



2024 NFHS FOOTBALL POINTS OF EMPHASIS



**PLAY.
PERFORM.
COMPETE.
TOGETHER.**

2024 NFHS FOOTBALL POINTS OF EMPHASIS

1. Sportsmanship and Altercation Prevention and Protocol
2. Player Equipment and Enforcement
3. Formations



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SPORTSMANSHIP AND ALTERCATION PREVENTION AND PROTOCOL



Coaches must teach, promote, model and set clear standards of behavior for themselves, players and fans. Game officials must fairly and consistently enforce NFHS rules in all aspects related to unsporting behavior by coaches and participants. Everyone involved must clearly understand that education-based athletics is an extension of the classroom and is about more than just winning and losing.

SPORTSMANSHIP AND ALTERCATION PREVENTION AND PROTOCOL



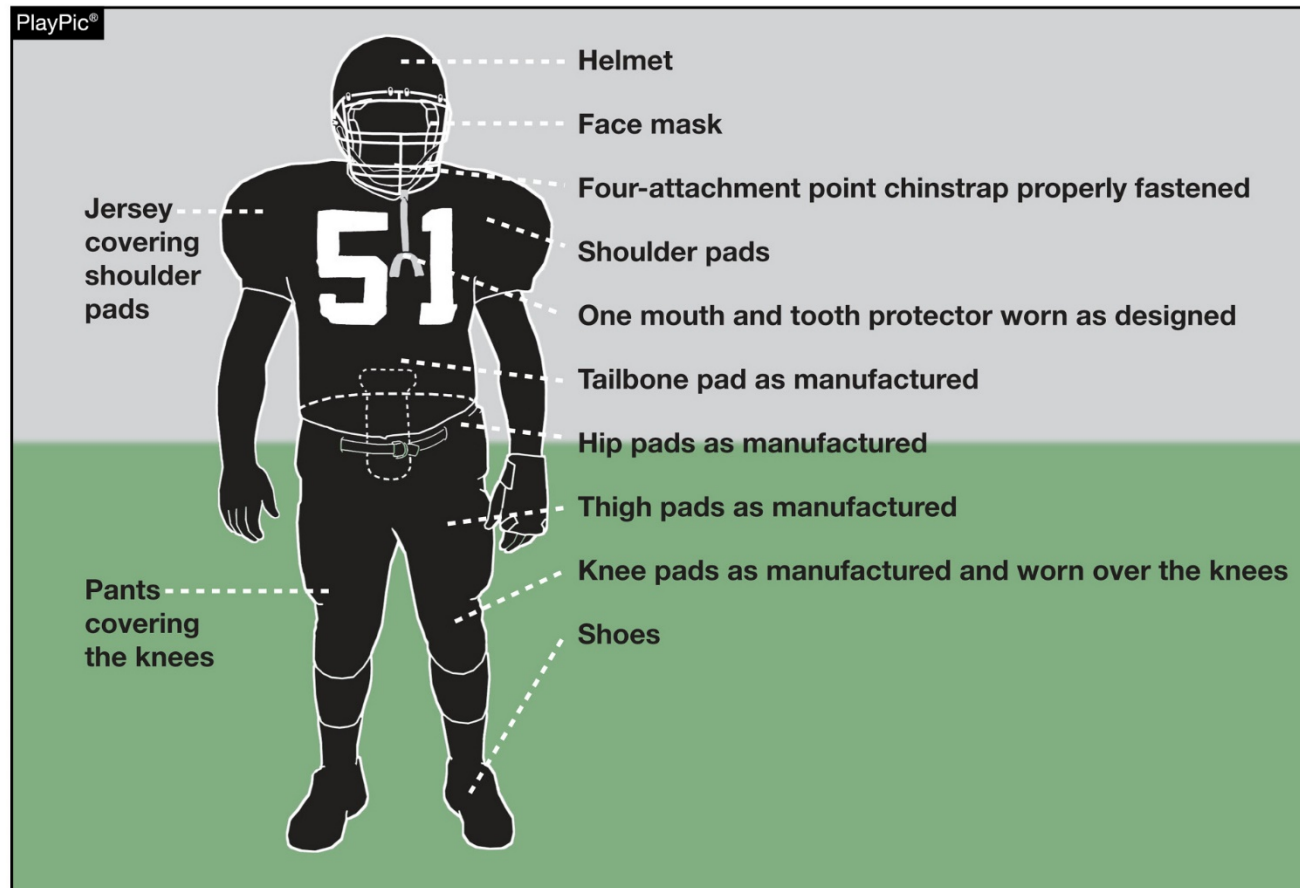
Fights that escalate beyond the initial incident tend to do so because others run toward the fight. Coaches are urged to instruct their team and even practice what to do in case an altercation occurs.

