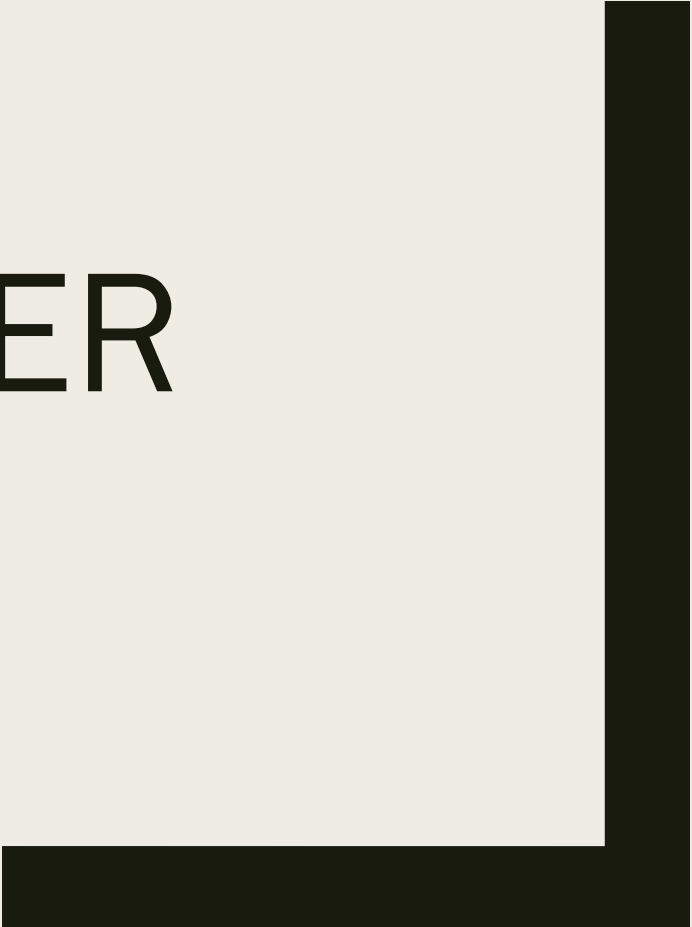




NFSOA MEMBER MEETING

22 September 2024

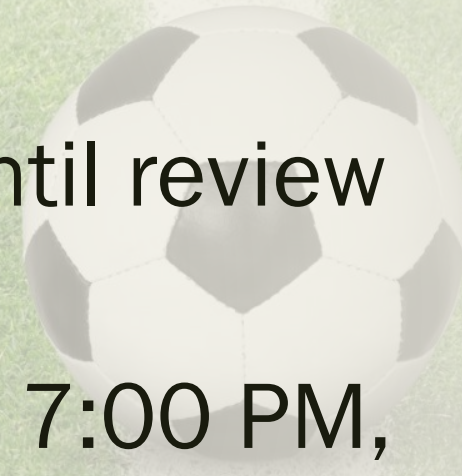


Agenda

- Association News
- Assignor's Update
- Rules Changes and Points of Emphasis
- Evaluations
- Main Session Wrap Up
- New Member Session

Association News

- Complete Registration and Pay Association Dues
- Rules Exam opens Oct 16 (wait until review meeting)
- Next meeting, Exam prep: 10/24, 7:00 PM, Schultz
- First regular season games: Nov 6
- All dates at nfsoa.com/calendar

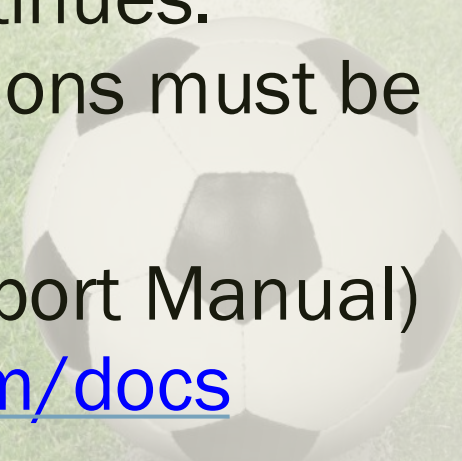


Get Ready to Be Assigned

- Complete new background check if it has been 5 years since your last (expiration date on your badge)
- If your badge expires this year, you have been/will be contacted
 - *You **cannot** work games without a current badge*
- Get your address labels and W-9 forms updated and printed



Association News

- Coach misconduct reporting system continues.
<https://nfsoa.com/cards> All coach cautions must be reported
 - All documents (Rules changes, Soccer Sport Manual) have been updated at <https://nfsoa.com/docs>
 - Add notify@nfsoa.com to your contacts or safe sender list
 - Recognize New Members
 - Financial update at next meeting
- 
- A soccer ball is positioned on the right side of the slide, resting on a green field. The ball is white with black pentagonal patterns. The background of the slide is a light green field with a white center circle.

Assignor's Update

- Complete referee profile at <https://nfsoa.com/profile>
- Update your availability in Arbiter. Make sure you have a CURRENT photo posted. This helps new members.
- Update blocks and conflicts in Arbiter; no partial blocks
- Update Conflicts of Interest: e.g.: a family member who works at a school; you graduated from a school in the last 4 years
- Make it PUBLIC (only other referees can see it)

Assignor's Update

- If you have moved, update your address in Arbiter: include both the address section AND travel limits
- Busiest nights are Tuesday and Thursday
- How to handle Game Day crises
- Don't find your own replacement
- Contact your crew before the game



FHSAA & NFHS SOCCER UPDATES

2024-25 Sport Season



FHSAA UPDATES

2024-25 Sport Season

FHSAA Rule Changes

- The Diagonal System of Control will be used during games with three officials (one referee and two ARs)
- The Dual System of Officiating will be used during games with two officials (two referees with whistles)
- All misconducts and cards will be issued as written in the NFHS Soccer Rulebook. The Blue Card is no longer used
- During the Regional Tournament and Beyond, a 4th official will be used

Diagonal System of Control Keys to Success

- Referees: discuss foul selection with ARs in the pre-game
- Referees: wave down ARs at your own risk; it hurts teamwork
- Referees: wait to signal for decisions for which AR is responsible
- ARs: ask the referee how they want to be notified when they miss a raised flag. Suggestion: use a “safe word”
- Eye contact is crucial

Misconduct and Reporting

- Yellow cards are still yellow cards
- Everything that was a blue card is now a red card
- Red card reports are required in ALL cases. FHSAA calls this an AT-6 UC report.
- FHSAA decides any further punishment

Reporting Misconduct

An AT-6UC is required for all red cards. It is a form on the FHSAA website. The link is at nfsoa.com/cards.

