

As we begin a new season, both the IFCA and IHSAA would like to remind all schools of the video guidelines for regular season exchange.

Each year both the IFCA and IHSAA receive concerns regarding the quality and integrity of game film. The IFCA has created the following guidelines to help with the consistency of how games are recorded and exchanged. The IFCA understands and appreciates that often times volunteers and students are those that have the responsibility to film. Hopefully, these general guidelines will allow practice and improve consistency in the game exchange process.

General Points:

1. Close up shots are not often necessary. Zoom in on the players as the play ends to see how both teams are moving, blocking, and tackling.
2. Do not zoom out too much. The idea is to see the players, not empty grass. There is no need to see things off the football field.
3. Focus on the action. When the play starts, try to have all of the players on the screen. You should have the entire offensive backfield on one side and the entire defensive backfield on the other side.
4. Hold the camera as steady as possible and mute the sound if at all possible. Be sure that you are on "Record" or "Pause". Check this before each play.
5. Remember, more is better. It is better to stop later than too soon. The coaches can edit time, but cannot regain a play.

Special Teams: Kickoff, Punt, Field Goal & Point after Touchdown

1. Take a wide angle shot of the teams as they line up. Keep all the players in the picture before the kick.
2. After the kick, focus on the return team. Do not track the ball in the air. Simply pan back to the returner and capture the blockers and coverage as they come to him.
3. Keep the returner on one side of the screen and slowly zoom in as the players converge on the returner.

Scrimmage Plays:

1. Start to record as the offensive team breaks the huddle. Show the defensive front seven and the offensive line. Then zoom back to show the formation and any motion.
2. Running Plays- Follow the runner to include the blockers and defenders in the area as you close in on the action.
3. Passing Plays- Zoom out to include all players on the screen. The quarterback should be on one side of the screen with defenders and pass patterns on the other side of the screen. Once the ball is thrown, treat like a kick. Do not film the ball in the air, but instead follow the action on the field.

4. After the play ends, zoom in so the runner/receiver, blockers and tacklers can be seen as they unpile.
5. Film referee's preliminary signal after each penalty.
6. Film the scoreboard after each score and at the start of each quarter.

Checklist:

1. Extra batteries that are charged
2. Extension cord and battery adapter (in case the battery fails)
3. Tripod- Reminder that by IHSAA policy, tripods are not allowed in the bleachers during contests to video tape contests.

In addition, coaches are expected to enter their Friday game by 12 PM the following Saturday, or 12 PM the following Sunday if playing on Saturday. Scrimmage and Week 0 film does not need to be uploaded to the pool. Any issues or concerns regarding regular season film exchange need to be addressed with the Iowa Football Coaches Association.

We wish all schools the best of luck as they begin the 2025 football season.

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