**2018 CFOA Football Bulletin II**

**August 8, 2018**

To: Commissioners, Board Interpreters, Curriculum reps, CIAC and league reps, media.

From: Bill Riccio, Jr. State Interpreter

Re: Interpretations Meeting, clinic, problems with rules change.

1. **Interpreters Meeting, Aug 2**
2. Summary -- Reps from five of the six member boards met last week to discuss the new rules changes for 2018. We determined officials will strictly enforce the rules regarding proper equipment and improperly worn equipment, being especially stringent during the scrimmage season. If officials do individual team presentations, they should inform the players of proper equipment, properly worn equipment, equipment (such as knees uncovered) that will cause a player to be sent off the field.
3. Adornments – We should be strict on these as well. Players using face paint should be told that will not be allowed during the year. Streamers (if they are still around) should be curtailed.
4. Back pads, etc. We have to be very strict on this both in pre-season and during the year. Back pads flapping around are dangerous.
5. Enforcement of penalties during kick plays – A long discussion occurred on the new rules concerning this enforcement. R’s will have to be cognizant of fouls during kick interval (snap until kick ends by rule) and what the options might be in case of a foul (previous spot or tack-on).
6. **Interpretation for end-of-half, and end-of-game situation.**
7. Glitch in rule – As discussed in the previous bulletin a situation came up because of the wording of the new “tack-on” rule. The intent of the rule was to allow teams the option of adding penalty yardage onto the dead-ball spot after a kick-down, if the penalty occurred from the snap until the kick ended, and the foul was by the kickers.

The use of the term “succeeding spot” created a problem not intended during the discussion and passage of the rule. What the rules makers wanted to say was “dead-ball spot” or, like the NCAA rule, “the spot where the dead ball belongs to Team B(R).”

There is one particular situation that is problematic: an unsuccessful field goal or punt play (rare) on the last play of the half or regulation, where K fouls during the kick interval. This situation could mean enforcement at succeeding spot, including an OT period, and might affect options and/or the outcome of the game enforcing a situation never intended.

Unless we hear something different from NFHS, in Connecticut by interpretation, we are going to **decline the foul by rule**, and move onto the next half or OT.

The reason for this interpretation is in this one instance – an instance not envisioned by the rules makers, a team is put into a double-jeopardy situation, not replaying the down, but having the penalty enforced on next kick or OT.

Tony Capon of the Central Board has put together this easy guide:

TACK-ON KICK ENFORCEMENTS

Assuming the foul otherwise meets the requirements for tack on, here are the tack on options.

ANYTIME THE FOUL OCCURS:

1. Successful try or FG: R will accept the penalty from the previous spot and replay the down. No tack-on.
2. Unsuccessful try: The penalty is declined by rule since the succeeding spot will be a kickoff by K, the second half kickoff, or the first play in an overtime series. None of those can be an enforcement spot for tack-on.

ANYTIME EXCEPT THE LAST PLAY OF A HALF OR IN OVERTIME:

1. Tries and successful field goals: See above. There is no tack-on.
2. All other kick plays: In addition to whatever other options R has, R may choose to tack on from the succeeding spot.

LAST PLAY OF A HALF

1. Tries and successful field goals: See above. There is no tack-on.
2. All other kick plays: R can accept the penalty from the previous spot and replay the down, otherwise the half is over. No tack-on option.

OVERTIME

1. Tries and successful field goals: See above. There is no tack-on.
2. All other kick plays: penalty is automatically declined. There is no tack-on in overtime.

LAST PLAY OF THE FIRST OR THIRD PERIOD

1. If the tack on option exists, R may choose to tack on from the succeeding spot. However, the period is not extended for an untimed down because the succeeding spot is the first play of the next period. It is treated as if it is a dead-ball enforcement.
2. **2018 Clinic**
3. Most attended ever – The 2018 CFOA clinic brought together nearly 170 officials, the best attended ever. The comments after were very positive and the presentations informative. Representatives of the CIAC were present in the persons of Officials Association Director Joe Tonelli, and Rules Committee Representative Dr. Leroy Williams.
4. **Illegal equipment**
5. Adidas Shoe. The following shoe has been declared illegal:



That’s it for now.