Scroll down below the coach card reporting section to find it

Misconduct Details

Misconduct Type *

- Dissent
- Illegal Equipment
- Unsporting Conduct
- Other (describe in narrative)

nfsoa.com/cards

When did it happen? *

- First Half
- Second Half
- After the game

Narrative (not required)

In most cases, this is not necessary, but share more if you think it is important

Submit

FHSAA AT-6 Report

If you need to submit an FHSAA AT-6 UC, it can be found [here](#).

Reporting Misconduct

- Reports MUST be filed within 24 hours. Coaches contact FHSAA to find out sanctions, so don't risk skipping the report
- FHSAA does not want the level of detail you provide USSF. No rule citations are necessary. Brief discussion and the nature of the violation
- “In the second half, Dibley High School player #10, Alice Tinker yelled “fuck you” at the referee. I showed a red card for offensive language.”

Reporting Misconduct

- You must call Allison King if you show a red card for taunting, fighting or other violent conduct, or for a red card to a coach.. Discuss with Kevin Flynn before you submit the AT-6.
- Do not call for a red card for DOGSO, second yellow to a player etc.

FHSAA Evaluation Program

- To qualify for state playoffs, officials must pass an evaluation every two years
- NFSOA uses evaluations to help our members improve
- FHSAA evaluators for NFSOA: Ed Guertin, Chris Kinney and Mike Register
- It isn't possible to evaluate every member; we start with members recommended for playoffs last season
- We also want to see new members to provide information to Allison
- What are evaluators looking for?



FHSAA POINTS OF EMPHASIS

2024-25 Sport Season

Official Game Clock

- 6-2-1. The official time will be kept by a contest official on the field, and if the stadium clock is available, it is unofficial.
- The official game clock is to be kept on the field by a contest official.
- If there is a display clock available, it can be used but the displayed time is unofficial.
- The proper procedure for a display clock is to run the game clock to 0:00 during each half. Do not stop the clock at the 2:00 mark.

Official Game Clock

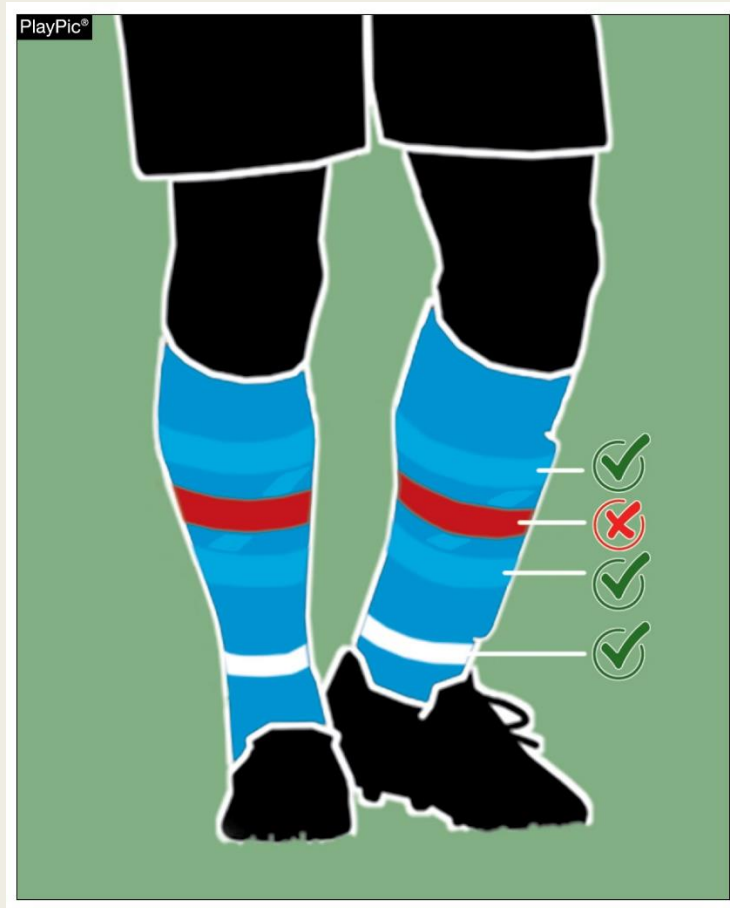
- If a display clock is available, the referee must ensure the time kept on the field is in sync with the stadium clock.
- If the display stadium clock and the official game time kept on the field are not in sync, fix during the next stoppage.
- Prior to the game, be sure to communicate the clock procedures with the clock operator, and the coaches of both teams.



NFHS RULE CHANGES

2024-25 Sport Season

Required Uniform 4-1-4d



If tape or a similar material (stays/straps) is applied externally to the socks **above the ankle**, it shall be a similar color as that part of the sock to which it is applied.

