



## PIAA SOCCER CONCERNS

The following slides depict areas of concern that have surfaced from the last couple of seasons.



## PROPER UNIFORM

- The proper uniform for PIAA Registered Soccer Officials is clearly defined in the Annual PIAA Pre-Season Soccer Bulletin.
- Black and white striped shirt is only approved officials' shirt.
- Shoes must be **SOLID BLACK AND SHINED.**
- **SHIRTS AND PANTS MUST BE CLEAN PRESSED AND NEAT!!**



## PIAA SPORTSMANSHIP MESSAGE

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- Must be read or recited VERBATIM to Head Coaches and Captains.
- Head Coaches MUST certify their team is legally equipped by NFHS Soccer Rules and PIAA Adoptions.
- Failure to do so indicates the officials will promote selective enforcement of rules.



## SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF RULES

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- Officials MUST enforce all rules as adopted by the PIAA Board of Directors.
- If officials do not agree with rules, they still must enforce them as written.
- Official SHALL NOT have selective enforcement of what they think the rules should be.
- There is a formalized process for changing Rules; please follow it.



## RULES CHANGE PROCESS

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- Request a NFHS rules change proposal from the PIAA Office.
- Complete the NFHS rules change proposal form and submit to Dr. Robert A. Lombardi, Associate Executive Director
- Acceptable rules proposals will be submitted to NFHS.



## DISQUALIFICATION PROCESS

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- If you have to eject a player/coach or bench personnel from a contest,
- You MUST:
  - Submit a DQ form to the PIAA Office within 24 hours citing the rule and actions under which the ejection occurred. Do not editorialize!!
  - Submit as many details as possible.
- Forms are available on-line.



## DISQUALIFICATION PROCESS CONTINUED

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- Failure to submit report in timely fashion may cause problems for schools; officials; PIAA and you.
- Failure to adhere may result in your probation or suspension.
- Cannot make ejection go away with no report.
- If eject; must report. No exceptions.



## DISQUALIFICATION PROCESS CONTINUED

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- Each school's AD and Principal **MUST** meet with the ejected coach or contestant and detail in a report what corrective action has been taken.
- This report **MUST** be signed by all parties and sent to their respective, district soccer chairman.



## PIAA ADOPTIONS

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- Listed in Annual Pre-Season Soccer Bulletin.
- Cannot change; just enforce.
  - Use of signals – mandatory
  - Yellow card sit out – 5 minutes
  - Suspension of play
    - Prior to completed half - resume @ point of suspension
    - One half completed = complete game
  - Regular season overtime
  - VARSITY ONLY - 2 periods - 10 minutes maximum
    - NO overtime for sub-varsity



## PIAA ADOPTIONS con't.

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- Regular season tournaments – can complete by using shoot-out; this adoption is only for regular season TOURNAMENTS; not games.
  - Regular season tournaments that go to shoot-out; the result of the contest stands; a win or loss.
- 3 classes of boys and girls soccer this fall
- PIAA does not authorize diagonal system.
  - Only dual and double dual systems are approved.



## SIGNALS

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- All PIAA Soccer officials are to utilize proper PIAA/NFHS Soccer signals without exception.
- Practice them; use them; critique fellow chapter officials.
- DO NOT use homemade or chapter “adopted” signals/mechanics.



## CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

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- Officials need to be aware of players who exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with concussions.
- Use common sense.
- If remove player, make note of time of removal, player # on game card or in scorebook.
- No need for officials to receive written documentation for return to play.



## CORNER KICK MECHANICS NEAR LEAD

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- In the dual system, when trail is opposite the lead and the corner kick is by the lead, the trail **MUST** get deeper into the offensive area to assist to assist their partner.
- We have seen so many trail officials too far away from the action.



## CORNER KICK MECHANICS TRAIL SIDE

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- If corner is on trail side, the trail is reminded not to turn their back after the ball is served into the area, or leave too quickly before the momentum of the play is diminished.
- Keep play boxed in.



## CORNER KICK MECHANICS

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- In both play situations, we do not want to leave the lead official on an island with 18-20 players all by themselves.
- Assist each other in covering this situations and others by discussion in your pre-game conference.



## INJURED PLAYER

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- When a player is injured and a team's athletic trainer moves onto the field to assist an injured player, it is important that officials work together with the medical personnel to ensure quick and safe treatment of the athlete(s). No official should deny access to an athlete by attending medical personnel.



## FIELD MARKINGS

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- Fields are to be marked according to the rules.
- Teams and official areas SHOULD be located on the same side of the field.
- This allows for easier communication between game officials and coaches.
- Much easier to control substitutions.



## BALL HOLDERS

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- Home school shall provide a minimum of two ball holders.
- The ball holders should be identified before the game starts.
- Officials must instruct and work with the ball holders to ensure a smooth game.



## SCORERS AND TIMERS

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- Schools must select and train competent individuals.
- Officials have the responsibility to have a pre-game meeting with these individuals.
- Schools and Officials must impart that scorers and timers are an integral part of the game.



## SUBSTITUTIONS

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- DO NOT make the substitute wait until the on-field player comes off.
- This delays play and breaks the rhythm/flow of the game.
- Have the substitute RUN to the position of the replaced player after reporting to the scorekeeper and being beckoned onto to the field by the official.



## CHECKING EQUIPMENT

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- School personnel are to check playing facilities prior to game time and correct any problems.
- Officials must inspect field conditions and player equipment prior to game time.



## CHECKING EQUIPMENT

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- Head coaches of both teams are to check player equipment and verify their team is legally equipped as per NFHS Soccer Rules and PIAA Adoptions when asked by the Head Referee at the pre-game meeting.



## END OF GAME PROCEDURES

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- Officials are to leave the field immediately!!!
- No need to view handshake; not officials' responsibility
- Meet partners at midfield
- Leave together.
- Do not trouble, trouble; unless trouble troubles you.



## CHECK PIAA WEB SITE

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- During the season, we often put together an updated rules bulletin on calls, or questions, that have occurred.
- Please check the soccer page, or the officials' section, of the PIAA web site for updated in-season information.
- We are attempting to place more items of interest on the site to assist officials.



## GOOD LUCK – BEST WISHES

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- Enjoy interscholastic athletics at its best.
- Enjoy the camaraderie of brother and sister officials.
- Promote participation in the interscholastic sports arena.
- Encourage others to get involved with interscholastic athletics – “The Best Game in Town”.