I hope that you had a great Regular Season and Thanks for all that you do!

Congratulation to our 22 OHSAA Officials working tournament games in 2014!

PLEASE PRINT THE LAST TWO PAGES (Overtime Procedures) AND CARRY THEM WITH YOU!

We’ve had more good discussion! THANK YOU!

Please note that the following statement (in parenthesis) has been at the forefront of each one of these bulletins! (PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ANSWERS ARE INTENDED TO BE SPECIFIC AND NOT APPLICABLE TO ANYTHING OUTSIDE OF THE SCENARIOS AS PRESENTED.)

Five-Yard Violation by the attack when inside the 25 yard line:

In Bulletin 14-03, I presented a situation and asked the question: “….where should the defense be awarded that Free Hit??? We need to know where the violation occurred! Was it where the ball entered the circle or where the ball was hit? Thoughts?” Unfortunately, there were no responses and no discussion…

In case you are unsure, The Officials Guide (Page 75) of the Rule Book explains in Sections B.4.d and B.5.d “Violations by the attack result in a free hit to the opponent from the spot where the free hit, side in, or long hit was incorrectly executed.” And Rule 7 Penalty (page 40), clarifies that on a long hit, in this situation, the free hit [awarded to the defense] may be taken just inside the sideline and up to 16 yards from the endline. My guess is that many of us were awarding that free hit in relation to where the ball entered the circle… Let’s all get that right in post season play!

TOURNAMENT ISSUES/REMINDERS:

Team Line: Rule 1.4.4 (on page 9) states that “During play, all team personnel shall remain behind the team line and within the team area.” The rules establish a team line five yards from the sideline and require that the officials’ table shall be placed slightly in front of the team line and team benches be placed behind the team line. If not seated on the bench, all team personnel must remain behind the team line. Coaches may only enter the field of play as directed by one or both of the umpires, during team time outs and at half time. (Rules 1.2.4 & 1.4.4)
Scorebook at the Table: Rule 2.2.2 (on page 22) states that “...the scorer and the timer... They shall sit at the officials’ table opposite the center line and at least 5 yards away from the sideline. They shall remain there throughout the game including time-out periods. During intermission, either the scorer or the timer shall remain at the table. The home team shall supply the official timer and the official scorer. There shall be an auditable device at the officials’ table, and the official timer shall be provided a game clock and a stopwatch. The visiting team shall supply an assistant timer and clock. The visiting team may also supply an assistant scorer who shall be permitted to sit at the officials’ table.”

Size of Squads: Section 10 of the 2014 Field Hockey Tournament Regulations indicates the size of each squad (maximum 22). However, that is the responsibility of coaches and the tournament managers. That being said, some preventive officiating would not be a bad idea. Please review the scorebook (and do a head count) before the game starts. If you see more than 22 dressed players, please notify the tournament manager and/or the coach. The verbiage reads: “Schools may dress no more than 22 players from the official eligibility certificate for any one game. Players may be changed for subsequent games provided their names are on the eligibility certificate. It is the responsibility of the coaches and the tournament manager to insure that the number of players in uniform does not exceed 22 for each game. If either team is over the limit, it must be corrected at once. Failure to comply with the regulation after the notification by the tournament manager shall result in the forfeiture of the game.”

Coach/Player [and Officials] Comments to News Media and on Social Media: Each year unpleasant situations arise as a result of comments made to the News Media by coaches. Bylaw 8-2-1 in the OHSAA Handbook reads in part "Great care shall be exercised in the selection of officials, well in advance of the contest and agreed upon by schools involved." Public criticism of officials is a direct reflection upon those who were responsible for assigning the officials to the game. Officials are trained and expected to make no derogatory comments regarding players, coaches or schools. Coaches are expected to follow the same procedure. Coaches violating this rule may be asked to discuss the problem personally with the Commissioner. Unfortunately, a new phenomenon has occurred as a result of access to social media. Coaches are reminded that student-athletes who use social media to berate and disparage contest officials, other players or coaches shall be considered in violation of OHSAA regulations and subject to penalties.