SPORTSMANSHIP AND ALTERCATION PREVENTION AND PROTOCOL



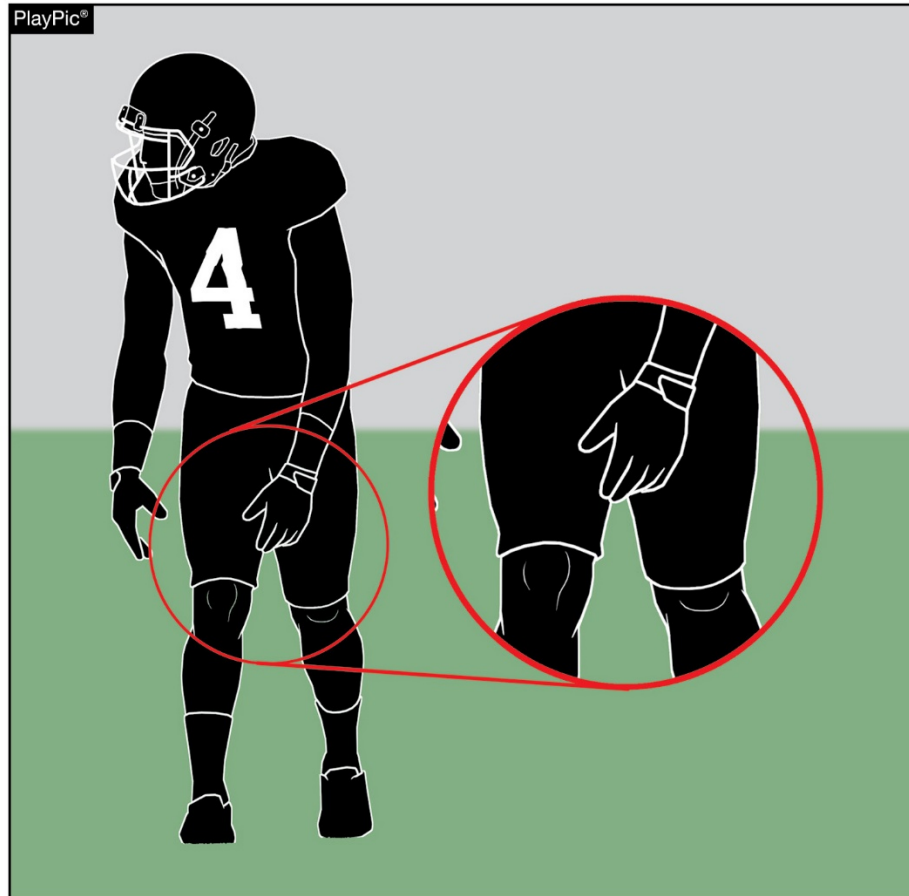
Postgame handshake line protocol should be followed by both teams. Among the points, administrators and security from both schools should be stationed on the field in close proximity to the handshake line. One team should be on the right and the other team should be on the left. Players from one team should not be allowed to walk down both sides of the line.

