Player Equipment
The equipment problem "Du Jour" this year has to do with towels. The NFHS Rule on LEGAL towels states: "One moisture-absorbing solid-colored towel that is not ball- or penalty flag-colored; is no less than 4 inches in width and 12 inches in length; no greater than 18 inches in width and 36 inches in length; has no more than one visible manufacturer’s logo/trademark reference that does not exceed 2 1/4 square inches in any dimension; and if worn by a player, must be the same color must be the same solid color for all players wearing a towel."

I have several reports of teams with different color towels as seen on TV. Teams need to follow NFHS Rules. If anyone in the football community in Ohio (officials, coaches, administrators) do not like a rule, there is a process to change it (see below). I worry that if you are not following this rule, are there other NFHS rules you also are not following? I will address this with officials who were on those reported games.

Weather Delays
Well, we had weather issues this past week and all of you administered our new policy. I have been crushed with emails from fans so Athletic Directors, here is a statement your PA announcer can read:

Attention Attendees: There is inclement weather in the area.

In accordance with the Ohio High School Athletic Association Lightning and Inclement Weather Policy, at night, lightning flashes may be seen from distant storms. If no thunder can be heard and flashes are low on the horizon, the storm may not pose a threat. If thunder is not heard, game administration will determine if a lightning strike is within a threatening distance of the event location, and if so, administration will make a decision to suspend play.

Once thunder is heard or threatening lightning is seen, the 30-minute rule will take effect. Once play has been suspended, the event must wait 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or threatening lightning witnessed prior to resuming play.

Note: Add local school statement regarding evacuation procedures and ticket policies when game resumes.

NFHS Rule Changes for 2019
Thank you to those coaches that have already made suggestions! Please email any NFHS Rule change suggestions to Beau Rugg at brugg@ohsaa.org

Video
Thanks to all that send me video clips. We all (coaches, officials and administrators) learn from great video examples.

Rule/Policy Clarifications
I encourage you to contact me for rule or policy clarifications. Many of you do and I appreciate that! I am always happy to talk football philosophy also.

2019 Football Tournament Site Questionnaire
The tournament site questionnaire for those schools interested in hosting a second through fourth round football playoff game was recently emailed to all athletic administrators, and is available along the left side of the football homepage at https://www.ohsaa.org/sports/football.

Playoff games will be played on Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. If you have questions about hosting playoffs, please contact Beau Rugg at brugg@ohsaa.org.

PLEASE EMAIL BEAU AT BRUGG@OHSAA.ORG WITH QUESTIONS.