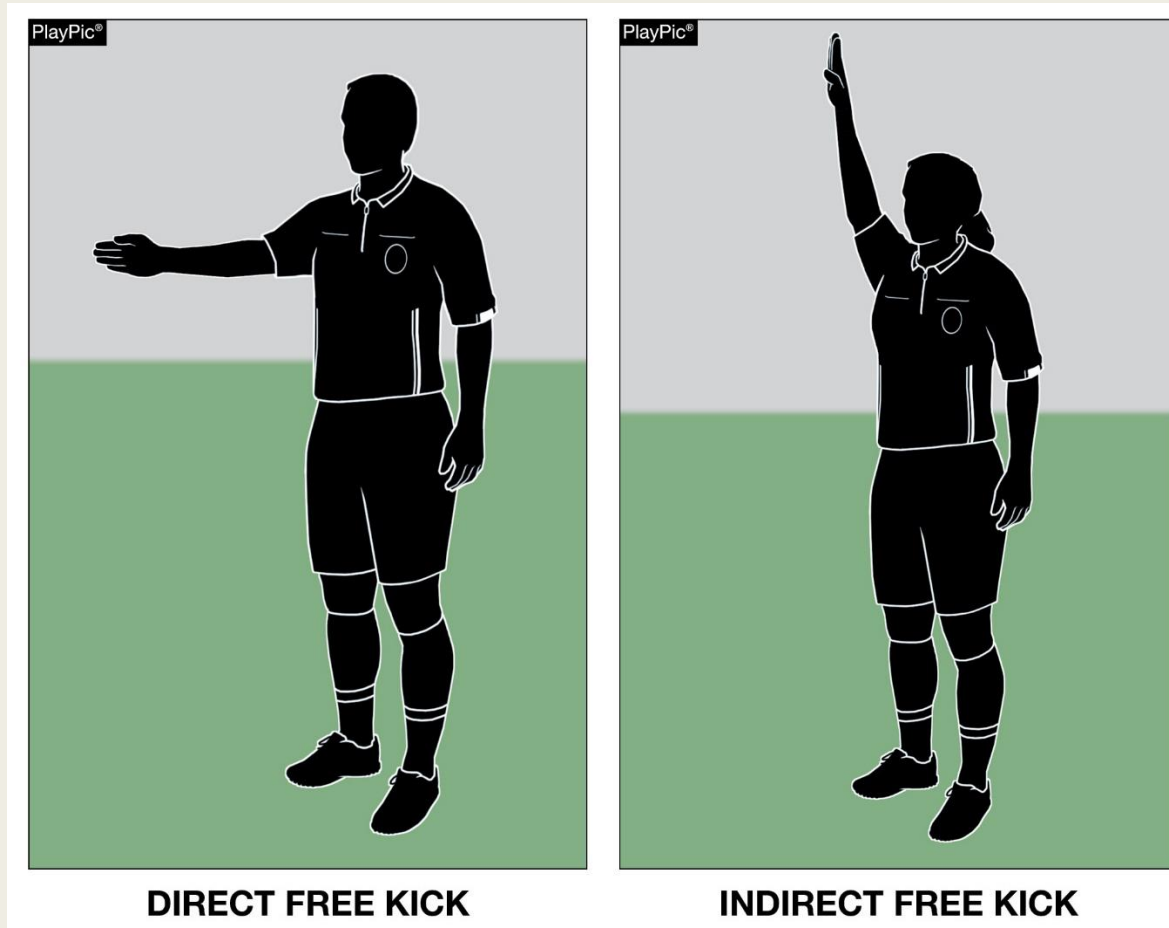
Below the ankle, tape or similar material may be any color.

Fouls and Misconduct: Rule 12



The rule on Fouls and Misconduct has been revised to eliminate duplicate language and improve usability. Sections have been rearranged to enhance ease of reference. Red card offenses have been ordered by relative level of severity.

Fouls and Misconduct: Rule 12



Direct and Indirect free kick fouls now have their own sections in the rules.

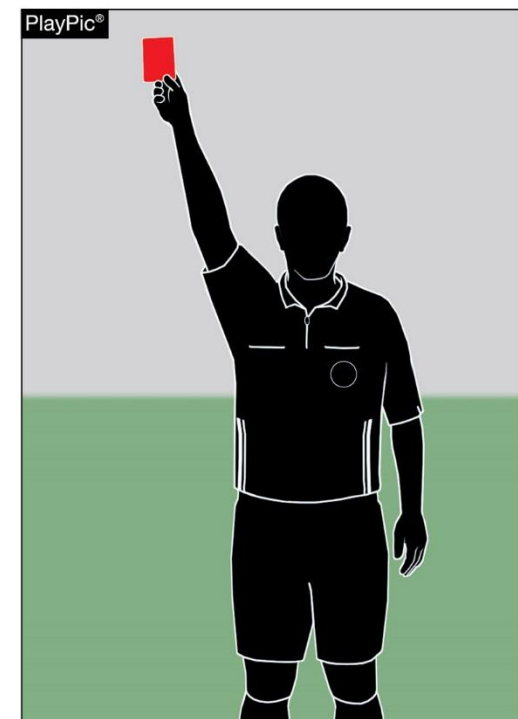
Fouls and Misconduct

Rule 12

**Terminology
Changes**
Wording was
updated to reflect
national terminology.



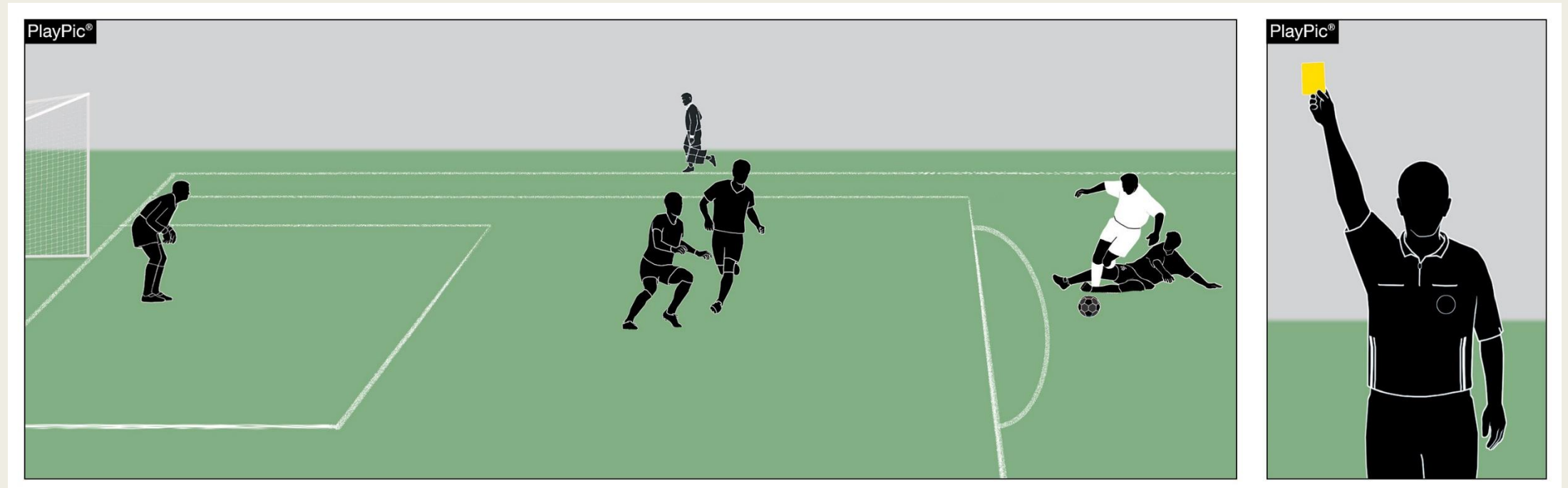
The term “obstruction” has been replaced by the term “impeding.”



