

November 12, 2011

Welcome Everyone; as we are on the brink of another season of Ohio high school wrestling. This season we will post four monthly bulletins, one each to come around the middle of every month. With the start of a new season our bulletins will start a new tradition. Each issue will contain the “*Bulletin Rule Review*”. Each bulletin will contain what may be a new rule that needs further review, a special case situation, or an otherwise overlooked rule. Also, we all have appreciated the 50 years of dedicated service to Ohio high school wrestling Lyle Smith has proudly given. Lyle now joins Vince Matteucci as our second SRI Emeritus.



ACT/SAT TESTING has been discussed. The following will be our Ohio policy starting 2011-12. Each tournament administration has the opportunity to set whatever arrangements suitable to accommodate athletes who may be enrolled to take their college entrance exams. Two conditions apply; first, same day weigh-in second, adhere to all NFHS weigh-ins rules (under garment, attempts per scale, etc.) The tournament manager has the authority to weigh-in the ACT/SAT testing wrestler. He/she is then responsible to return safely, prepare and appear for whatever round

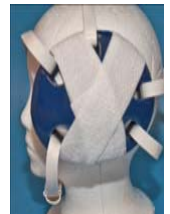
of competition is left in the event. Matches will not be held up or delayed; the tournament must proceed as normal.

HEAD GEAR: is the next reminder topic to start the season. Tape is to be kept at a minimum, a one inch strip holding straps in place, and /or a half-inch rim around the outer edge to hold a foam extension in place (cauliflower ear protection). Tape is not to be across the ear guard itself. If the wrestler appears at the mat with tape across the head gear it is a technical violation, start the injury clock and award the opponent one point for the technical violation. The head gear is to be worn as the manufacturer intended. Blocking the holes on the ear guard could cause damage to the ear drum. That reason adds another sensible reason along with all our contagious skin reasons, as well. Officials must inspect wrestlers.

*Uniform Shall Be Worn as Intended/
Designed by the Manufacturer
Rule 4-1-5*



ILLEGAL



ILLEGAL



The wrestling ear guards are to be worn as intended/designed by the manufacturer and tape on the ear guards is not allowed by rule.

CONCUSSION ISSUE & NEW FORMS: The OHSAA has created the necessary forms to handle the concussion situation if it should occur. Please go to OHSAA.org/medicine/sport_safety.htm to find the new materials. One is for the health care professional to fill out for the coach/school administrator and the other is for the referee in the event the health care professional is allowing the athlete to return to competition. The second form is a concussion report form in the event the official stops the match due to signs, symptoms and/or behaviors consistent with a concussed athlete. Remember the health care professional has the necessary extended time to complete the paper work, not to continue diagnosing the situation. The clock is to stop when the appropriate health care professional stipulates the wrestler is safe to continue competition. **Note:** We allow the MD, DO or ATC the time necessary to complete the return to play paper work. Seek advice from local association officers, this topic should be reviewed during meetings.

PRE-MEET DUTIES: Remember to check for foreign and greasy substances during pre-meet. Spray-on tan gives the appearance of a tan body look, which may very well rub off during competition and be a disadvantage to the opponent. Be alert to make-up being used to cover skin problems. If found during the match; it is a technical violation one-point, start injury time to remove substance to official's satisfaction.

THE "Bulletin Rule Review": **Rule 6.2.4.** **Wrestler A** is visually handicapped and when starting in the neutral position the opponent breaks contact and backs up just prior to attempting a takedown. **RULING:** This would be an unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of **wrestler B**. In matches involving sight handicapped wrestler, contact must be maintained throughout the match. The backup delay move described here would be placing the visually handicapped wrestler at a distinct disadvantage. In summary, if **wrestler A** earns an escape and looks at the official to stop the match and bring them back together illustrates his/her understanding of the situation. Whereas, if **wrestler B** breaks away, then backs up to drop step and take a low

level shot illustrates his lack of concern for the safety of the handicapped opponent. This is the situation that would be the unsportsmanlike conduct violation. The referee should also council **wrestler B**, explain his opponent is handicapped and must maintain the constant contact rule.

HEAD FIGURE 4: The NFHS has now made refereeing a little easier. By making the head figure 4 illegal, it makes the call on all figure 4 maneuvers consistent. No more need to remember separate calls for the same maneuver in different situation. It also makes the call on the "sash" maneuvers easier to understand, see and react. Remember under the arm pit is considered the tube of the body, so if there would be a draping sash figure 4 under the armpit and up around the neck ... it is still illegal. The draping sash scissors can still be either legal, but watch for potentially dangerous, or it can be illegal if the arm is extended upward and the scissors goes across the throat with the arm included.

