

OSAA Football

2010 SRI Bulletin 6

Monday, October 04, 2010

2010 SRI Bulletin 6

Free Kicks:

Question: Can the kicking team place the ball flat on the tee, fake like they are going to kick and then reset the football upright and kick it?

Answer: They can do anything they want with the ball as long as they don't violate Rule 3-6-2a which says the ball must be free kicked within 25 seconds after the ready for play.

Downfield Blocking:

I received an inquiry from a Commissioner who was asked by a Coach about the defense blocking an eligible pass receiver coming towards him beyond the LOS. The Coach was told that a defensive player cannot block the receiver once the receiver leaves the LOS or goes beyond a 5-yard zone. First of all, there is no "chuck" rule in high school football. Second, remember that the defensive player does not know if that offensive player coming towards him is a blocker or a receiver, so the defense IS ALLOWED to legally ward off that offensive player until he reaches the yard line that the defensive player is on or cuts away from him. As we all know, pass interference restrictions start at the snap for the offense and start when the ball is in the air for the defense. Please review Rules 7-5-8, 7-5-9, 9-2-3d and Case Book play 9.2.3 Situation A.

Ball Touches an Official:

Play: On a kick try, the kick bounces off the Umpire who is standing in the end zone, and deflects through the goal without touching the ground or any other person through its flight.

Ruling: Successful try. The touching of the ball by the Umpire is ignored. Rule 4-2-2d2 Exception.

Knee Pads:

(From a Commissioner): A team is wearing a thin, pull-up knee pad under the pant. Spoke with the coach about it; he had some in-pant knee pads and asked the kids to put them in. He said some associations haven't said a word or are just ignoring it. It sure makes me feel like an idiot, the coach knew it was a rule but had the impression it was one that was not being enforced. I really believe this coach...bottom line, are we going to play a game one way or the other? If they show up like last night do we make the kids trade them back and forth so all are legal at all times (probably the right thing), do we penalize all who are not equipped (probably the right thing) and look like total jackasses or do we just play the game and hope nothing happens (which is what we did?)

Comment: Brad Garrett and myself have received several inquiries regarding the use of a wrestling/volleyball knee pad as a substitute for an in-pant football knee pad. Rule 1-5-1c2 requires knee pads to be worn over the knee and under the pants. Rule 1-5-1c4 requires pants to cover the knees and knee pads. We contacted Bob Colgate, Editor of the NFHS Football Rule Book regarding

an interpretation of these rules. Mr. Colgate indicated that the Federation interpretation shall be that the primary and required knee pad be an in-pant knee pad which shall be covered by the pant. Wrestling/volleyball knee pads may be worn AS A SUPPLEMENT to the in-pant pad, but NOT AS A SUBSTITUTE for the in-pant knee pad.

Bottom Line: A player may wear a thin, pull-up knee pad IN ADDITION TO, but not in place of an in-pant knee pad. **Let's all work to be consistent with**

Printed from ArbiterSports.com