

SOCCER PRESEASON BULLETIN

Rules, Revisions and Interpretations

AUGUST 2010

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PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

2010 NFHS SOCCER RULES CHANGES

3-3-1c (new): Time for Substitutions: either team may substitute an unlimited numbers of players from the bench, between periods, when a goal is scored or when a player is injured and removed from the field.

3-3-1c3: Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional. (Please see NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion).

4-1-1b: Beginning with the 2012 fall season, the home team shall wear solid white jerseys and solid white socks, and the visiting team shall wear dark jerseys and socks. Prior to and during the game, jerseys shall be tucked into the shorts, unless manufactured to be worn outside.

4-1-1i1: Beginning with the 2012 fall season, all jerseys shall be numbered on the back with a different Arabic number at least 6 inches in height and on the front (jersey or shorts) with the same number which shall be at least 4 inches in height. Numbers shall be of contrasting color to the jersey (or shorts) and clearly visible.

4-1-1i2: Only those names, patches, emblems, logos or insignias referencing the school are permitted on the team uniform, except as in 4-1-1 (d), (f) and (g). The player's name may also appear on the team uniform.

4-2-1c: Hard and unyielding items (guards, casts, braces, etc.) on the hand, wrist, forearm, elbow, upper arm or shoulder unless covered, and must be padded with a closed-cell, slow-recovery foam padding no less than 1/2-inch thick.

4-2-5: Artificial limbs, which in the judgment of the state high school association are no more dangerous to players than the corresponding human limb and do not place an opponent at a disadvantage, may be permitted. Upper limb prostheses and above-knee leg prostheses are discouraged. Hinges shall be lateral and covered by suitable material. All permissible artificial limbs must be padded with a closed-cell, slow-recovery foam padding no less than 1/2-inch thick.

5-3-2i (new): Instruct the timer to correct the clock, when necessary.

15-1-3: While a throw-in is being taken, an opponent shall neither interfere with, nor in any way impede, the actions of the thrower, and shall stand at least two yards from the point at which the throw-in is being taken. PENALTY: An official shall administer a caution for unsporting conduct.

18-1-1v (new): MISCONDUCT – Any of the actions by players, substitutes and bench personnel that results in yellow and/or red cards being issued.

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Major Editorial Changes

Rule 1-1-1: The following minimum dimensions are highly recommended: High Schools - 110 yards by 65 yards; Junior High Schools - 100 yards by 55 yards.

3-1-1 Situation B: RULING: In (a), the goal is disallowed and the game is restarted with a goal kick by team B. However, in (b), the goal would stand. In both instances, the appropriate player would be removed from the game and cautioned. The game is resumed according to how it was interrupted.

3-1-3 Situation B: RULING: Legal. Players can be added as long as their names have been listed on the roster, even if the names are added after the beginning of the game (3-3-7).

3-5 Situation A: RULING: Incorrect. When a referee beckoned the goalkeeper from the scoring table, this was sufficient "reporting or notifying" of a referee. The goalkeeper is dressed in a different uniform and could be recognized by his attire. A referee should not have stopped play. Play shall restart with an indirect free kick awarded to the new goalkeeper's team.

4-1-1 Diagram: Change term ILLEGAL to IMPROPER

4-1-1, a, b, c, d, i, i3, Situation C and F: Change term stockings to socks

4-2-1f: Knee and ankle braces which are altered from the manufacturer's original design/production. Knee and ankle braces that are unaltered, do not require any additional padding. Ankle braces may be worn outside a stocking;

5-1-3c: Predominantly black shoes and black socks with white stripes

5-3-1b: The referee also must signal when the clock is to be stopped and confirm for the scorekeeper the players to be credited with goals;

5-3-1g: Signal the clock to be stopped or started;

7-4-1: The clock shall be stopped for an injury, for a penalty kick, for cautioning (yellow card), for disqualifications (red card, yellow/red card), following the scoring of a goal and when a referee orders the clock be stopped.

12-8-3d: Committing serious foul play, that is any play in which the player commits one of the offenses punishable with a direct free kick (or penalty kick if the offense takes place by a defender in the penalty area) and uses disproportionate and unnecessary force against an opponent while playing for the ball. Serious foul play also includes the following:

12-8-3 Situation D: RULING: The referee should apply the advantage to Team A. At the next stoppage, the referee should disqualify the trainer. If the referee stops play for the disqualified trainer, the game is restarted because of misconduct with an indirect free kick by Team A from the point where the ball was when the time was stopped.

13-1-2: All free kicks, with the exception of kickoffs and penalty kicks, may be taken in any direction. Free kicks are taken from the spot of the foul except for restarts following certain temporary suspensions of play, e.g., misconduct committed by bench personnel during a live ball and fouls committed in the goal area by either team.

