



# IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## Football Memo #9

October 19, 2023

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/seed 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 21.

### 1. Overtime

As I shared earlier in the season, overtime procedures can be found at the following link: <https://www.iahsaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/IHSAA-Overtime-Procedures7.26.23.pdf>. Iowa does have one adaptation to the overtime rule: all overtimes will be played on the same 10-yard line as designated with the initial overtime.

### 2. RPI Scenario

The postseason manual has a number of examples and scenarios when it comes to the RPI. The manual specifically has two examples (#8 and #9) covering who is the qualifier when A plays B, B plays C and A does not play C. The manual is silent on what happens if this scenario happens when all three teams are qualifiers and what head-to-head matchup is considered for the seed list. We discussed this scenario at our Board of Control meeting this morning and have landed on this interpretation for the 2023 playoffs if it were to come into play for a particular seed:

TEAM RECORD	RPI	RANK
Team A 4-5 0.4444	0.5398	12
Team B 5-4 0.5556	0.5213	11
Team C 4-5 0.4444	0.4610	13

Team C defeated Team B during the regular season. Team B defeated Team A during the regular season. Team A and Team C did not play in the regular season. As we go top down in determining seeding, just as in qualifying, Team B's win over Team A takes precedence. Team B will be awarded the higher seed over Team A.

### 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. There isn't a height requirement to determine "in the manner of a ball kicked directly off the tee," however, past interpretations given to schools and officials is over the head of the kicker or approximately six feet. The play should be blown dead immediately for a free-kick infraction.

### 4. Iowa Chapter - National Football Foundation Scholarship

As in years past, the IHSAA has been asked to share information regarding the Iowa Chapter of the National Football Foundation's scholarship opportunity for current high school seniors. Information regarding the scholarship can be found here: <https://www.iahsaa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/NFF-questionnaire-final-2023-24.docx>

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