The term “disqualification” has been replaced by the term “ejection.”

Fouls and Misconduct

Rule 12



Rule 12 now includes the criteria for Stopping a Promising Attack (SPA) in Section 8.

Rule 12: DOGSO

Article 4 in 12-8 provides guidance that all elements must be satisfied for obvious goal-scoring opportunities:

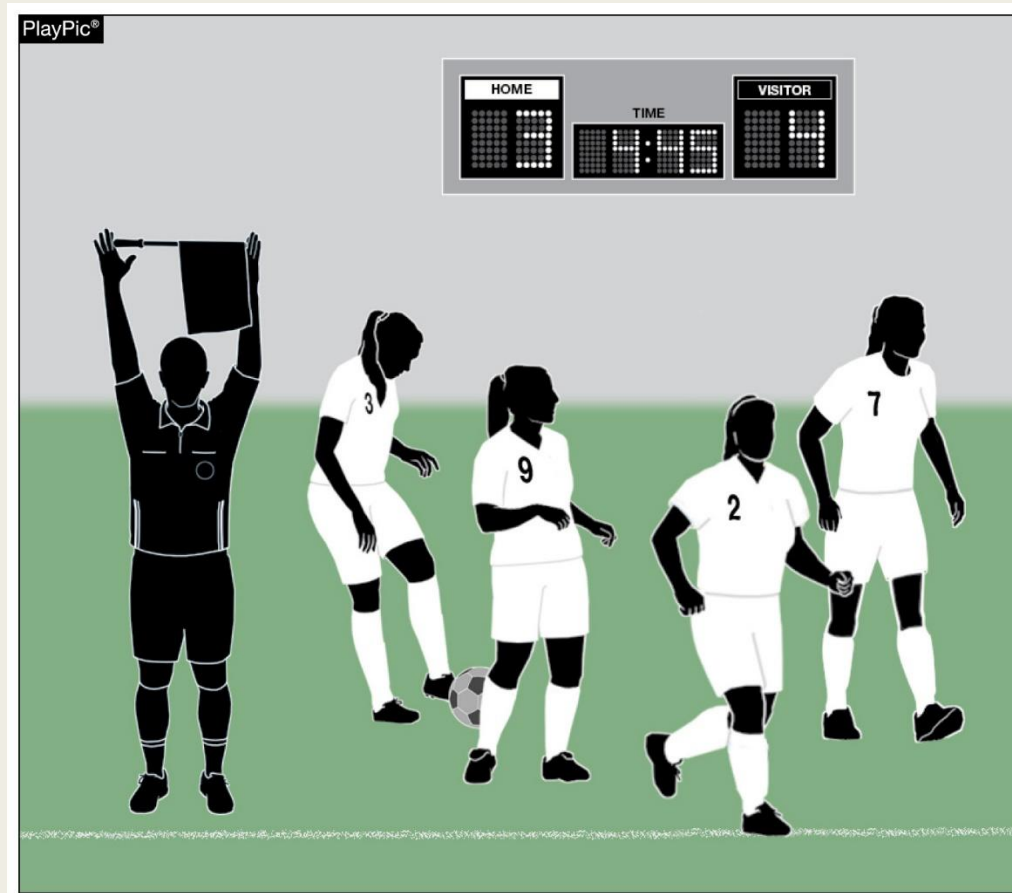
- Distance between the offense and the goal
- General direction of play (toward the goal)
- Likelihood of keeping control of the ball (aka distance between the attacker and the ball)
- Location and number of defenders



