



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)