

OSAA Football

2010 SRI Bulletin 2

Tuesday, September 07, 2010

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Chop Blocks

By definition, a chop block can only occur in the free blocking zone. Rule 2-3-8. If the block occurs after the ball has left the zone, it is a block below the waist. Both fouls have similar penalties, 15-yards, enforced under the all-but-one principle.

Uniform Adornments

Question: I am seeing players wearing the thin UA sweat bands on the calf area and or over socks on their lower legs and ankles. Is this to be treated the same as forearm and bicep bands that should be removed? Answer: Yes, these are uniform adornments and illegal equipment per Rule 1-5-3a3.

Punching Backwards Passes

Question: What wing official do we want to be primary on ruling forward or backwards passes and on quick passes to the flats? Are we to punch a forward pass? Answer: The wing official that punches a pass backwards is the wing TO WHOM the ball is coming. Some wings will argue that the off (crossfield) wing has a better look at the ball's direction, but this is a look from across the field and is less accurate. Do not punch a forward pass.

Eye Shields-Illegal Equipment

From an Oregon officiating crew...."Friday night we had a coach present us with a note from a physician, explaining that his player had to wear a tinted eye shield due to a macular eye disease. I know the rules do not approve a tinted eye shield with or without an MD note, but we let him play."
SRI response: A Dr's. note cannot be used to break a rule. By letting him play, when he was not legal to play, your crew exposed themselves to a potential liability issue should the player have gotten hurt while wearing illegal equipment.

Scrimmage Kick

Play: 4th and 5. K15's scrimmage kick goes beyond the line where it hits the ground and bounces backwards into K15's hands behind the line. K15, not knowing he could advance the ball, just stands there. The Line Judge blows his whistle.

Ruling: If the Line Judge blows his whistle immediately after K15 gains possession of the ball, then you have an inadvertent whistle. K15 must be given an opportunity to advance the ball. However, if K15 just stands there and does nothing, at some point you've got to blow the whistle and kill the play. R's ball, 1st and 10 at that spot since K did not make the line-to-gain.