13-2-2i: If the game is stopped for misconduct of a player and no other restart takes precedence. (12-8-1, 2, 3, 4);

14-1 Play Rulings: PENALTY KICK SITUATIONS: (14-1-2 and 14-1-3) **Move table below 14-1-3 Penalty

14-1-2, Table: Saved & Held by Goalkeeper: Play Continues: Play continues: Rekick: Rekick

18-1-1m: FOUL - A rule infraction by a player on the field of play during play, for which a free kick is awarded to the player's opponents.

Sample Tournament Progression: Sample Tie-Breaking Procedure

Sample Tournament Progression: #7. Unless participating in the kicks as a kicker or goalkeeper, team members, coaches and other bench personnel shall remain in a designated area as determined by the state association.

Major Editorial Changes (Continued)

Dual-Officiating System, Pregame Conference:

The head referee is responsible for conducting the conference and is responsible for the overall management of the game. The head referee conducts the pregame instructions with the timer, scorer, coaches, ball holders and team captains, and also handles the coin toss.

Double-Dual System (DDS): A reserve official may be assigned to a tournament in order to assure game officiating continuity in the event one of the assigned officials is unable to officiate as assigned.

Rules Comparison: The 2010-11 rules book contains an updated comparison of the major differences among NFHS and NCAA rules and FIFA laws.

PLAY RULINGS:

The situations contained in this book have been developed from the actual questions which have been raised in administering the many thousands of interscholastic soccer games each year. The situations have been arranged by rule number. New or revised situations are preceded by an asterisk (*). All interpretations have the approval of the NFHS Soccer Rules Committee, which consists of coaches, officials and athletic administrators active on the high school level. Each ruling has been given careful study and is intended to provide for fair, easily administered competition. If there is need for additional interpretations, they may be received by contacting your state high school association. In case of doubt, the state association shall receive a ruling from the NFHS office.

NOTE: PIAA does not provide for use of the diagonal officials system.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

- 1) **Concussion Management** - The NFHS has been at the forefront of national sports organizations in emphasizing the importance of concussion education, recognition and proper management for the past several years. In 2008, the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) advocated that a concussed athlete be removed from play and not allowed to return to play on that same day. To highlight the continuing importance of this issue, the NFHS SMAC and each sport's rules committee has taken the unprecedented step of including Concussion Recognition and Management as a point of emphasis in each NFHS sport rules book for the 2010-11 year. The position of the NFHS SMAC is that no athlete should return to play or practice on that same day after suffering a concussion. Studies have shown medical professionals that the school-aged brain does not recover quickly enough for a high school athlete to return to activity in such a short time. No athlete should return-to-sport or other at-risk participation when symptoms of concussion are present and recovery is ongoing. Please see the "NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion in Sports" at www.nfhs.org for further information. (See page 107)
- 2) **Ankle and Knee Braces** - A player may wear an ankle or knee brace that has not been altered without padding or in the case of a knee brace, without a sleeve. An ankle brace may be worn over the sock.
- 3) **NFHS Code of Ethics** - Coaches and officials should read the NFHS Code of Ethics and incorporate them into their game preparations. (See pages 111-112)
- 4) **NFHS Soccer Signals** - Officials in the course of enforcing the rules of play need to properly and consistently use the updated NFHS Official Soccer Signals. (See page 104)
- 5) **Online Education** - The NFHS Web site (www.nfhs.org) offers coaches online educational opportunities. These include rule changes, situational videos, tactical and technical instructions, and management skills.

Points of Emphasis (Continued)

6) Team Areas - The team areas shall be marked by a solid line at least 10 feet from the touchline and extend 10 yards on each side of the halfway line, for a distance of 20 yards. When placed on opposite sides, each team area shall be placed diagonally across from each other, 10 feet from the touchline. This is a recommendation in games under PIAA jurisdiction.

7) Throw-in Encroachment - Opponents shall stand at least two yards from the point at which the throw-in is being taken. They shall neither interfere with, nor in any way impede, the actions of the thrower. This change was made to help speed up the game by getting the ball back into play as quickly as possible without interference.

Note: A doctors excuse is no longer required for any player wearing a brace or cast.

COMMENTS ON THE RULES

3-3-1C (new): An addition was made to this rule to provide for both teams to substitute an unlimited number of players from the bench when a player is injured and removed from the field.

3-3-1c3: An addition to this rule was made to further clarify that any player who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health care professional. (Please see NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion).

4-1-1b: This rule was changed to require the home team to wear solid white jerseys and socks, to better differentiate between the visiting team, who is required to wear jerseys and socks that are dark. This rule change will be enforced beginning with the fall 2012 season.

4-1-1i1: This rule now requires all goalkeepers to have a number on the back of their jersey and the front of their jersey or shorts that is different than any other number used by the other players on the team. This rule change will be enforced beginning with the fall 2012 season.

