



IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Football Memo #9

October 20, 2022

Good afternoon football coaches and athletic directors –

I'm not sure where the season went, but Week 9 is here. Just like last week, once we receive every score in Class 3A, 4A and 5A, we will post a qualifier list on our web site. Schools are to contact us immediately if they believe there is an error in the qualifying list. A reminder that for the RPI calculation, Class A, 1A and 2A records are locked after eight weeks as those classes begin the postseason this week. Pod assignments for all seven classes will be posted on our website at 10 am on Saturday, October 12.

1. Band/Music over Public Address System During Game

I've received a few concerns over the last couple of days regarding music being played during live ball action. The pep/marching band and music over the PA may play during pre-game, halftime, quarter breaks, and timeouts. Once the center is over the ball, all music must stop. Immediately after a down has finished and before the ready for play has been signaled for the next play, the band may play during that very quick interval.

2. Illegal Receiver Down Field - Correction

There was a misstatement in the first paragraph regarding ineligible down field in the September 27 memo. The paragraph should read: 7-5-12 states, "Ineligible A player may not advance beyond the expanded neutral zone on a legal forward pass play before a legal forward pass that crosses the neutral zone is in flight." There are two key parts to this statement. First, ineligible A players (interior lineman) cannot advance more than two yards down the field until the passer releases the ball that happens to cross the LOS. The second is if the forward pass doesn't cross the neutral zone (i.e. screen pass), interior lineman are not held to this same restriction.

The previous memo indicated that under the first point the ineligible A players cannot advance beyond the neutral zone until the ball crossed the neutral zone, which is incorrect. Again, the restriction ends on the release of the ball and not when it crosses the neutral zone.

3. Pop-up Kicks

As we prepare for the postseason, some teams may need to attempt an onside kick for the first time all season. Just a reminder that pop-up kicks are illegal. By definition, a pop-up kick is a free kick in which the kicker drives the ball immediately into the ground, the ball strikes the ground once and goes into the air in the manner of a ball kicked directly off the tee. The play should be blown dead immediately for a free-kick infraction.

Best of luck tomorrow night for either your regular season or playoff game. As always, don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Jared