Discretionary Powers: The OHSAA hopes that the change in time and day of tournament games will help to prevent some of the past problems encountered with weather and darkness. However, please be advised that whatever the circumstances, National Federation Rule 2-1-8 always applies. This rule, written for regular season games, reads "During a game, the officials shall have discretionary power for making decisions on matters which are not specifically covered by the rules. In the event game and/or field conditions are considered hazardous to the safety and welfare of the players, the officials may terminate the game." The only difference is that officials may not actually terminate a tournament game. Section 22 of the OHSAA 2014 Field Hockey Tournament Regulations state that with the following statement: “Tournament games interrupted due to events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be continued from the point of interruption.”
GAME BALL NOTE: There may be some confusion based on the various publications... Page 6 of the OHSAA 2014 Field Hockey Manual reads: “Orange field hockey balls shall be used for the State Field Hockey Tournament semifinal and final contests. For other qualifying tournament games, any color ball that meets NFHS rules may be used.” Section 14 of the 2014 Field Hockey Tournament Regulations indicates: “GAME BALL: The ball shall be spherical with a seamless or sewn outer casing of leather or plastic. The ball may be of any color which contrasts with the playing surface, and may be solid or hollow. Each team shall supply three new game balls of the same type (smooth or with indentations).” But page 6 of the 2014 OHSAA Tournament Coaches Manual says: “TOURNAMENT BALL – For qualifying tournament games, each team shall provide one new florescent orange field hockey game ball.”

Let’s not get silly about this! Please be sure that you have a sufficient number of identical (color and condition) game balls available. (Color blind players are unable to discern an orange ball on a green field!)

Food for thought ~ Correctable Errors:
Bulletin 14-03 included a note from an official asking about the possibility of a correctable error from a middle school game. My reply brought about a significant amount of discussion. (That’s a good thing!) My reply was that our Rule Book does not identify Correctable Errors like the Basketball Rule Book does. As a rule book rule, Basketball identifies 5 specific instances when an error can be corrected. Field Hockey has only one (reversing a goal that was scored while an ineligible player is on the field) in the NFHS Rule Book. The controversy, I believe, is primarily about my reference to another sport. I’ll try to avoid that in the future.

That being said, we all want to get the call right and we reverse our calls all of the time. Have you ever pointed east when the ball should actually be going west? Have you ever awarded a goal, only to see your partner sprinting toward you waving off the goal? The rule book encourages us to be aware of help being offered by our partners. Are you looking to your partner for help before awarding a goal? Are you glancing up at your partner during play in your circle? Clearly some of the necessary reversals can be avoided by being aware of and assisting partners (and by knowing which way each team is going).

In relation to the middle school scenario previously presented, the guidance provided by Steve Horgan, USA Field Hockey’s Director of Umpiring, is “With my understanding of this situation, there was a long timeframe from the FH to the goal being scored, which puts a dynamic on this of how much time can go by before correcting the situation.” If that timeframe existed, both the lead and trail officials had an opportunity to stop the free hit before it was taken from the hard line circle. They had an opportunity to stop and place the ball on the broken line circle during 15-30 seconds of circle play. However, resetting that free hit on the broken line circle after a goal has been scored is probably too late. Steve Horgan indicated “…the correctable error would have been the free hit award. Once that is played out we have to move on.”

Special thanks to Steve Boniface, Steve Horgan, Kathy Jirus, Linda Kochan, Candi Parry, Todd Shapiro, Gus Soteriades, & Jan Stanke for their efforts and contributions.
Overtime Procedures – OHSAA Post Season Tournaments

NOTE: The Board of Directors has approved the following overtime procedures to break ties for high school post season play in OHSAA tournaments.

Tie-Break Procedures: National Federation Field Hockey Rule 6-1-4
The following complete tie-break procedures shall be followed in OHSAA tournament competition only. These procedures have been approved by the Board of Directors and are NOT OPTIONAL.

These procedures shall be used to break all ties in OHSAA tournament play and should be thoroughly reviewed by all tournament officials and varsity coaches prior to all contests played in the OHSAA tournament.