4-1-1i2: This rule addition allows only those names, patches, emblems, logos or insignias referencing the school to be permitted on the team uniform, except as

(g). The player's name may also appear on the team uniform. This rule will be enforced beginning with the fall of 2010.

4-2-1c: This rule requires that all hard and unyielding items such as guards, casts, braces, etc. on the hand, wrist, forearm, elbow, upper arm or shoulder must be padded with a closed-cell, slow-recovery foam padding no less than 1/2-inch thick.

4-2-5: This rule required that all permissible artificial limbs must be padded with a closed-cell, slow-recovery foam padding no less than 1/2-inch thick.

5-3-2i (new): This rule further clarifies that the referee has the authority to correct the clock when an error is detected.

15-1-3: This addition to this rule requires the opposition to stand at least two yards from the point at which the throw-in is being taken.

18-1-1: This addition to this rule provides a definition for misconduct, where previously, a definition was not provided.

PIAA ADOPTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

Adopt the 2010-2011 NFHS Soccer Rules Book.

Although NFHS has authorized different officials signals, PIAA will continue to use the 2009-2010 signal chart (see page 14).

Defined appropriate health care professional as licensed physician or osteopathic medicine (MD/DO).

Experiment with Rule 12-8-1 PENALTY, to provide for a 5-minute playing time sit out following the issuance of a yellow card to a player, with the opportunity for that player's Team to substitute for that player. A cautioned player may return to the field as a substitute, following the 5-minute playing time sit out period.

Modify Rule 5-1-1, to use either a head referee and a referee or a center referee and two side referees.

Modify Rule 5-1-1 NOTE, to use either the dual or the double-dual officiating system.

Adopt Rule 7-1-1, length of periods, play two equal halves of forty minutes at the senior high school level (varsity and junior varsity) of competition.

Adopt Rule 7-1-3. If less than one-half of the Contest has been played, restart from the suspension of play.

Adopt Rule 7-3-1. Tie Contests, as follows: Senior high school varsity soccer Regular Season Contests which are tied at the end of eighty minutes of play shall be resolved by playing no more than two "sudden victory" overtime periods not to exceed ten minutes each.

Modify the Sample Tournament Progression

For senior high school varsity soccer Regular Season Tournaments and Postseason Contests, as set forth in the NFHS Soccer Rules Book, to provide for no more than two "sudden victory" overtime periods not to exceed fifteen minutes each. If the score remains tied, proceed to the penalty kick procedure.

PIAA Pride:

At the expense of taking journalistic liberty with acronyms, PIAA PRIDE is a moniker for PIAA Referees In-service (training) Develops Excellence. This message grasps the concept and reality of training of officials at the local chapter level. Unlike many states, PIAA sports' officials chapters must adhere to the minimum standard of six seasonal in-service sessions and one mandatory rules interpretation meeting.

This formula assisted by lesson plans for chapter rules interpreters, preseason rules interpretation bulletins, during season NFHS and PIAA rules interpretations allows for training at the local association level to be thorough and comprehensive. This structure allows all registered officials to receive continuing education as part of their registration as a PIAA sports' official.

For all of this to be successful, chapter officers, in leadership positions, as well as the rank and file sports' officials only need to follow ten two letter words; IF IT IS TO BE IT IS UP TO ME. The combination of experiences with continued officiating education is a great recipe for success.

PIAA By-Laws, Article XV; Section 3 **Requirement of Written Contract:**

All PIAA member schools shall enter into either paper or electronic contracts on the official contract form entitled "Contract for Officials Under PIAA Rules" with all registered sports officials retained by the schools or assigned by an assignor. Registered sports officials are independent contractors and therefore, are NOT employees of PIAA, the school, or the assignor. Disputes arising from oral agreements will not be considered by PIAA.

Section 4 Violation or Cancellation of Sports **Official's Contract By a PIAA Member** **School**

If a PIAA member school violates or cancels a contract with an official, the District Committee or the Board of Directors, in their respective jurisdictions, may require a school so violating or so canceling to pay to the offended official the fee or fees for the Contest or Contests which have been provided in the official contract. Failure of a PIAA member school to live up to the terms of the contract shall be considered a violation of the Constitution and By-Laws of PIAA.

Comment: It has been brought to our attention on numerous occasions that officials have lost assignments or games because a school or assignor has "double booked" the contest. Officials are reminded that unless there is a written contract executed between the parties, they have no claim to any type of reimbursement from the offending school(s). Many schools have made a "good faith" effort to the officials to get them an additional assignment in the future or offer a scrimmage to pick up the lost fees. However, officially, without a written, signed, properly executed contract between the official(s) and the school(s), there is no recourse for the officials. In this day of technology it is not very hard for assignors, or schools, to execute these contracts. This is part of an assignor's responsibility. Officials should request contracts from their assignors or schools for both parties protection.



