



IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Football Memo #7

September 26, 2024

Good morning football coaches and athletic directors. It's hard to believe that we are already in week 5. Just a few notes for everyone to keep in mind for this week and beyond.

1. Quarterback Spiking Ball to Conserve Time

It's been a few years since this rule change, but the quarterback can be in shotgun/pistol formation and spike the football immediately after receiving the snap to conserve time. However, regardless if the quarterback is under center or in shotgun/pistol formation, if the snap is muffed or touches the ground, the quarterback loses the ability to conserve time in this manner.

2. Quarter Limitation

Following last week's memo, I had many schools reach out regarding curtain raiser scenarios. While I can't list all potential scenarios, I do hope to add clarity to the examples in the manual with the following example:

Curtain Raiser

1st quarter – QB (counts as a quarter)

2nd quarter – QB (counts as a quarter)

3rd quarter – kicker only (doesn't count as a quarter as free kick/scrimmage kick play only)

4th quarter – kicker only (doesn't count as a quarter as free kick/scrimmage kick play only)

Varsity

1st quarter - kicker only (doesn't count as a quarter as free kick/scrimmage kick play only)

2nd quarter – DB (counts as a quarter)

3rd quarter – DB (counts as a quarter)

4th quarter – DB (counts as a quarter)

In the above example, the student is only charged with five quarters on the day as he only played offense or defense in five quarters; however, he is charged with two games of his 14-game limit.

3. Altered Pads

All are reminded that per NFHS rules, hip, knee, thigh and tailbone pads are to be unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production.

4. Breaking the Huddle

We had a couple of scenarios last week with late substitutions and whether it is legal to break a huddle with more than 11 players. Upon meeting the criteria of 2-32-12, replaced players shall begin to leave the field within three seconds (3-7-1). With that being said, it is legal to have and break the huddle with more than 11 as long as the replaced player begins to leave the field within three seconds of being substituted for and in the official's judgement, the action is not deceitful.

5. Drones

Visiting schools need to be checking with the host school on whether drones are allowed to be used for any reason (media coverage, filming, etc.) during the regular season. One school may allow the drone to be used, while another school on your schedule doesn't allow the drone. Also, depending on the field's location, FAA regulations could dictate the school's decision. For example, at state cross country, drones cannot be used as the course is within a specific distance from the airport.

6. IHSAA Rankings

Next Monday, our office will release the first 2024 IHSAA rankings for 8-player, Class A, Class 1A and Class 2A. The first RPI rankings for Class 3A, Class 4A and Class 5A will be released the following Monday (October 7).

Have a great week 5. Do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Jared