



2014-15 NFHS SOCCER RULES INTERPRETATIONS

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SITUATION 1: A referee inspecting the field prior to the game detects (a) a center circle spot 9 inches in diameter; (b) an "X" intersecting the halfway line; (c) no mark other than the halfway line. **RULING:** (a) legal; (b) legal; (c) illegal. (1.2.4 Situation)
NOTE: Referee should notify home institution to correct the situation, but should not delay the start of play.

SITUATION 2: The goalkeeper goes down after making a save and remains motionless for a few seconds with the ball in his/her possession. The official stops the clock to assess a possible injury. The referee determines that he/she is able to continue play immediately. No attendants are beckoned and play is restarted with an indirect free kick. **RULING:** Illegal. Whenever the referee stops the clock for a possible injury, the player or goalkeeper must leave the field. (3.3.2 Situation C)

SITUATION 3: An attacker collides with the opponent goalkeeper and both appear to be injured; the referee stops the clock and beckons the coaches to attend to their players. Both players leave the field, but neither coach chooses to replace his or her injured player. **RULING:** Legal for field player, and illegal not to have a designated goalkeeper. (3.3.2 Situation D)

SITUATION 4: Players A2 and B2 hit heads in attempting to head the ball and both are injured. In the opinion of the referee, player A2 exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion. **RULING:** Player A2 shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropri-

ate health-care professional. (3.3.2 Situation F)

SITUATION 5: Player A2 goes down and is apparently injured. Following a preliminary examination, the official stops the clock and beckons A2's coach or athletic trainer onto the field to attend to the injured player, but they refuse to comply. **RULING:** The injured player must be removed and may be replaced. (3.3.2 Situation G)

SITUATION 6: Player A2 (a) is injured and attended to on the field; (b) is issued a yellow card for a cautionable offense. Although in both instances Player A2 must leave the field, Team A's coach elects to play one player short. **RULING:** Legal. (3.3.2 Situation H)

SITUATION 7: Player A2 is injured. After examining Player A2, the referee stops the clock and beckons A2's coach or athletic trainer onto the field to attend to the injured player. (a) The athletic trainer for Team A attends to the injured player while Coach A gives instruction to players on the field; (b) Coach A attends to the injured player and gives instruction as she/he walks out and back; (c) opposing Coach B calls his team to the sideline and gives instruction to the team; (d) Coach A, while on the sideline, calls for a substitute for A2 and gives instruction to the substitute. **RULING:** Legal in (a), (b), (c) and (d). (3.3.2 Situation I)

SITUATION 8: Player A2 leaves the field due to an injury and the team elects to play shorthanded. After the game has been restarted, (a) Player A12 replaces Player A2; (b) Player A2 re-enters the field. **RULING:** (a)

Player A12 may enter the game only at the next legal substitution opportunity; (b) Player A2 may re-enter the field at the next stoppage of play. (3.3.2 Situation J)

SITUATION 9: Player A2 is injured during the course of play but manages to hobble across the touchline to avoid disrupting play and to allow the game to continue. At the next stoppage in play (not necessarily a stoppage for which Team A would normally be permitted to substitute), the coach for Team A substitutes for Player A2 directly from the bench. **RULING:** Legal, unless Player A2 has been disqualified under the provisions of 12-8 that do not permit a substitution and provided that the other prerequisites for proper substitution have been met. **COMMENT:** An injured player leaving the field under his/her own power would not be considered a violation of 12-8-1a. (3.3.2 Situation K)

SITUATION 10: Team A substitutes an unlimited number of players that have already checked in at the scorer's table after (a) a caution, (b) an injured player is required to leave the field or (c) when a player has blood on her uniform. **RULING:** Legal in (a), (b) and (c). (3.3.2 Situation L)

SITUATION 11: Team A substitutes an unlimited number of players from the bench after (a) a caution, (b) an injured player is required to leave the field or (c) after a goal is scored. **RULING:** (a) Illegal; (b) legal; (c) legal, providing the substitutes check in and are beckoned in by the referee. (3.3.3 Situation D)

SITUATION 12: Player A2 is issued a yellow card for misconduct and makes a profane remark to the referee: (a) the substitute has not been beckoned onto the field; (b) the substitute has been beckoned onto the field. **RULING:** (a) A2 is issued a red card and the team plays short; (b) A2 is issued a red card and the substitute is allowed to participate. (3.3.3 Situation E)

SITUATION 13: Team A is playing shorthanded with 10 players due to illegal equipment. (a) Player A2 runs onto the field during play; (b) player A2 enters the field of play during a stoppage with the permission of the referee; (c) player A2 enters the field at the next legal substitution opportunity. **RULING:** (a) Illegal; (b) illegal; (c) legal. (3.3.7 Situation B)

SITUATION 14: Player A from the visiting team enters the game wearing (a) two different colored socks; (b) multi-striped socks, where one stripe is the dominant color (not white); (c) tie-dyed socks; (d) predominantly blue socks with the top quarter of the socks pale blue. **RULING:** (a) Illegal; (b) legal; (c) illegal; (d) legal. Both socks shall be the same, single dominant color. Only the visiting team may wear socks a color other than white. (4.1.1 Situation C)

SITUATION 15: Team A, the visiting team, arrives wearing striped jerseys that have large, light blue and thin white alternating stripes. Two mem-

bers of Team A are wearing visible light red T-shirts beneath their jerseys. **RULING:** Legal. Striped jerseys are permissible for the visiting 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. Also, shirts may be worn under the jersey as long as the shirts are the same color and of similar length. (4.1.1 Situation D)

SITUATION 16: Prior to the game, the referee recognizes that Team A has two goalkeepers; one with a red jersey and the number 15 on the back and front, and one with a blue jersey with the number 15 on the back and front. **RULING:** Illegal. The goalkeepers must have different numbers and these should have been recorded on the roster. (4.1.1 Situation I)

SITUATION 17: Upon arriving at the field, the referee notices that the home team has a likeness of its school mascot on the team's socks. The referee informs the coach about the socks being improper because home team socks shall be all white and allows the game to be played. **RULING:** The official was correct and must report the uniform violation to the state association. (Per Rule 4-1-1(b)) (4.1.1 Situation O)

SITUATION 18: The home team (a) has player names in red lettering on

its socks, (b) and numbers in red on its shorts. **RULING:** (a) Illegal, the socks of the home team are to be all white; (b) legal to have red numbers on their shorts. (4.1.1 Situation P)

SITUATION 19: The home team has video equipment to tape and replay the game action. The coach (a) plays a tape to players after the game; (b) plays tape at halftime interval for coaching purposes; (c) asks referee to review tape for evidence in the case of a disallowed goal. **RULING:** (a) Legal; (b) legal; (c) illegal. (12-8-1e) (5.1.2 Situation A)

SITUATION 20: Approximately one-half hour prior to kickoff, the referee inspects the field and notices that neither portable goal is properly secured. The referee addresses the home coach and requests that he/she address the problem. **RULING:** Legal since the referee's authority exists as soon as he/she is in the immediate vicinity of the field. (5.1.2 Situation B)

SITUATION 21: Team A is awarded an indirect free kick foul just outside the penalty area. The referee fails to raise his/her hand to indicate an indirect free kick and Team A shoots the ball directly into Team B's goal. Referee awards a goal kick. **RULING:** Legal. The ball crossed the goal line before being played by another player so a goal cannot be allowed. Since the ball was last kicked by an attacker, the restart is a goal kick. (5.3.2 Situation E)