Misconduct-Penalty Chart			
	Player	Bench Personnel	Coach
Yellow Card	Must leave field until next legal substitution opportunity May be substituted or play short	Substitute (non-player) remains in team area until next legal substitution opportunity Other bench personnel remain in team area	Remains in team area
Yellow/Red Card	Must leave field May not return May be substituted or play short Restricted to team area	Not applicable	Not applicable
Red Card	Must leave field May not return May not be substituted; must play short Restricted to team area	Restricted to team area for substitutes or other students Adult bench personnel must leave vicinity of playing area	Must leave the vicinity of playing area

Play Rulings

The situations contained in the NFHS Soccer Rules Book have been developed from actual questions which have been raised in administering the many thousands of interscholastic soccer games each year. The situations have been arranged by rule number.

All interpretations have the approval of the NFHS Soccer Rules Committee, which consists of coaches, officials and athletic administrators active on the high school level. Each ruling has been given careful study and is intended to provide for fair, easily administered competition.

If there is need for additional interpretations, they may be received by contacting your chapter or district interpreters. In case of doubt, please contact our statewide rule interpreter or the PIAA Office.

Arrival at the Site

Cooperation with Contest management begins with timely arrival at the Contest site. Nothing makes administrators and coaches more nervous at the onset of a contest than not knowing whether the officials are going to show up.

Start the game off right by communicating you arrival time at the site with the athletic administrator. Show up, where possible, at least thirty minutes prior to the scheduled kickoff. It will go a long way in helping your credibility as a quality official.

Fitness and Health Condition

Athletic officiating is a vigorous avocation and it demands that an official be in excellent physical condition, able to give the very best, on every play, in every contest. To that end, the American Medical Association has stated that before one attempts any vigorous physical activity they should first visit their family physician for a check-up. It is part of good personal health maintenance to have an annual physical exam and participate in an exercise program. This type of exercise program should be minimally three days per week and include cardiovascular conditioning, strength training, flexibility and muscle endurance. These components along with proper nutrition will assist in developing one's optimum body composition.

The PIAA Sports Medicine Committee recommends that each registered sports official have an annual physical examination and practice good health habits. Being physically fit and conveying an appropriate, positive image through proper health and nutrition habits will greatly assist all officials in keeping up with the game. After all, the game, the schools, players, coaches, spectators and fellow officials deserve no less. As importantly, officials owe good health habits to themselves and their families if for nothing more, than the health of it. If officials have any chronic health condition, officials are requested to share this information with on site medical personnel at their contest(s).

Communicable Disease and Skin Infections

The risk for blood-borne infectious diseases, such as HIV and Hepatitis B, remains low in sports and to date has not been reported. However, proper precautions are needed to minimize the potential risk of spreading these diseases. In addition to these diseases that can be spread through transmission of bodily fluids only, skin infections that occur due to skin contact with competitors and equipment deserve close oversight, especially considering the emergence of the potentially more serious infection with Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA).

Infectious Skin Diseases

Means of reducing the potential exposure to these agents:

- Notify guardian, athletic trainer and coach of any

Universal Hygiene Protocol for All Sports

- Shower immediately after all competition and practice.
- Wash all workout clothing after practice.
- Wash personal gear, such as knee pads, periodically.
- Don't share towels or personal hygiene products with others.
- Refrain from (full body) cosmetic shaving.

lesion before competition or practice. Athlete must have a health-care provider evaluate lesion before returning to competition.

- If an outbreak occurs on a team, especially in a contact sport, consider evaluating other team members for potential spread of infectious agent
- Follow NFHS or state/local guidelines on "time until return to competition." Allowance of participation with a covered lesion can occur if in accordance with NFHS, state or local guidelines and is no longer considered contagious.

Blood-Borne Infectious Diseases

Means of reducing the potential exposure to these agents include:

- An athlete who is bleeding, has an open wound, has any amount of blood on his/her uniform, or has blood on his/her person, shall be directed to leave the activity until the bleeding is stopped, the wound is covered, the uniform and/or body is appropriately cleaned, and/or the uniform is changed before returning to competition.

- Certified athletic trainers or caregivers need to wear gloves and take other precautions to prevent blood-splash from contaminating themselves or others.
 - Immediately wash contaminated surfaces or mucous membranes with soap and water.
 - Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with disinfectant before returning to competition. Be sure to use gloves with cleaning.
 - Any blood exposure or bites to the skin that break the surface must be reported and evaluated by a medical provider immediately.
- Copied from the 2010 NFHS Soccer Rules Book

Guidelines on Handling Contests During Lightning Disturbances

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a default policy to those responsible for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of contests based on the presence of lightning. The preferred sources from which to request such a policy for your facility would include your state high school association and the nearest office of the National Weather Service.

Proactive Planning

1. Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during events.
2. Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby shelter.
3. Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of play.
 - When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play and take shelter immediately.
 - Thirty-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
 - Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30-minute count, reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.
4. Hold periodic reviews for appropriate personnel.

