

PIAA

Pennsylvania Interscholastic
Athletic Association, Inc.

**PIAA OFFICIALS'
STAFF:**

Dr. Robert A. Lombardi

Associate Executive Director

Anita L. Fox

Chapters' Secretary

Debrah J. Rosenberger

Officials' Secretary

Cathy M. Good

Office Assistant

**PIAA EXECUTIVE
STAFF:**

Bradley R. Cashman

Executive Director

Melissa N. Mertz

Assistant Executive Director

Mark E. Byers

Assistant Executive Director

**RULES, REVISIONS
AND
INTERPRETATIONS**

PIAA Statewide Rules

Interpreter:

Stanley E. Latta



October 2011



Soccer BULLETIN I

Rules, Revisions and Interpretations

Drop Ball

Rule 9-2-(1-4): A question was raised regarding the participation by a goal keeper during a drop ball situation. There are 4 important aspects about a drop ball that must be first recognized:

1. It cannot occur within the goal area
2. It must be contested between two opposing players
3. The ball must first touch the ground to be considered in play
4. A goal can be scored directly from a drop ball

There is nothing to prohibit a goal keeper participating in the taking of a drop ball either inside the penalty area or outside. When a keeper participates inside the penalty area, they are able to use their hands to play the ball once the ball touches the ground to put it in play. Knowing that the opposing player can only play the drop ball with his/her feet and having the keeper go down to get the ball once it touches the ground could be cause to call a dangerous play on the keeper. It is a judgment call by the official. It is difficult to envision a keeper being able to play the ball with his/her hands without putting their head below the waist of the opposing player and thus causing a potential dangerous situation for the keeper. Player safety must be maintained.

Team and Coaching Areas

Rule 1-5-3: While it is recommended that as a part of the field markings, a separate team and coaching area and official's area be designated, some field markings are not or cannot line these areas. One simple solution if a field is lacking these designated areas is to borrow cones or some other markings from the teams to outline these areas and instruct the captains and coaches at the pre-game how these areas are to be used.

Artificial Noisemakers

Last year, the PIAA Board of Directors modified the policy on the use of artificial noisemakers during athletic contests. The policy now states that both the presence and use of balloons, sirens, whistles, and portable listening devices (without earphones) are prohibited. Small, portable listening devices with earphones and banners and signs which are sportsmanlike in their messages are permitted. This means that items such as horns, cow bells, vuvuzelas, etc. are permitted during soccer matches and during the run of play. In addition, performances by members of the band and/or pep band are also permitted during the run of play. If, however, in the opinion of the official, a particular artificial noisemaker (air horns) interferes with the match by causing players to stop play or causes confusion, that particular noisemaker can be excluded by asking the game site manager to have that noise maker removed.

Lightning Safety

There have been several questions regarding when teams can take the field to warm up when thunder or lightening has caused suspension of play and the Thirty Minute Rule has been started. Players and teams must vacate the area for the full 30 minutes and are not permitted to take the field for any reason until the full 30 minutes of time has elapsed since the last thunder was heard and/or flash of lightening is witnessed. After 30 minutes the teams should be provided time, to be agreed upon by both coaches, for the teams to warm up prior to resuming play. In both cases, player safety must be considered.

Sleeve Ties

During hot weather it has not been uncommon to see players, and in particular girls, tie their sleeves with a band, piece of string, ribbon, etc. Unless the uniform jersey has been manufactured in a way that requires the sleeves to be tied, and the "ties" are provided as a part of the uniform, tying sleeves in any manner is illegal and should not be permitted.

Jewelry

It has been brought to our attention that teams are using tape to cover bracelets and earrings in hope officials do not check or observe these items. Taping over jewelry which is not legal does not make these items legal.

Tape on wrists for the purpose of injury or prevention is legal by rule, but the covering of an illegal item with tape does not make this item legal. It is to be removed (the jewelry) before a player is permitted to play and any accompanying penalties are to be enforced.

Livestrong bracelets or like type bracelets for other recognition are not legal items by rule and are not to be permitted during play. Non-participating sideline personnel may wear these items, but may not wear them when participating in the game.

Offside

Rule 11-1-(1-3): Situation 1: The attacking team plays the ball forward. An attacking player is in an offside position. On its way forward, (a) the ball deflects off a defender and goes to an area where the attacking player makes an attempt to play the ball, or (b) the defender attempts to play the ball legally with a part of his/her body, (head, foot, knee, etc.) but the result is a deflection of the path of the flight (without control of the ball) to an area that allows the player in an off-sides position to make a play on the ball.

Offside (cont'd)

Situation 1a: Previously, a ball that was deflected off a defender that went to an attacker in an offside position actually was OK. Now, a deflection to an attacker in an offside position is offside.

Situation 1b: The key words are “attempting to play” and “deflection”. The use of both of these terms puts this scenario into the realm of offside. A defender playing the ball to an attacker in an offside position does not constitute the offside call because it was played and not “attempting to play” and not “deflected”.

Situation 2: The attacking team plays the ball into the penalty area. The ball is collected by a defender who may or may not start dribbling the ball. It, however, was certainly last played by the defender. The defender makes no attempt to play or pass the ball to the keeper and may or may not be under pressure from the attacking team, but the keeper moves toward that defender and picks up the ball. Is this an illegal handling/pass back penalty resulting in an indirect free kick for the offense, or is this a legal play?

The rule clearly states that in order for the pass back to be in play, the ball has to be deliberately kicked to the keeper. Having said that, there is a caveat in the rule that describes trickery. As described in this scenario, the ball is played back to a defender who controls the ball (legal), makes no attempt to play the ball to the keeper (legal) and then the keeper decides to pick up the ball. The official would need to judge as to whether or not this was some sort of trickery by the defender and the keeper.

Penalty Kicks

Scenario 1: A player for the red team has been identified by the official as the player who will be executing the penalty kick. The official hands the ball to the red player who places the ball on the penalty spot. The official checks to ensure the goal keeper and lead official are ready, there are no other players in the penalty area with the exception of the identified kicker and goal keeper, and blows the whistle. A teammate from the red team who was outside the penalty area and behind the arc rushes in to take the kick before the player who spotted the ball touches the ball.

Ruling: Illegal. The red player who rushed in to take the kick should be cautioned and the kick should be retaken since it was **not** properly put into play.

Scenario 2: A player for the blue team has been identified by the official as the player who will be executing the penalty kick. The official hands the ball to the blue player who places the ball on the penalty spot. The official checks to ensure the goal keeper and lead official are ready, there are no other players in the penalty area with the exception of the identified kicker and goal keeper, and blows the whistle. The kicker a) mis-kicks the ball, or b) plays the ball forward and in both cases a teammate from the blue team who was outside the penalty area and behind the arc until the ball was touched rushes in and puts the ball in the net.

Ruling: In case a) and b) legal and a goal. Since the ball was put into play properly and players did not encroach prior to the ball being played, a player from either team may play the ball but not the original kicker until it has been touched or played by another player on either team.

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

SOCCER PLAYER, COACH, OR TEAM PERSONNEL DISQUALIFICATION FORM

During the 2011-12 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 Ejected Player, Coach or Bench Personnel		School Name	
Date of Contest	Location of Contest	Time of Contest	
Visiting Team		PIAA District	Visiting Team's Final Score
Home Team		PIAA District	Home Team's Final Score
Name of Official Who Ejected Player, Coach or Bench Personnel			Level of Competition

REASON FOR DISQUALIFICATION
 (Use The Back Of This Form If Necessary)

DATE OF REPORT

OFFICIAL'S SIGNATURE (PERSON ISSUING DQ)

PIAA DISTRICT