PLAYER EQUIPMENT AND ENFORCEMENT



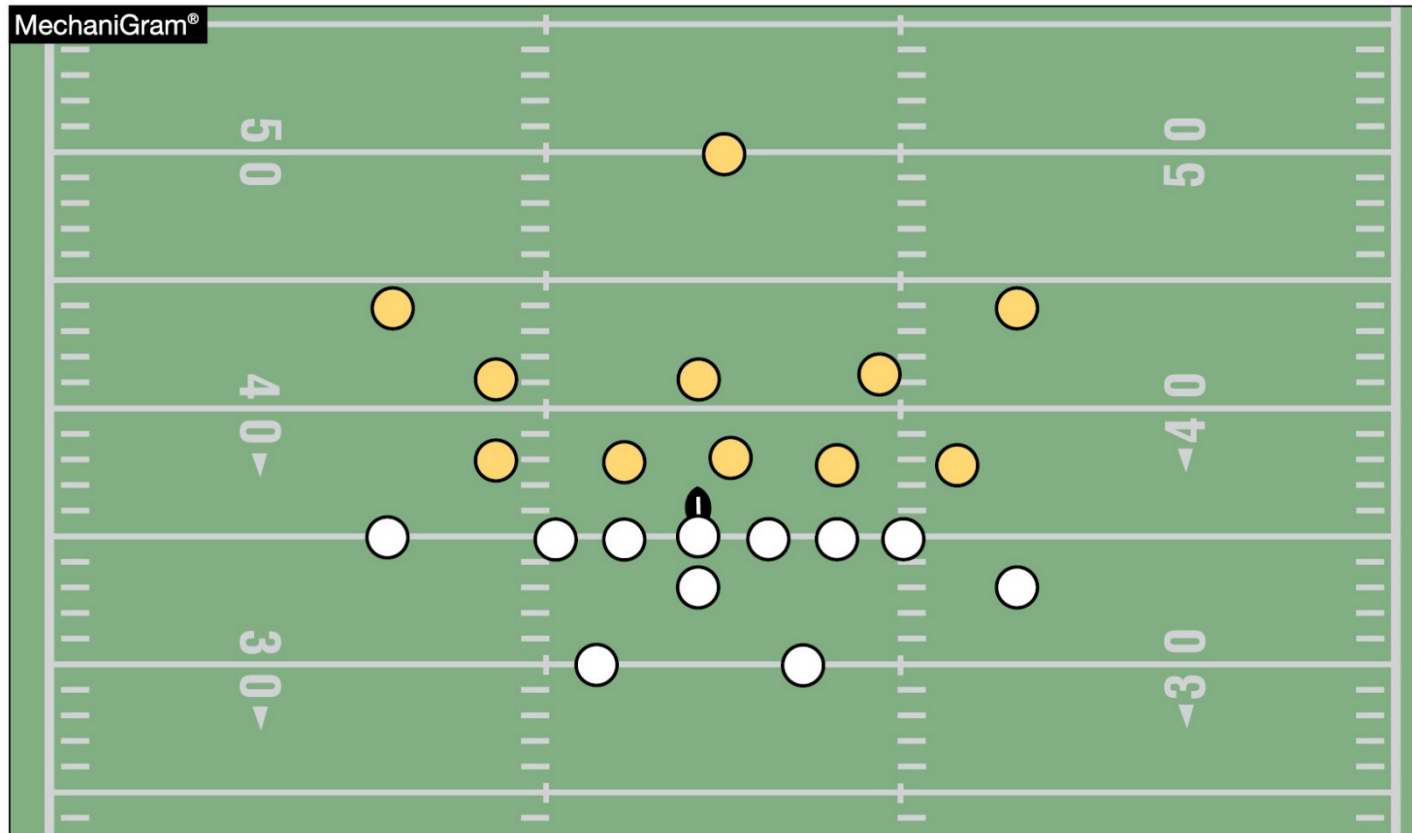
To support the safety of all participants, players must wear equipment and uniforms that are properly fitted and worn as intended by the manufacturer. Before starting each game, the head coach must verify that all players are properly and legally equipped.

PLAYER EQUIPMENT AND ENFORCEMENT



Due to potential injury, it is essential that players only be allowed to participate if their pants and knee pads comply with the rules. Pants must completely cover the knees, and knee pads must be worn over the knee. Game officials should be watchful and proactive in addressing potential equipment, and more specifically, knee pad issues.