Copied from the 2010 NFHS Soccer Rules Book.

Concussion Information

CONCUSSION RECOGNITION AND MANAGEMENT

Adolescent athletes are particularly vulnerable to the effects of concussion. Once considered little more than a minor "ding" on the head, it is now understood that a concussion has the potential to result in death, or short- and long-term changes in brain function. A concussion is a brain injury that results in a temporary disruption of normal brain function. A concussion occurs when the brain is violently rocked back and forth or twisted inside the skull as a result of a blow to the head or body.

The NFHS has been at the forefront of national sports organizations in emphasizing the importance of concussion education, recognition and proper management for the past several years. In 2008, the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) advocated that a concussed athlete be removed from play and not allowed to return to play on that same day. In 2009, this position was adopted by the leading group of sports medicine experts and the National Football League (NFL).

To highlight the continuing importance of this issue, the NFHS SMAC and each sport's rules committee has taken the unprecedented step of including Concussion Recognition and Management as a point of emphasis in each NFHS sport rules book for the 2010-11 year. The purpose of this point of emphasis is to explain the change in verbiage in the NFHS Football Rules Book regarding the official's recognition of a concussed athlete and to emphasize the importance of proper concussion management.

Concussions at all levels of sports have received a great deal of attention in the past few years. Attention has increased even more so over the past year, culminating with the NFL, NCAA and NFHS testifying before the United States Congress about what each organization is doing to protect athletes from concussions.

Change in verbiage

Previous rules books for most sports included language directing officials to remove an athlete from play if "unconscious or apparently unconscious." That language has been changed to the following:

Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional.

We now know that a person does not have to lose consciousness to suffer a concussion. In fact, according to our most recent data from the High School Reporting Information Online (RIO) and the National High School Sports Related Injury Surveillance Study, only 3.2 percent of all concussed athletes lost consciousness during the 2009 football season.

Given that most concussed athletes do not lose consciousness, yet they often show other common signs, symptoms and behaviors of concussion, the NFHS SMAC strongly believes that officials must be empowered to remove these athletes from play, thus protecting them from potential further injury. Continued participation in any sport following a concussion can lead to worsening concussion symptoms, as well as increased risk for further injury to the brain, and even death.

Neither officials, nor coaches, are expected to "diagnose" a concussion, as that is the job of an appropriate health-care professional. The previous rule called upon officials to determine "apparently unconscious" which appeared to expect some level of medical judgment. Officials are now being asked to use their best judgment again in observing the signs, symptoms and behaviors as listed above, but are no longer being asked to make what could be perceived to be a medical opinion. The well-being of the athlete is of paramount concern during any athletic contest.

Officials, coaches and administrators are being asked to make all efforts to ensure that concussed athletes do not continue to participate. Thus, coaches, players and administrators should also be looking for signs of concussion in all athletes and should immediately remove any suspected concussed athlete from play.

The game official is not responsible for the sideline evaluation or management of the athlete after he or she is removed from play. The responsibility of further evaluating and managing the symptomatic athlete falls upon the head coach, appropriate health-care professional or other individual designated by school administrators. If an appropriate health-care professional on the sideline determines that the athlete HAS NOT suffered a concussion, the athlete may return to play. If there is no appropriate health-care professional available to evaluate the athlete, the athlete SHOULD NOT be allowed by the coach to return to play. Please see the "NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion in Sports" at www.nfhs.org for further information on sideline management.

The official does not need written permission for an athlete to return nor does the official need to verify the credentials of the appropriate health-care professional. Ensuring compliance with the Suggested Management Guidelines is a health and safety issue and should be the responsibility of the head coach and school administration, NOT the game official.

Concussion Information (Continued)

Suggested Concussion Management

1. No athlete should return to play (RTP) or practice on the same day of a concussion.
2. Any athlete suspected of having a concussion should be evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional that day.
3. Any athlete with a concussion should be medically cleared by an appropriate healthcare professional prior to resuming participation in any practice or competition.
4. After medical clearance, RTP should follow a step-wise protocol with provisions for delayed RTP based upon return of any signs or symptoms.

The suggested guidelines for concussion management fall outside the realm of game management, but are clearly a health and safety issue for coaches and administrators. These guidelines should also be applied to practices and scrimmages. The position of the NFHS SMAC is that no athlete should return to play or practice on that same day after suffering a concussion. Studies have shown medical professionals that the school-aged brain does not recover quickly enough for a high school athlete to return to activity in such a short time.

An "appropriate health-care professional" must be determined by each member state association and/or school district with respect to state laws and local preferences. Such individuals should be knowledgeable in the evaluation and management of sports-related concussions and may, depending on controlling law, include MD's, DO's and certified athletic trainers.