NFHS EDITORIAL CHANGES

2024-25 Sport Season

Time – Out and In: Rule 7-4-3



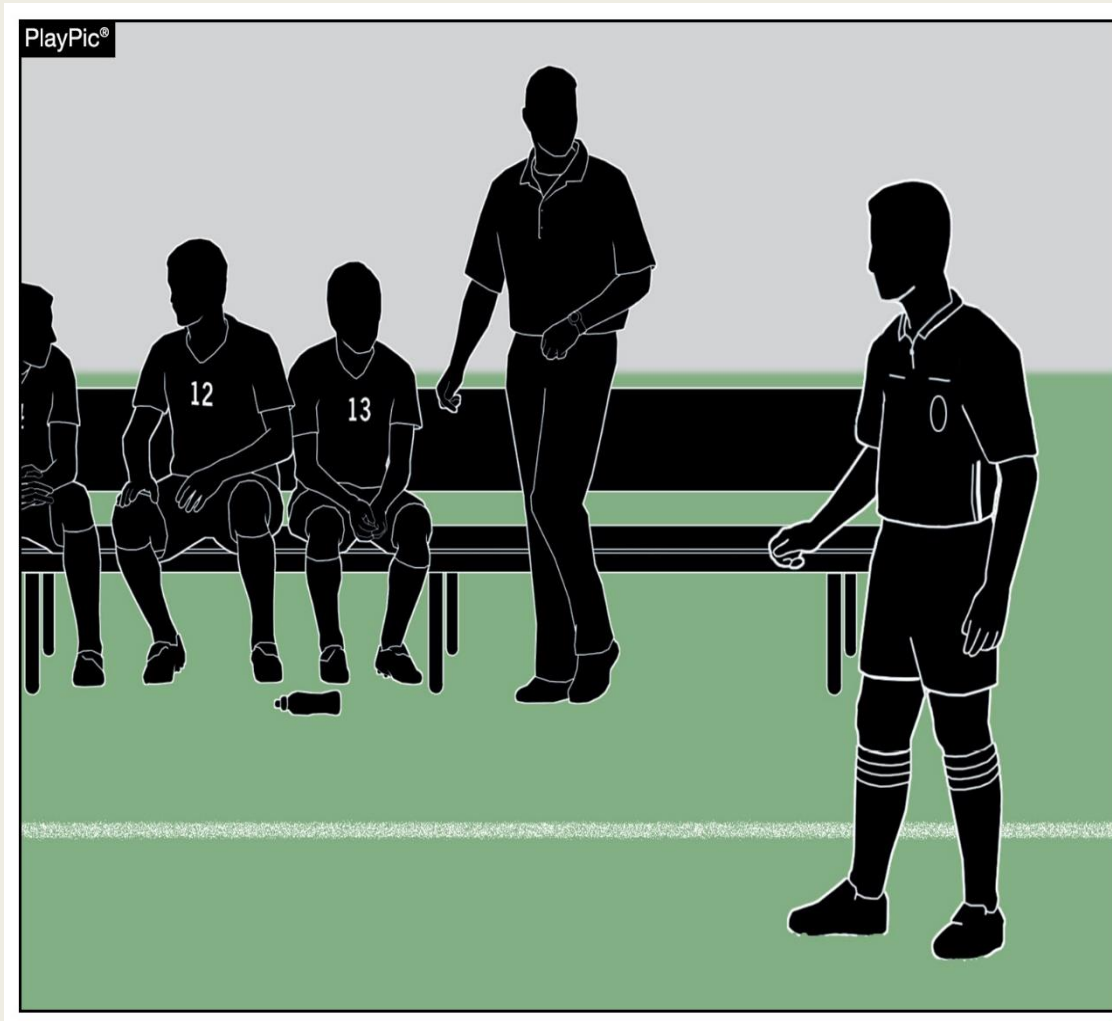
The clock shall be stopped when a substitute by the team in the lead is beckoned onto the field in the final five minutes of regulation **or overtime.**



NFHS POINTS OF EMPHASIS

2024-25 Sport Season

Official's Toolbox for Game Management



- Development – With the explanation of misconduct, both coaches and officials should approach interactions with respect and maintain professionalism.
- Adaptability – Referees must adapt to changing circumstances and adjust their officiating style based on the level of play, the behavior of players and unexpected developments during the match.

Stopping a Promising Attack



The strategy of tactically fouling with the aim to interrupt the attacking team's progress without necessarily denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity is a form of misconduct.

Rule 12 highlights the importance of discerning the nature of these types of tactical offenses for consistent and fair officiating.

Stopping a Promising Attack



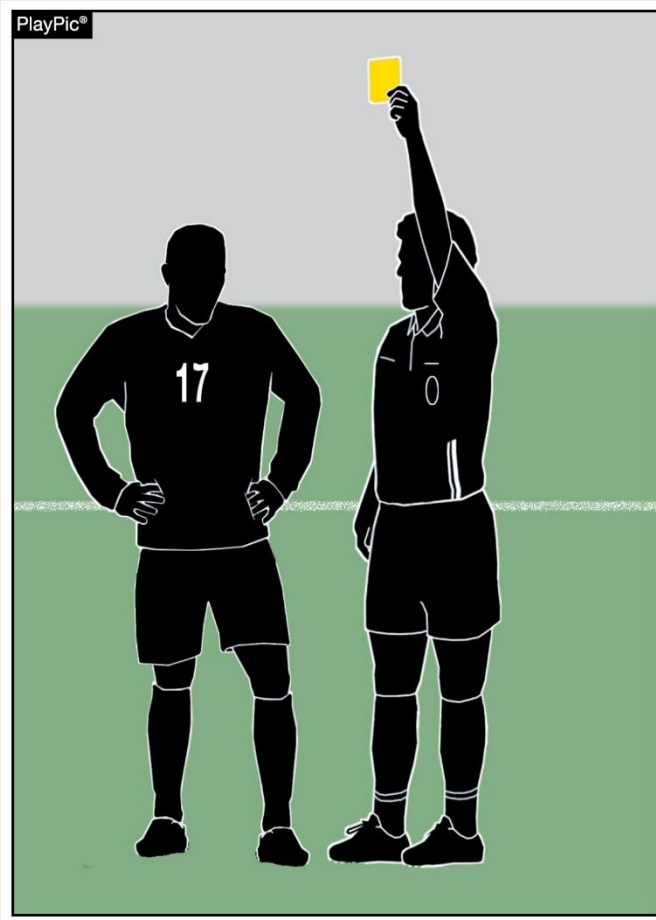
Fouls that stop a promising attack (SPA)

- might not be severe in nature,
- but the offense's impact on the attacking team's potential needs to be recognized and dealt with accordingly.

Officials need to

- understand the nuanced dynamics of play,
- maintain a tactical awareness of the phase of play, and
- recognize SPA incidents.