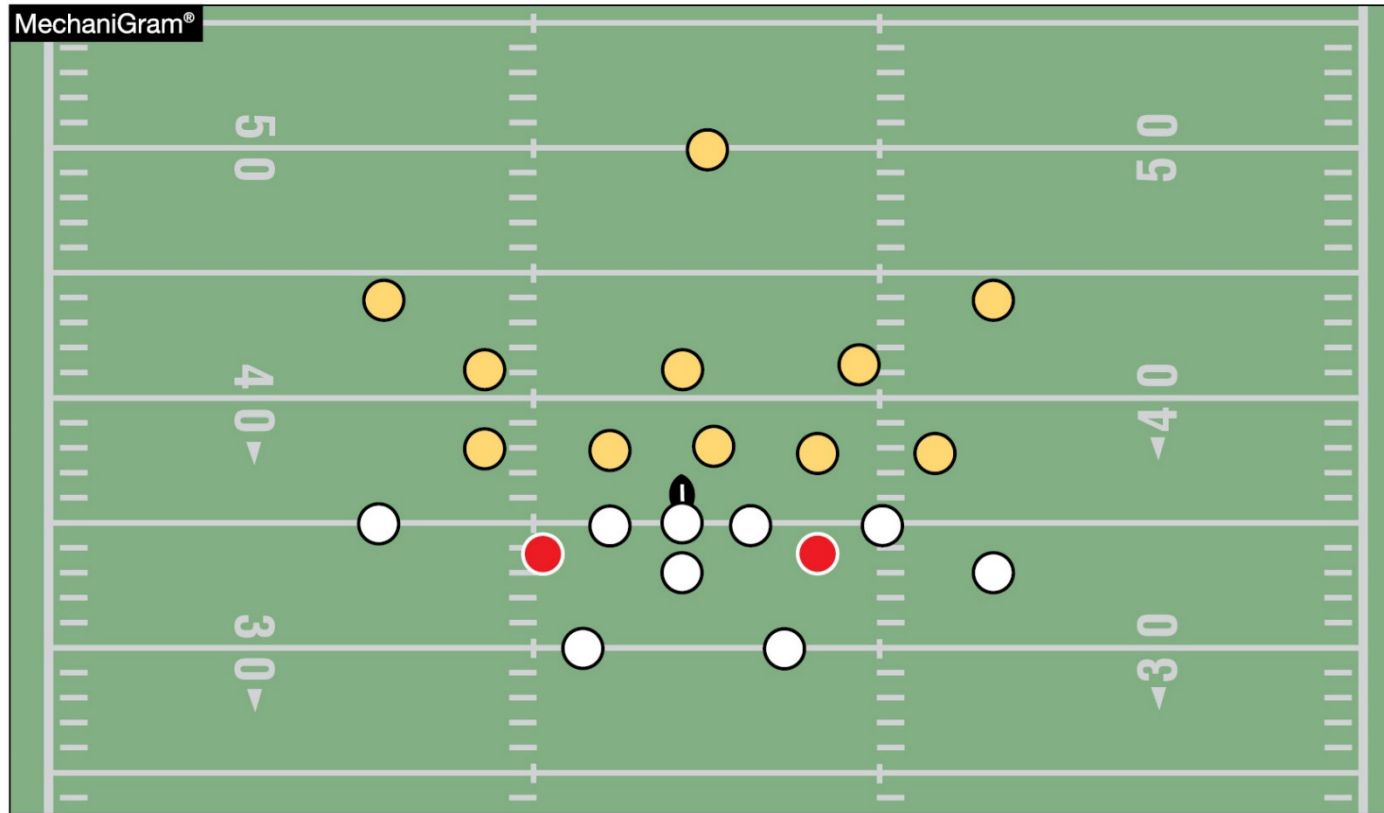
FORMATIONS



LEGAL

A legal formation has no more than four players in the backfield. A back is any A player who has no part of his body breaking the plane of an imaginary line drawn parallel to the line of scrimmage through the waist of the nearest teammate who is legally on the line, except for the player under the snapper, who is also considered a back.