Athletes with continued concussion symptoms are at significant risk for recurrent, cumulative and even catastrophic consequences of a second concussive injury. Such risks are minimized if the athlete is allowed time to recover from the concussion and return to play decisions are carefully made. No athlete should return-to-sport or other at-risk participation when symptoms of concussion are present and recovery is ongoing.

For further details, please see the "NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion in Sports" at www.nfhs.org.

PIAA By-Laws Article XIII, Section 8

Any coach and/or contestant who, while coaching or competing for a PIAA member school, is ejected from a Contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official in that sport for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant misconduct shall

be disqualified from coaching and/or participating **for the remainder of the day and in all Contests on the next Contest day of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition.**

For a coach, participation in the next Contest includes any contact by the coach with members of the Team, including other coaches, between the time that the Team arrives at the Contest site and the conclusion of the last Contest of the day. The Principal shall direct the coach not to attend all of the Contest(s).

Any coach and/or contestant ejected from the last Contest in that sport in a sport season shall be disqualified from coaching and/or participating in the first Contest(s) in that sport in the subsequent sport season, at the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, at any PIAA member school or, if the student changes levels of competition, such as from junior varsity to varsity, the first Contest(s) in that sport.

The official shall file a report with the PIAA Office on the form prescribed for the sport involved, within twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of the Contest in which the ejection occurred. Failure to file such report shall not affect the validity or consequences of the ejection. In soccer, the athletic director and principal must meet with the ejected coach/contestant and detail in a report what corrective action has been taken. This report then must be signed by all parties and sent to the district soccer chairperson. This form is located on the PIAA website on the soccer page.

Examples of Disqualification Provision of Article XIII, Section 8

The following examples are for players or coaches and are only examples and not a complete list. What this means is a player or coach ejected from a contest at any level must sit out the remainder of the day and the next day of the next contest at that level.

Example #1: Player/coach gets ejected from a junior varsity contest before a varsity contest. This player/coach gets disqualified for the **remainder of the day and the next day** of the next junior varsity contest.

If this contest is followed by a varsity contest **on the same day**, the player/coach gets disqualified for the varsity contest also (**the whole day**).

Example #2: Player/coach gets ejected from a varsity contest on Friday, the team's next varsity contest is Friday. Before the varsity contest is a scheduled junior varsity contest, player/coach cannot participate in any of Friday contests since they are not eligible the whole day.

Example #3: Player/coach gets ejected from a tournament. The next varsity contest is a tournament the following Saturday. The player/coach is not eligible for the remainder of the tournament they were ejected from and are not eligible for the next scheduled tournament the following week.

PIAA 2010 Soccer Schedule

First Practice Date	Monday, August 16
First Inter-School/Scrimmage Date.....	Saturday, August 21
First Regular Season Play Date.....	Friday, September 3
Last Regular Season Contest Date & District Championship Deadline	Saturday, November 6
PIAA Soccer Championships:	
First Round.....	Tuesday, November 9
Quarterfinals	Saturday, November 13
Semi-Finals	Tuesday, November 16
PIAA Soccer Championship Finals	
HERSHEYPARK Stadium, Hershey	Friday, November 19 & Saturday, November 20
Championship Schedule:	
A Girls	Friday, November 19 5:00 PM
A Boys	7:00 PM
AA Girls.....	Saturday, November 20 11:00 AM
AA Boys.....	1:00 PM
AAA Girls.....	3:00 PM
AAA Boys.....	5:00 PM

OFFICIALS' RESPONSIBILITIES

PIAA Officials' Uniform:

1. The PIAA Official's Emblem must be worn on the upper left sleeve of the official's standard shirt when officiating in all PIAA sponsored games.
2. All PIAA-registered officials must wear identical uniforms during a contest.
3. Required uniform for soccer officials:

Shirt: Alternating black and white 1-inch vertically striped, long or short sleeved shirt with a black collar.

Shorts : Black (black long trousers, culottes or skirt may also be worn).

Stockings: Long black with solid white tops or long black with horizontal white stripes.

Shoes: **SOLID BLACK** with black laces.

Cap: Solid Black

The wearing of jewelry (except wedding bands and medical-alert bracelets) and wrist watches (except as a required timing device) is prohibited. Smoking and/or tobacco chewing is prohibited. (Minutes, Board of Control, PIAA Summer Workshop, July 17, 1989, p. 3).

PIAA sports' officials may display an American flag (maximum size 2 by 3 inches) on the right sleeve of their uniform shirt approximately three inches down from the shoulder seam. This will be the same position the PIAA official patch is displayed on the left sleeve.

The PIAA Officials' Soccer Uniform has been discussed repeatedly by the PIAA Officials' Council. It is the position of the PIAA Officials' Council, that the black and white striped shirt is the standard uniform shirt for interscholastic sports' officials and it does not conflict in color or style with many of the newly produced uniforms. Therefore, the black and white striped shirt is the preferred uniform for PIAA Soccer Officials. No exceptions.