Stopping a Promising Attack

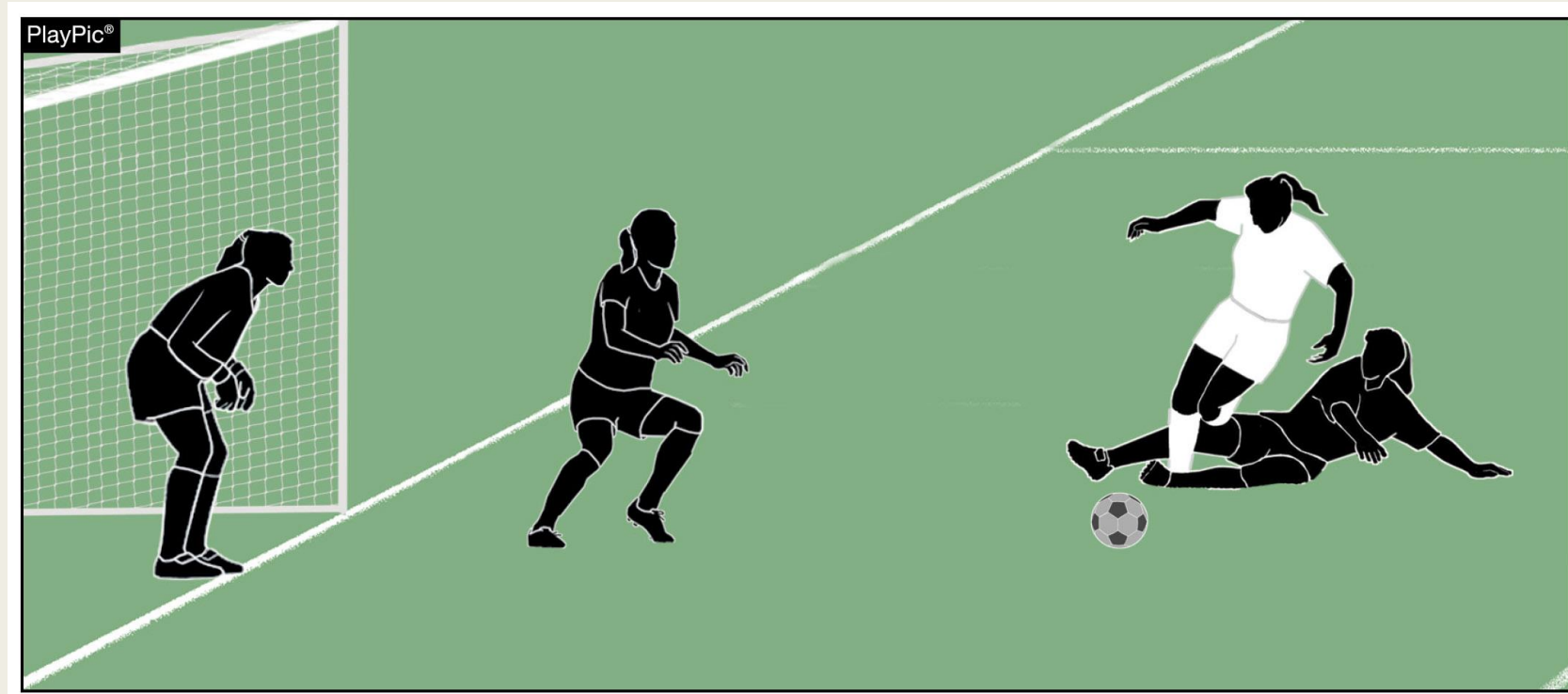


Referees are tasked with evaluating multiple factors to determine the promise of an attack, encompassing elements like:

- Player positioning,
- Ball control,
- Defensive presence,
- Team's pace.

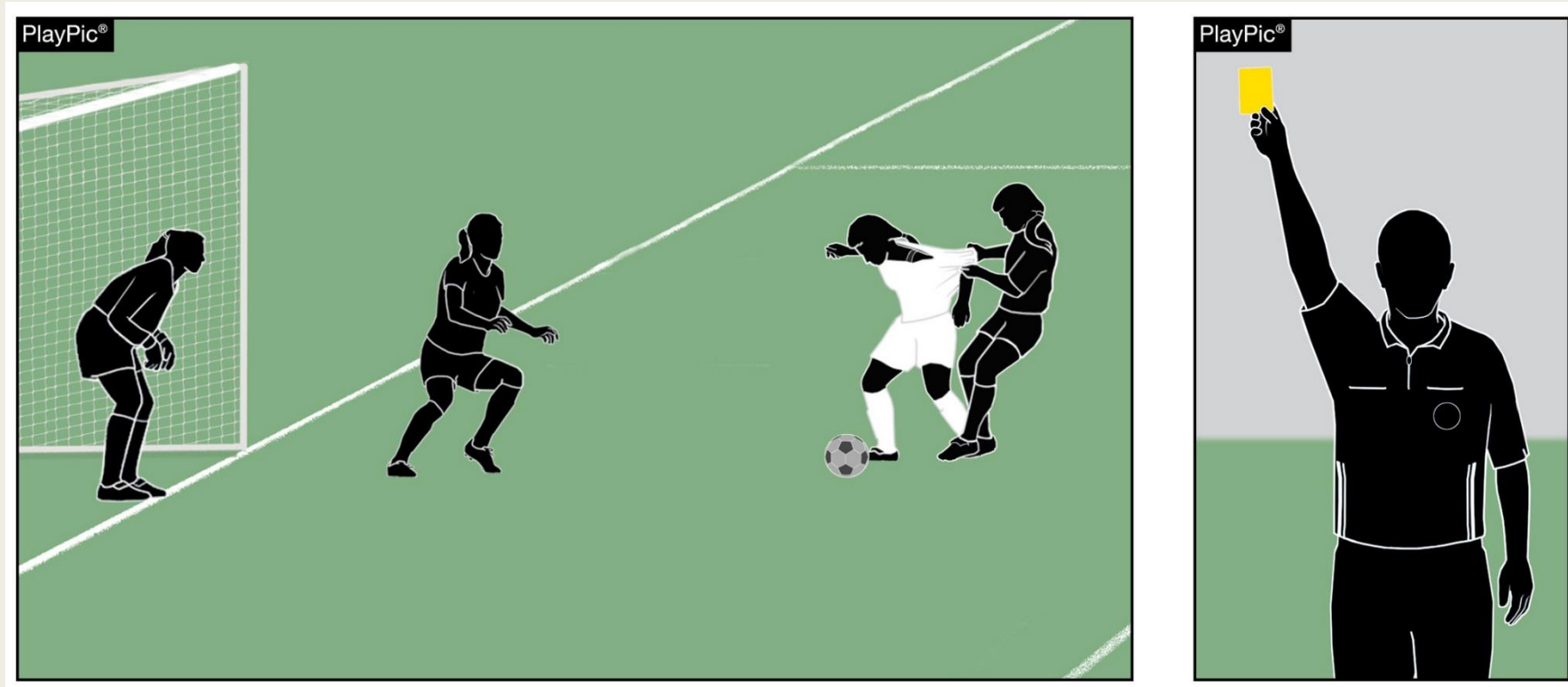
Any foul disrupting a promising attack is considered misconduct, warranting a caution and a yellow card for the offending player.

