one fewer player.

DOGSO & SPA

Rule 12-8.3.d

….Serious foul play also includes the following:

1. A player anywhere on the field (other than the goal keeper within his/her own penalty area) who deliberately handles the ball preventing it from going into the goal

2. A foul by a player against an opponent who is moving toward his/her offensive goal with an obvious opportunity to score

1) Number of Defenders *-- not more than one other defender (usually the GK) between the foul and the goal, not counting the defender committing the foul*

2) **Distance to goal** *-- the closer the foul is to the goal, the more likely it is an "obvious" goal scoring opportunity*

3) **Distance to ball** *-- the attacker must have been close enough to the ball at the time of the foul to have **continued** playing the ball*

4) **Direction of play** *-- the attacker must have been moving **toward the goal** (not the goal line) at the time the foul was committed.*