PIAA Website, Officials' Information Area

The officials' section of the PIAA website may be accessed by registered PIAA sports' official using their individual officials' code. This code is secured individually by utilizing the first four (4) letters of your last name in (CAPS) and the last four (4) digits of your ID number. Items listed in the secured area include: Officials' directory, on-line disqualification forms and on-line injury forms. Other information in the officials' area on our website include: Applications for Becoming an Official; Sportsmanship Message; Rules Interpretation Meetings; Bulletins (Sports Specific); Athletic Officials' Manual; Various Forms; Evaluation Information; Officials' Merchandise; Officials Recognition and Power Point Presentations; along other important officials' information. Please utilize this area for assistance and information in preparing for your games as well as hosting quality chapter meetings.

Pre-season Prep

Pre-season preparation applies to mental and physical fitness as well as updating one's uniform. Take the time to review your uniform annually so that you present a clean, crisp, neat uniform. As we all know, "you never have a second chance to make a first impression". It is also important to review your other officiating equipment; shoes, socks, undergarments, equipment bags, and other officiating supplies to make your uniform complete. Many officials work more than one game per week and need the ability to have multiple uniforms available for their use. Don't compromise your appearance and the reputation of your chapter by attempting to make that shirt and pants last another year. Game control starts with your appearance and the professionalism that goes with it. Be fit; be neat, be sharp. If you are in need of updating your officiating supplies, please be reminded that Purchase Officials Supply of Pennsylvania is the official vendor of PIAA Sport Officials' Uniforms. Please give them your consideration for any purchases regarding officials' supplies. If interested, you may provide them with your email address to send you their catalog, seasonal specials and discounted items that may be of interest and service to your avocation of sports' officiating. Purchase Officials Supply of PA may be contacted via email at mjsumpref@aol.com, by calling 800-934-4555 or at www.pa.purchaseofficials.com.

PIAA Sportsmanship Message



ALL OFFICIALS MUST READ THIS MESSAGE TO CAPTAINS AND HEAD COACHES PRIOR TO GAMES AT ALL LEVELS.

PIAA requires all registered sports' officials to enforce the sportsmanship rules for coaches and contestants. Actions meant to demean opposing contestants, team, spectators, and officials are not in the highest ideals of interscholastic education and will not be tolerated. Let today's contest reflect mutual respect. Coaches please certify to the officials' that your players are legally equipped and uniformed according to NFHS rules and PIAA adoptions. Good luck in today's contest.

For distribution purposes, this message is printed on the back of all PIAA registered sports officials' 2009-2010 identification cards. Chapter interpreters are requested to remind all officials to read this message at each contest they officiate.

There have been some concerns addressed by the schools that some of our officials are not reading the PIAA Sportsmanship message prior to the contest. This is an improper procedure and this message **MUST** be read. Officials are not to paraphrase, modify, or develop their own Sportsmanship Message to the captains and head coaches. The proper procedure is head coaches and captains **MUST** attend the pre-game reading of the sportsmanship message.

This message **MUST BE READ VERBATIM** by the contest officials. Coaches must certify to the contest officials their team is legally equipped and in compliance with NFHS Soccer Rules. The reading of this message will set the tone for the contest to be played in the spirit of good sportsmanship and have the coaches verbally confirm aloud their teams' adherence to compliance with equipment and safety rules. This confirmation is not only the adherence to contest rules, but also assists in alleviating the legal liability concerns for the officials if the teams subsequently violate the proper equipment provisions of the contest rules.

Tie Breaking and End of Game Procedures

Rule 7-3-1: REGULAR SEASON: Varsity soccer matches tied at the end of 80 minutes of regulation may be decided by the teams playing two “sudden victory” overtime periods not to exceed 10 minutes each. If the score still remains tied at the end of two “sudden victory” overtimes, the tie stands.

TOURNAMENT PROCEDURE: REGULAR AND POST SEASON: The procedure for advancing a varsity soccer team during a regular season tournament or to advance to post-regular season playoffs may be decided by the teams playing two “sudden victory” overtime periods not to exceed 15 minutes each. If the score remains tied, proceed to the penalty kick procedure.

Rule 5-1-1 Note: PIAA member school games may be officiated by using only the dual or double-dual officiating systems. The diagonal system is not permitted for PIAA member school games.

Rules 6-2-1 and 6-3-1: The official time/ score is to be kept by the scorer at the scoring table or on the scoreboard/clock. Official time is not to be kept by the on field officials.

Rules 7-1-1 and 7-1-2: PIAA member school games are to be played in two equal halves of 40 minutes for senior high competition and two equal halves of 30 minutes for junior high competition. The halves may be shortened by mutual agreement of coaches and the referee. PIAA has not adopted a goal differential (“mercy rule”) for soccer.