Stopping a Promising Attack



If SPA occurs within the offender's penalty area, and the foul is an attempt to play the ball, the player is not cautioned if the referee awards a penalty kick.

Stopping a Promising Attack



In other SPA circumstances inside the penalty area (e.g., holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball, etc.) the offending player must be cautioned.

After a Goal

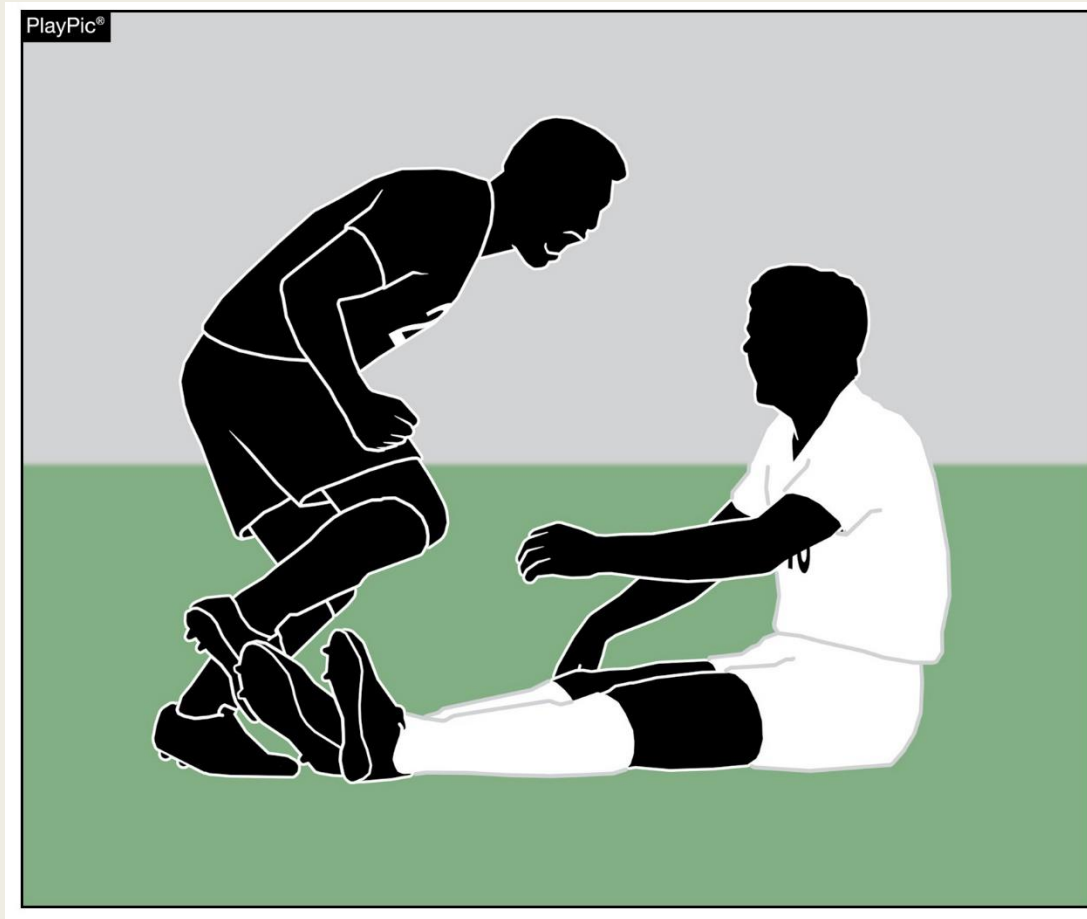


After a goal is scored, officials must stay alert. In addition to administrative tasks, officials must be vigilant for any signs of tension or potential misconduct and address issues promptly to prevent situations from escalating.

Key aspects include:

- Officials need to work as a team to determine if the goal was, in fact, scored properly.
- Identifying and addressing any unsporting actions or misconduct.

After a Goal



- The officiating crew must monitor players for excessive or inappropriate behavior, such as taunting, or potential confrontations, dissent or other provocative actions.

After a Goal



Officials should focus on the players, recognize situations that could lead to conflicts, be present and proactive in their responses, and deal with misconduct appropriately.

After a goal



The crew should cover record keeping and beckoning in substitutes in their pre-game discussions.

Wrap Up

- Next meeting is exam review
- Our advice is to wait to take the exam until
AFTER that meeting
- Meeting is on Thursday, October 24, 7:00 PM
at Schultz Center



NEW MEMBER REVIEW

22 September 2024

Agenda

- Welcome to NFSOA
- Key Personnel
- NFSOA New Member Checklist
- Pre-Season Games
- Getting Assignments
- Review of NFHS Rule Differences
- Review of FHSAA Specific Rule Modifications

Welcome to NFSOA

- The North Florida Soccer Officials Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to training and assigning soccer officials for high school and middle school competitions in Northeast Florida
- Our service area includes the following counties:
 - *Baker*
 - *Clay*
 - *Duval*
 - *Nassau*
 - *St Johns*
- We are run by and in service of our members

Key Personnel

- Kevin Flynn, President
- Rick Squibb, Treasurer
- Allison King, Assignor
- Mike Register, Training Coordinator & Playoff Assignment Coordinator
- Arnel Selman, Playoff Assignment Coordinator

