

2026 Tackle Football SRI Bulletin Number 2 - August 4, 2026

2026 OSAA Football Statewide Clinic is Monday August 8th @ 7:00pm

This is a zoom meeting open to all Coaches, AD's and Officials

Zoom meeting details at the bottom of document

NFHS 2026 Rule Changes

- **Game ending Procedure; 1-1-8**
 - Game official's jurisdiction is terminated and the final score has been approved when all game officials leave the visual confines of the playing area.
- **Tooth and mouth protectors; 1-5-1d(5)a4, 5**
 - Effective 2026, Tooth and Mouth protector attachments that do not serve a purpose and function in protecting the teeth or mouth are Illegal Adornments. Examples include but are not limited to pacifier loops, spinning fans and any dangling objects
- **Arm Sleeves; 1-5-2d, 1-5-3c(6)**
 - Effective 2027, All sleeves manufactured to enhance contact with the ball or an opponent shall have the exact replica of the **SFIA** logo which must be visible and appear legibly in 2027. Any and all arm sleeves worn in 2026 are legal for 2026.
- **Play Cards not worn on the wrist, arm or belt are illegal 1-5-3c(9)**
 - Allows play cards to be worn on the belt
- **Head slap 9-4-7**
 - No player may use the hands to slap an opponent's head. Previously the rule read no "defensive" player was allowed to slap a "blockers" head. Apparently, the old wording caused much confusion somewhere.

NFHS POE's for 2026

- **Flagrant and Unsportsmanlike Fouls,**
 - **The NFHS wants to eliminate these acts or actions and is requiring they be enforced consistently and without exception! Common examples include (but are not limited to):**
 - Taunting
 - Threatening gestures or posturing (eg; Throat Slash, Shooting with fake Pistols, ect.)
 - Racist comments
 - Trash talking
 - Excessive or choreographed celebrations
 - Aggressively spiking, spinning the ball or throwing the ball high into the air
 - Using profanity
 - Spitting
 - Arguing with game officials, or
 - Throwing equipment
- **Helping the Runner**
 - NFL and NCAA have rules that coincide with the physical development of competing athletes and their goals for the game, these rules do not exist at the NFHS level.
 - The NFHS Rules Committee focuses on minimizing risk to players.
 - Pushing, Pulling or Lifting the runner is illegal – Throw the flag!
 - Preventative Officiating dictates blowing the play dead when momentum is originally stopped

Sideline Management and Control

- **Game Officials are instructed to strictly enforce NFHS Football Rules when the following behaviors are observed:**
 - Coaches or team personnel entering the field of play to dispute rulings or address game officials outside the coaching area.
 - Prolonged or excessive celebrations or demonstrations that carry on to the field.
 - Failing to maintain professional behavior. Coaches and team personnel are expected to set a standard for sportsmanship.
 - Game officials SHALL call fouls for violations of sideline control when they are observed.
 - Infractions such as approaching game officials with electronic devices (e.g. to view or review video.)
- **The following is summary checklist for coaches/teams to follow during a game:**
 - Remain inside your team area for game official discussions.
 - Only move toward the sideline after the play is dead and for signal/play calling.
 - Keep non-essential personal and spectators off the field level.
 - Avoid approaching game officials during play or with electronic/video devices.
 - Set a professional, sportsmanlike example for the entirety of the contest.

OREGON ONLY – Oregon Strengthened NFHS Rules

- **Pregame warmup rule; 1-1-7** – 30 minutes prior, game officials shall assume authority of the game. Game officials shall observe team members and shall record on a non-compliance card any potential players missing mandatory equipment, improperly wearing mandatory equipment, or wearing illegal equipment. The non-compliance card shall be presented to the Head Coach. This is the Head Coaches one and only warning.
- **After the coin toss; Players detected with missing or improperly worn mandatory equipment, 1-5-1: the offending player shall sit out for at least one play and:** *(If multiple players only one penalty)*
 - 1st offense – Delay of Game charged to team
 - 2nd offense – Delay of Game charged to team
 - 3rd offense and subsequent offense's – Unsportsmanlike Conduct Foul is issued to the Head Coach
- **After the coin toss – Players detected wearing Illegal Equipment; 1-5-3,** the offending player shall sit for at least one play and an Unsportsmanlike Conduct Foul is issued to Head Coach. *(If multiple players only one penalty)*
- **Cleat Rule; 1-5-1f** – Illegal Cleats result in a UNS issued to the Head Coach and the offending player is disqualified
- **Any Audio, Video, or Recording device worn or attached to a player during the game; 1-5-3c(3), (functional or not functional)** is illegal. In Oregon this is considered a flagrant Unsporting act. **The act results in the disqualification of the offending player, the disqualification of offending Head Coach, and, the disqualification of any other involved team member when applicable.**

THIS AND THAT

- Title Change: Head Linesman is now **Head Line Judge**
- Under certain conditions the H and the L may swap sidelines at Half-time
- With prior approval, some 11-player contests may use 7 game officials
- **Effective 2027, Players T-shirts SHALL be the same color as their PANTS (yes, their pants) or they SHALL be issued a failure to properly wear required equipment foul**

Zoom details:

Kris Welch is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: State-wide Football Training webinar

Time: Aug 10, 2026 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://osaa-org.zoom.us/j/81904840235?pwd=SsIPfLDecfR0y1gevlzNBEZ5kJ21Mc.1>

Meeting ID: 819 0484 0235

Passcode: 330933

One tap mobile

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Join instructions

<https://osaa-org.zoom.us/join/81904840235?signature=zapQdUtvTZcfmNoWcZshL0BFBjKlhm6dt-n2Z2j-CdQ>