



IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Football Memo #8

October 12, 2023

Good morning football coaches and athletic directors –

We have reached the end of the regular season for four of our classes. Once we collect every score in Class A-2A and 8-player, we will post a qualifier list on our website. Schools are to contact us immediately (by midnight) if they believe there is an error in the qualifying list. October 20 matchups will be posted on our website at 10 am on Saturday, October 14. If we have weather issues Friday night and thunderstorms force games to be postponed until Saturday, the timeline will need to be adjusted. Please check our web site and social media accounts for updates.

We encourage everyone to review the postseason manual to review qualifying, tiebreaking and hosting selection criteria. Also, please review current standing page for any discrepancies, in particular the 17-point tiebreaker for 8-player district runner-up host criteria and for any three-way ties in which all three teams defeated each other in the four classes that end their regular season this week. The 17-point tiebreaker is not in place for Class 3A and 4A.

1. Hurdling

Hurdling is an attempt by a player to jump (hurdle) with one or both feet or knees foremost over an opponent who is contacting the ground with no part of his body except one or both feet. If so, the offending team is penalized 15 yards for a personal foul. The key here is that the defender only has his feet on the ground to meet this definition. A player can jump over someone on their knees or laying on the ground.

2. Fourth Down Followed by Dead Ball Penalty

We've had a couple of situations arise in the last few weeks when Team A fails to convert on fourth down and Team B is subsequently penalized for a dead ball, personal foul penalty. Does A maintain possession due to the penalty or does B take over possession due to A not reaching the line to gain? In this scenario, B takes over possession as A did not achieve a first down during the fourth down play and the penalty occurred after the down ended. B will have 1st and 10, 15 yards/half the distance from the end of the 4th down play.

3. Ninth Regular Season Game – Non-Playoff Teams

As in past years, non-playoff teams in 8-player, Class A, 1A and 2A teams have the opportunity to schedule a ninth regular season game during week nine. Schools are on their own to find an opponent and officiating crew for the contest. We do ask that once plans are finalized that one of the schools completes this online form, so we have an idea as to who is playing during the week. <https://www.iahxaa.org/football/ninth-football-game/>

As always, don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Jared