NFSOA New Member Checklist

- Register with FHSAA if you haven't already
- Pass a criminal background check (JLA) and receive your “badge” (it looks like an employee ID)
- Attend this clinic
- Pass the FHSAA rules exam (online)
- Get your uniform (same as USSF uniform, except we wear three-stripe socks). You will be given a FHSAA badge
- Prepare address labels and W-9 forms to get paid by the schools

NFSOA New Member Checklist – Full Details with links



Pre-Season Games

- A limited number of schools play a small number of pre-season games
- This is a chance for new members to work games with veterans prior to the start of the season. You may receive feedback from an evaluator or from the veteran member you work with
- We use these games to help us understand your abilities and assign you appropriately
- Specific roles in a game (referee or AR) may change from what is published

Getting Assignments

- NFSOA uses Arbiter to assign referees to games
- Assigning schedule review
- How to turn back games when necessary
- Pre-game duties (getting in touch with your crew)

Assignor Contact Information

- Allison King
 - 904-349-1838
 - saaaaking@yahoo.com
-
- You can download Allison's contact card at nfsoa.com/docs
 - Please ensure this information is saved to your Contacts
 - It is important to regularly check your email during the season

NFHS Rule Modifications – Big Picture

- The goal of high school sports is the development of the student-athlete through athletic competition. It is not the promotion of soccer as a sport.
- High school sports are about inclusion, participation and the promotion of good sporting behavior
- In general, if you can't do it in the classroom, you can't do it on the field
- Ensuring the safety of participants is of paramount importance. If you believe a player is injured, stop play quickly. If you believe a player may have a head injury, stop play immediately.

NFHS Rule Differences from IFAB

- This is an overview of the most important differences; it is not comprehensive
- Review the rule book on your own
- FHSAA has further modified some of the NFHS Rules; we will cover those as well

Administrative Rule Differences

- **Timekeeping** – referee keeps official time. Scoreboard time should be (reasonably) in sync with official time. No added time; instead, the clock stops at events prescribed in the rules
- **Team Roster** - Required to be presented by coach or player to referee 5 mins. prior to game. Names may be added to roster after start of play. Player numbers required on roster. Everyone in the team area must be on the roster.
- **Coin toss** is attended by head coaches and captains. Coaches certify that players are legally and properly equipped and then may leave.
- There is **no player check-in** before the game and no player passes

Rule Differences - Substitutions

- Cautioned players MUST be substituted; this is not optional
- Injured players must be substituted if the referee calls the healthcare professional and/or coach on to the field
- Importantly, the above applies to goalkeepers
- When beckoned by the referee, subs become players and can immediately enter the field (they don't have to wait for the substituted player to leave)

Rule Differences - Substitutions

- Team in possession may sub on their own throw in or corner kick. If team in possession subs, both teams may sub (in addition to other sub opportunities)
- No subs on free kicks (except for injury)
- If the team leading the score subs with 5 mins or less left in the second half, the clock is stopped
- Substituted players must exit the field at the halfway line in front of their bench

Key NFHS Rule Differences

- Home team wears white jerseys and socks; away team wears any color that contrasts with white
- What to do if home team doesn't wear white? Play and send a brief report to notify@nfsoa.com
- No jewelry. Officials do not perform a check-in before the match. Instead, coach certifies team is “legally and properly equipped”. Violations are sanctioned with a caution to head coach for first instance and to players in all subsequent instances

Rule Differences – Referee Signals

- Stop the clock – arms cross at wrists over the head
- Start the clock – arm winding, similar to American football

Rule Differences – Stopping the clock

- Goal
- Misconduct
- Penalty Kick
- Team leading subs with 5 mins or less remaining in second half (including second half of OT)
- Referee's discretion (injury; no ball runners late in a close game where home team is leading)

Rule Differences – Misconduct

Caution (yellow card)

- Incidental use of profane language

“Ejection” (red card)

- Taunting
- Leaving the bench when a fight is taking place
- All misconduct must be reported to both coaches before the restart of play. “Coach, #9 was cautioned for dissent”. This is not an opportunity for debate

Rule Modifications – System of Control

- Games utilize the Diagonal System of Control (referee, two assistant referees) or the Dual System of Control (two referees with whistles)
- In general, varsity uses DSC and sub-varsity uses Dual
- State playoff games include a fourth official

FHSAA Rule Modifications

- Hydration breaks are required in all games, during an organic stoppage at about the halfway point of the half. One minute in length
- Draws/ties stand at the end of a game. Overtime only during tournament play and then two 10-minute periods (no "golden goal"). Then kicks from the mark
- Varsity plays two 40-minute halves that may NOT be shortened (your rule book says differently)
- JV halves can be any length, usually 30 or 35. Ensure the coaches agree before the game starts

FHSAA Mercy Rule

- 8 goal differential at end of the first half or at any point during the second half terminates the game
- If an 8 goal differential is reached at any time during the first half, the game clock continues to run after goals are scored
- Once the game clock starts running due to an eight-goal differential, the game clock must continue to run for the duration of the game (even if the goal differential decreases to less than 8)

Rule Books

- Paper books
- Digital version for purchase (\$7) on allaccess.nfhs.org, but don't bother
- Paper and digital books **do not** contain FHSAA modifications
- FHSAA Rule Modifications can be found on the NFSOA website in the document titled "FHSAA Soccer Manual" (QR Code →)
- Also review the document "Comparative Study of Rules and Laws"



What Are Playoffs?

- High schools are organized by size classification (e.g. 7A, 6A, 5A, etc) and geography (Regions then Districts)
- At the end of the regular season, all teams in a Class/District participate in the District Tournament
- Teams that qualify then participate in the Regional Tournament
- Winners of each Region play in the State Semi-finals and Finals
- Generally, when people say “playoffs” they are referring to Regionals and beyond
- There are also in-season tournaments, namely the Gateway Conference Tournament, which are only for bragging rights

