

2022 Football Bulletin 5

Rules, Revisions, and Interpretations



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HELPING THE RUNNER: 9-1

This continues to be an area officials must improve upon. We must understand that NFHS rules differ from what is seen on Saturday and Sunday. Coaches design plays based on what they see at the next levels not understanding that our rule specifically defines that pushing or pulling the "RUNNER" is illegal and should be penalized.

FAKE FIELD GOALS/PAT's: 4-2-2 EXCEPTION

These plays are challenging for officials and are another area where Coaches see plays run on Saturday and believe the NFHS rule is the same. The play is when from a Field Goal/PAT formation the holder receives the snap and without rising off his knee pitches or passes the ball to a teammate who then runs for a touchdown or two-point conversion. This is illegal and the play should be blown dead. I can and will catch Referees by surprise and should be expected every time a team lines up in a FG/PAT formation.

HURDLING: 2-22 AND 9-4-3D

This is another misunderstood rule by coaches, players, and officials. "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. While we sometimes marvel at the players athletic ability, we need to see the whole play, determine if the defender is touching the ground with anything other than their feet and then make the call. Just because we see it on TV does not mean it is legal.

EJECTIONS

When considering an ejectable penalty, officials need to be sure they are correct. As we near the start of playoff season this becomes even more critical due to those implications. Prior to ejecting, it may benefit the crew if there is a discussion among the members of the crew regarding the ejection. If the ejection involves any of the criteria for a Supplemental Disqualification, just mention in the Reason for Disqualification section what happened and click the Supplemental Disqualification box when submitting. Criteria for a Supplemental Disqualification are: **confronting an official, coach, or contestant; physically contacting an official, coach, or contestant; directing foul or vulgar language/gestures toward an official, coach, contestant or spectator(s); using ethnic or racially insensitive comments**

NOTES:

- Updated 7 person mechanics Manual in on the [PIAA website](#). Please review prior to playoffs.
- Field Mic Do's and Don'ts for Referees posted to documents on [PIAA website](#).

TRAINING VIDEO #4: <https://youtu.be/h3VrwAWOtxc>