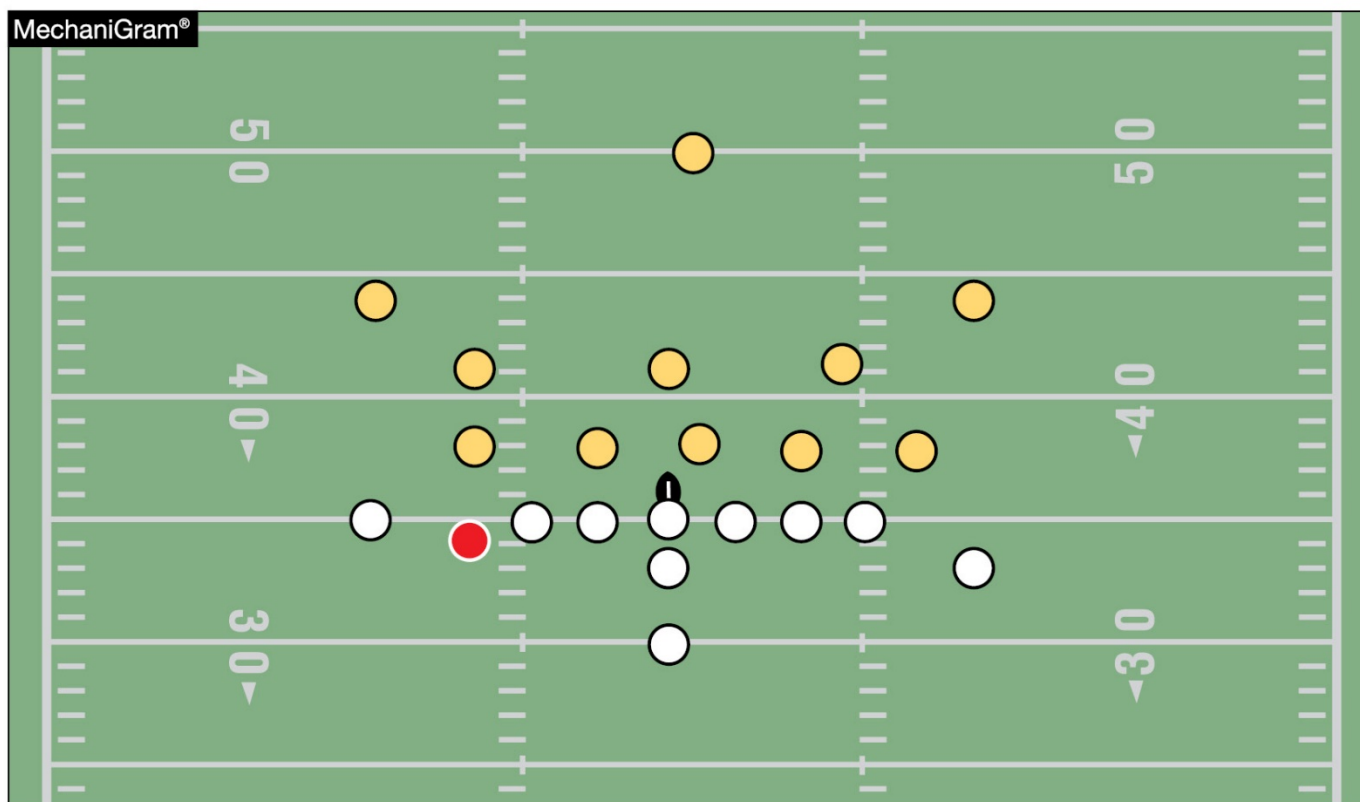
FORMATIONS



ILLEGAL - TACKLES OFF THE LINE

Linemen are legally on the line of scrimmage when they face their opponent's goal line and have head or foot breaking the imaginary plane through the waist of the snapper. It has become fairly common to see guards or tackles line up a yard or two off the ball to aid in pass blocking or pulling.

FORMATIONS



ILLEGAL - PLAYER NEITHER A LINEMAN NOR A BACK

If an offensive player lines up by intersecting the waistline of the tackle, but not the center, Team A has committed an illegal formation foul because all Team A players must be a lineman or back. Receivers who wish to line up as a back should have “daylight” between the rear end of the nearest lineman and their nearest body part.