

Soccer Comments on the Rules - 2020-21

By NFHS on May 06, 2020

soccer

2-2-4 – The change in resuming play after a ball becomes deflated during play was dictated by changes in the drop ball procedure in rule

9-2. 4-1-1a – Manufacturing of uniforms designed to be worn outside the shorts have become more common, making it difficult for officials to enforce the rule of tucking the shirt in, necessitating a revision.

4-2-7e, f – The Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) no longer recommends the mouth protector meet the criteria of not being completely white or completely clear.

9-1-1b – This change prevents situations where one team gains an advantage when the ball touches a referee and remains in play.

9-2-1c, e – This change reiterates the changes made to 9-1-1, clarifying that the game is restarted with a drop ball following a temporary suspension of play for an injury or unusual situation, or when the ball touches an official. Note: in all situations where a drop ball restart occurs in the penalty area, the ball is always dropped to the goalkeeper with all opposing players outside the penalty area.

9-2-3 – This change clarifies the procedure followed when restarting play with a drop ball. It ensures that the team in possession when play was stopped, retains possession when play is resumed, with the exception of a drop ball in the penalty area.

9-3 – This rule was removed because of redundancy. Refer to 9-2-1c.

13-2-3b – Consistent with changes made in rule 9-2-1c. This change eliminates the awarding of an indirect free kick when play is temporarily suspended due to an injury or other unusual situation.

13-3-1 – This change will allow opposing players to enter the penalty area and play the ball once it has been put in play. The ball will no longer need to leave the penalty area before being touched by any player to be considered in play.

13-3-2 – This change affirms that the ball does not have to leave the penalty area to be in play, following a free kick.

13-3-4 – This rule prevents punishing a team taking an indirect free kick when the referee fails to give the proper signal.

14-1-3 – This rule clarifies the goalkeeper’s position during the taking of a penalty kick. This change allows the goalkeeper to make any movement desired, if one foot remains on or in-line with the goal line until the ball is kicked.

16-1-2, 16-1-3, 16-1-4 – These changes clarify the procedure for taking a goal kick and designating when the ball is in play.