Rule 7-1-3: Suspended game. Re-start at point of suspension if less than one half is played. If more than one-half is played and if a winner is determined, it is an official game and the result stands. If a winner cannot be determined, the game is resumed from the point of suspension

End of game procedures: There have been an increasing number of incidents that are occurring after the contest that are involving officials and players/coaches. Many of these are resulting in disqualifications due to vulgar language, profanity, usually from a confrontation between the official(s) and/or coach(es) and player(s). When the game ends, please meet your partner(s) at midfield and depart the field together. Leave the field immediately in a precise and professional manner. Do not engage in any extra conversations or banter with players, coaches and spectators. Be professional in any comments made and do not respond to any taunting or baiting from others. If possible, utilize preventative officiating techniques and request the assistance of the game managers or head coach(es) to diffuse any potential problems or confrontations. This is not a time to look for problems, or confront coaches and/or players with concerns from the contest. Please understand this is the time that emotions may still be at a fever pitch and it is important that the contest officials assist in diffusing problems, not creating them. There is no reason to stand and mill around the teams' post game activities. This only invites potential problems and inappropriate comments. Leave the contest surface in a consistent, but not hurried manner.

PIAA District Rules Interpreters

District 1	Gerry Blasè	District 7 & 8	Peggy Neason
District 2	Thomas Ames	District 9	Patricia Smith
District 3	Thomas L. Livingston	District 10	Allen Sheasley
District 4	Joseph Mentrikoski	District 11	Adam Smeltz
District 5	Robert E. Lasagna	District 12	Jack Creighton
District 6	Stanley E. Latta		

NFHS Official Soccer Signals

Although NFHS has authorized different officials signals, PIAA will continue to use the following in ALL matches:

Direct Free Kick



Direct Free Kick
(points in direction of kick)



Kicking



Tripping



Holding



Handling



Pushing



**Striking
(back and)**



Jumping at



**Reckless or
dangerous**

Indirect Free Kick



**Indirect
free kick**



Offside



**Goalkeeper
violation or
second**

General



Play on



**Dead
Ball**



Timeout



**(Wind-up to
start clock)**



Dangerous Play



Obstruction



**Penalty
Kick
(point to
spot)
Goal Kick
(point to
goal area)**



Goal



No Goal



**Caution/
Ejection**



**Corner Kick
(point to spot)**

PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
550 GETTYSBURG ROAD, PO BOX 2008
MECHANICSBURG PA 17055-0708
TELEPHONE: (717) 697-0374 OR (800) 382-1392 FAX: (717) 697-7721
WEBSITE: www.piaa.org

PIAA SOCCER INJURY REPORT FORM

If an injury occurs in a contest, PIAA is requesting one the contest officials to complete this report and mail or fax to Dr. Robert A. Lombardi, PIAA, 550 Gettysburg Road, P.O. Box 2008, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 or Fax 717/697-7721, within 24 hours after the completion of the contest. We are attempting to document any and all serious injuries that occur during the interscholastic soccer season.

OFFICIAL'S NAME(S): _____

DATE: _____

SCHOOL OF INJURED CONTESTANT: _____

LOCATION OF CONTEST: _____

VISITING TEAM: _____ vs HOME TEAM: _____

LEVEL OF COMPETITION (Circle One):

JUNIOR HIGH / MIDDLE SCHOOL JUNIOR VARSITY VARSITY

TYPE OF INJURY: (please circle one)

HEAD FACE ARM/TORSO KNEE ANKLE OTHER

Comments:

Describe serious injuries or serious incidents with as much detail as possible. Please describe, specifically, the injury and action(s) which were observed that may have caused the injury.

SIGNATURE: _____

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SOCCKER PLAYER, COACH, OR TEAM PERSONNEL DISQUALIFICATION FORM

During the 2010-11 PIAA soccer Regular season and Postseason, a disqualified soccer player, coach and/or team personnel shall not be permitted to participate **for the remainder of the day and in all Contests on the next Contest day of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition.** For a coach, participation in the next Contest includes any contact by the coach with members of the Team, including other coaches, between the time that the Team arrives at the Contest site and the conclusion of the last Contest of the day. The Principal shall direct the coach not to attend all of the Contest(s). In accordance with Article XIII, Section 8 of the PIAA By-Laws and NFHS Soccer Rules 12-6, 12-8-3, 12-8-4 and 12-8-5. The head referee must complete and file this form as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours following the soccer game in which the disqualification took place by forwarding it to the above address. This form is not to be completed for those individuals receiving a "SOFT RED" card (red and yellow card) under Rule 12-8-2 where a substitution is permitted.

Name of Disqualified Individual		School	
Date of Game	Location of Game		Time of Game
Visiting Team		PIAA District	Visiting Team's Final Score
Home Team		PIAA District	Home Team's Final Score
Name of Official Who Issued Disqualification REASON FOR DISQUALIFICATION (Use The Back Of This Form If Necessary)			Level of Competition
