



2018 NFHS SOCCER RULES INTERPRETATIONS

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RULES BOOK CORRECTIONS:

(Underlining shows additions; ~~strike-through~~ shows deletions.)

Page 24, 4.1.1 SITUATION D, RULING: (a) ~~Illegal in (a) and (b).~~ Striped jerseys are permissible for the home team as long as the dominant color is dark (dark is defined as any color which contrasts with white). Jerseys with equal-sized stripes that have both dark and white stripes do not have a dominant dark color and are illegal. If visible apparel is worn under the jersey and/or shorts, it shall be similar in length for the individual and all solid and of a like color for the team; **Page 79, Comments on Rules Changes:** 12.8.1f(15)

PRESEASON GUIDE

CORRECTIONS:

Page 3, Offside (11-1-4), 2nd paragraph, Play 11, RULING: ~~Indirect free kick at the spot of the infraction (even in own half)~~ Because B1 denied A1 an obvious goal-scoring opportunity, the referee awards the opponent a direct free kick and issues a red card to B1; **Page 14, Too Close for Their Own Good, second paragraph, first two sentences:** Neither a coach nor a trainer is a player, and cannot be assessed a handling foul. But, since a non-player has interfered with the game, the restart is a direct free kick from the point of the infraction.

SITUATION 1: A player who is part of a wall in a free kick moves his/her hands after the kick to protect his/her face from the ball. **RULING:** The hand movement is deemed to be a reflex action and is not considered to be deliberate handling. Protecting the head, face, groin or chest from a hard shot or pass using the hands or arms as a reflex is not considered deliberate and therefore not handling. (12-2)

SITUATION 2: A player who is in a defensive position during the taking of a free kick places his/her hands or arms against any part of the body for protection. The offensive player kicks the ball, striking the hands while he/she remains in front of the body or the arms remain over the chest. In both cases, the hands and arms are stationary. **RULING:** Legal. This is not handling because the ball struck a stationary hand or arm close to the body and in a natural position, rather than a hand or arm playing the ball. (12-2)

SITUATION 3: A2 kicks a low, hard pass to his/her teammate: (a) B1, a male player who is in the path of the ball, moves his hand to protect his groin and the ball touches his hand; (b) B1, a female player who is in the path of the ball, moves her hand to protect her chest and the ball touches her hand. **RULING:** Legal in both (a) and (b). Protecting the head, face, groin and chest from a hard shot or pass using the hands or arms as a reflex is not considered deliberate and, therefore, not handling. (12-2)

SITUATION 4: A1 plays the ball toward A2. A2 is in an offside position and runs from the offside position into his/her own half of the field and plays the ball. **RULING:** A2 is offside as he/she was in an offside position when the ball was played. An indirect free kick is taken where A2 touched or played the ball. (11-1-4)

SITUATION 5: B1, while attempting to play the ball, trips the attacking player, A1, in the penalty area, denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity. **RULING:** The official awards a penalty kick to Team A and issues a caution to B1. (12-8-1)

SITUATION 6: B1, with no attempt to play the ball, trips the attacking player, A1, inside the penalty box, denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity. **RULING:** The referee awards Team A a penalty kick and issues a red card to B1. [12-8-2d(4)]

SITUATION 7: B1 trips the attacking player, A1, outside the penalty box, denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity. **RULING:** The referee awards Team A a direct free kick and issues a red card to B1. [12-8-2d(3)]

SITUATION 8: A player, coach or bench personnel enters or leaves the playing field without permission from the official and interferes with play or an official. **RULING:** The referee shall penalize the infraction with a direct free kick from the point of the infraction. (13-2-1j)

SITUATION 9: A player, coach or bench personnel enters or leaves the playing field without permission from the official, but does not interfere with play or an official. **RULING:** The referee shall penalize the infraction with an indirect free kick from the point of the infraction. (13-2-3a)

SITUATION 10: A1 passes the ball and a defender, B1, heads the ball directly to A2, who is in an offside position. **RULING:** A2 is not offside because he/she received the ball directly from a defender who deliberately played the ball. (11-1-4)