During all overtime play-
A. All game rules apply except as specified below.
B. Unlimited substitution shall be permitted.
C. There shall be one team time-out per team permitted during each 10 minute SV overtime period.
D. There shall be a five-minute intermission between the end of the regular game and the start of the overtime period. At this time, the contest officials shall insure that the tie-break procedures are available at the scorer’s table and shall review them thoroughly prior to the initiation of the overtime.
E. There shall be a two-minute intermission between each subsequent overtime period. (Not applicable for regular season tie-break procedures). During these intermissions, players may confer with their coaches, and substitutions may be made.
F. Prior to each overtime procedure, officials shall review with the head coaches the procedures for that session. This shall take place prior to the initiation of each overtime procedure until the game is decided.
G. Prior to beginning overtime, during the intermission between the end of the regular game and the start of overtime, the officials shall meet with the team captains for a coin toss, the visiting team captain calling the coin in the air. Winner shall have choice of possession.

REDUCED PLAYER 10SV-10SV - PS – SVPS

1. Play a 10-minute “Sudden Victory” (SV) overtime period, with teams not changing goals at the end of the regular game. Teams shall play with 6 field players and a goalkeeper. THE FIRST TEAM TO SCORE A GOAL SHALL BE THE WINNER.

2. If a tie still exists, there shall be a second 10-minute “Sudden Victory” (SV) overtime period utilizing the reduced player procedure described in "1" above. Teams shall change goals to begin the second overtime period following the two-minute intermission. Players may confer with their coaches and substitutions may be made. THE FIRST TEAM TO SCORE A GOAL SHALL BE THE WINNER.

3. If a tie still exists after the second 10-minute “Sudden Victory” overtime period, one series of penalty strokes shall be taken alternating the attackers and goalkeepers at the same goal chosen by the officials. Five different strokers from each team shall be selected from any eligible player on the team roster. NOTE: A player taking a penalty stroke within a series of five strokes may not repeat within that set of strokes. Only the coaches and remaining team members may be on the field and behind the 25-yard line. Prior to the first PS set, the officials shall meet with the team captains for a coin toss. The winner of the coin toss, which shall be called by the visiting team captain, may choose to stroke or defend the goal first. Penalty strokes shall be terminated and a game winner declared
as soon as one team has more goals than the opponent does after the set of five strokes for each side has been taken or the difference is unable to be overcome by completing the series. **Officials should insure that there are no spectators behind the end line behind the goal where the strokes are being taken.**

**NOTE:** This first set of Penalty Strokes is NOT a SUDDEN VICTORY SET.

4. If a tie still exists after the first set of penalty strokes, there shall be **Sudden Victory** (SVPS) penalty strokes taken. The team not stroking first in the first set shall start the **Sudden Victory** Penalty Stroke procedure. **The strokers and/or order of the strokers may be changed for the Sudden Victory Penalty Stroke procedure.** Penalty strokes shall be terminated as soon as one team has more goals than the opponent does after an equal number of strokes have been taken up to a maximum of five for each team. If a tie still exists, after a total of five strokes for each team, another **Sudden Victory Penalty Stroke** procedure shall be commenced.

5. This **Sudden Victory Penalty Stroke procedure** shall continue until the tie is broken. The strokers and/or order of the strokers may be changed. The order of teams stroking or defending first shall alternate from the previous SVPS procedure.

6. Please note: On all penalty corners during the reduced play overtime, a maximum of four defenders shall be back completely behind the end line. This number includes the goalkeeper. The other three defenders shall be beyond the centerline.

7. If a player is disqualified during the regulation game, the team shall play short into the overtime procedure. The player is not eligible for return to the contest.

8. If a player is suspended during the regulation game (yellow card), the suspension carries over into the overtime period until served completely, and the team shall play short. If the suspension occurs in the overtime period immediately preceding the Penalty Stroke procedure and the player is unable to serve the complete time of the suspension, she is no longer eligible to participate in the remainder of the overtime procedure.

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**Respect THE GAME SM**