

# Oregon School Activities Association

## Soccer Bulletin #9

**2024**

It's (almost) time for the playoffs to begin! It is always a very satisfying way to end the season when you do a playoff game. Officiating any playoff game is an honor, regardless of what your assignment is.

OSAA has requested that the host school gather some relevant game personnel, including the referees, before the game for a Pre-Event Safety Timeout. This should not take more than a couple of minutes. The referees are to attend but only, so they know the important safety information. Topics will include:

- Who is the on-site contact for each school?
- Is there a qualified medical professional present?
  - If not, who will lead in case of an emergency?
- Is there an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for the venue?
  - Who calls 911 and who meets the ambulance (and where)?
- Where's the nearest AED?

We all hope that none of this information will be used before, during or after the game, but we must be prepared in case there is a serious problem.

Please use the following as a checklist that the referee crew must complete before all soccer playoff games.

- Entire crew is present
- Meet with host school game manager/Athletic Director
- Arrange with game manager for post-game escort to cars
- Attend pre-event safety timeout meeting
- Crew pre-game
- Meet with clock operator
- Determine when introductions will start
- Determine format of introductions
- Inspect field including goals and corner flags
- Verify that 'team and coaching' areas are marked
- Check balls
- Meet with ball holders, if any
- Meet with each head coach, collect rosters and verify players equipment
- Request that each head coach be the only one to address officials during the game
- Request that all substitutes on the bench wear a pinny
- Compare rosters with the number of players warming up, maximum roster limits

- Compare rosters with the number of other bench personnel
- Check player uniforms, particularly shin guards and visible under garments
- Conduct coin toss before introductions begin

All playoff games must have a winner. If the game is tied at the end of regulation, we go to overtime. Two 10-minute overtime periods, with only two minutes between the first and second overtime. Overtime is NOT sudden death, golden goal, or silver goal. If we go to overtime, we play for the entire 20 minutes. If the score is still tied, we go to kicks from the mark, sometimes called penalty kicks. Please review this process carefully. It is described in the 2024-25 NFHS Soccer Rule Book, page 91. The only variation in Oregon is that the teams and coaches, not including any red carded players and non-coach bench personnel, are all in the center circle for this process.

A question has been raised about players being cautioned during kicks from the mark. Unlike IFAB/FIFA Laws of the Game, cautions issued during the game carry over into kicks from the mark in high school. If a player was issued a caution during regular play, including overtime, and then receives a caution during kicks, they are also shown a red card and sent to the bench area.

The question that was raised was about a goalkeeper who has been cautioned during kicks and sits out defending the next kick by the opponents. They can then return to defending the opponent's subsequent kicks. Can they also now be a kicker for their team? They cannot take a kick until the next set of five possible kickers. For example, a goalkeeper was cautioned after the second kick they defended. They cannot defend the third kick by their opponents but they can defend the fourth and fifth kicks. They cannot be their team's third, fourth or fifth kicker. They could be the sixth, assuming it is still tied after five kicks by each team. It is rare that we have to issue a caution during kicks (think dissent or incidental foul language) but it is very important that we know what to do when it happens.

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