JURISDICTION TIME EXTENDED: The referee now has his/her jurisdiction time extended to include the time necessary to complete any state forms required. These would include but limited to the following; flagrant misconduct forms and the ensuing procedure, it would also include the new concussion management forms. One is to report a concussion, and the second releases the athlete to continue competition. We strongly recommend any official involved with either procedure make a Xerox copy of each form before mailing to the OHSAA office. Keep your own records.

UPDATE RANDOM DRAW CARDS: It may be the last thing we all think about, but take the time now to get a correct set of random draw cards in your gear bag before you go on the road to start your season. Remember the random draw is to be conducted at the conclusion of the weigh-in procedure by the meet referee or his designee. If the random draw was conducted before the weigh-ins began it is illegal and void. A proper draw must be conducted. Remember, in dual meet formats the subsequent weight classes are raised to the next higher weight class for next round. If it is a two day event, a new random draw starts the new day of completion.

MECHANICS: Lets all make an extra effort to improve the quality of our mechanics as we work throughout the entire season. We all shine a little brighter, help each other look our best, and certainly illustrate to our athletes and spectators how we as Ohio wrestling referees work hard to present our best foot forward. We are always being watched and evaluated by the spectators, the wrestlers, tournament administrators, athletic directors, coaches and yes even our fellow officials. We need to be consistent, united and work as a state wide team of professionals. Each official should make it part of their preseason preparation to review, practice and polish his/her individual hand mechanics. Likewise, the LOA officers should take the time during regular association meetings to demonstrate proper mechanics. We all look better when we all look the same; sharpen mechanics.

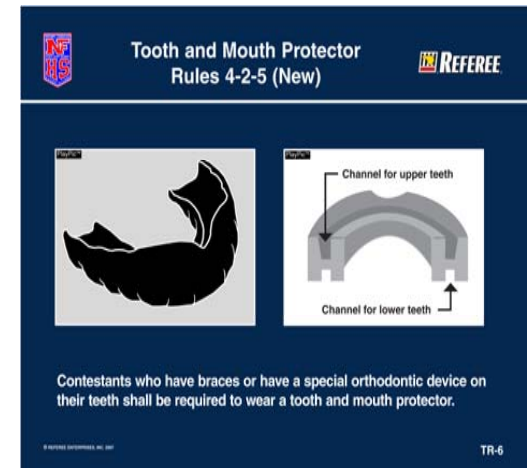
REPORTING TO THE SCORER'S TABLE: The appropriate wrestler, based on the pre-match disc toss, to report to the scorer's table is considered to have done so when he/she is standing in front of the table to report, grabbed the ankle band, and/or pointed to his/her name. Although he/she has not yet spoken, his/her appearance at the table is considered the act of reporting as the next contestant. The coach may decide to change his athlete and re-call him/her back to the bench while the athlete is walking to the table, but once standing in front of the table is considered the next athlete for competition. At this point if the wrestler is re-called he/she is disqualified for that weight class and no substitute is allowed. That weight class is now considered a forfeit. The same holds true for the opposing wrestler. Once he/she stands at the table, he/she has just reported to be the competitor for the next ensuing match.

**Apply and prepare yourself to be the best version of you,
You can possibly be ... Walk in someone's footprints,
Or lead ... and leave your own path for others.**

MOUTH GUARD Rule 4-2-6: ART. 6...

Each contestant who has braces or has a special orthodontic device on his or her teeth shall be required to wear a **tooth and mouth protector**. A tooth and mouth protector (intraoral) shall include an occlusal (protecting and separating the biting surfaces) and a labial (protecting the teeth and supporting structures) portion and cover the teeth and all areas of the braces or special orthodontic device with adequate thickness. This would include upper and lower teeth if devices are present on both. It is recommended the protector be properly fitted and:

- Constructed from a model made from an impression of the individual's teeth and braces or special orthodontic device.
- Constructed and fitted to the individual by impressing the teeth and braces or special orthodontic device into the tooth and mouth protector itself. **The strips or 'bumpers' that snap on or slide on the rim of the braces are not acceptable, they are not legal.** Referees are to be alert to legal vs. illegal, and coaches are asked to make sure their athletes are properly equipped and ready to wrestle.



OFFICIALS ARE REMINDED: V-neck shirts are the expected uniform for all sectional, district and state officials starting in the 2011-12 post season. The V-neck shirt will be part the official uniform for all wrestling officials for regular and post season starting with the 2012-13 season.