

March 23, 2021

2021 OFFICIALS ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Y as A 1. Basketball – MSHSAA adoption - Change the running clock to include both the 3rd and 4th quarter. **Motion passed 9-0**

Yes as Amended – Send item to Basketball Advisory Committee as it is their responsibility

Rationale: In the sport of basketball, the current MSHSAA adoption is to have a “running clock”, with any lead 30 points or greater, at the beginning of the 4th quarter. This change takes into consideration the emotional and physical wellbeing of the student athletes, from both teams, as it relates to the disparity of the contest. In addition, in following the same rationale as is used in the sport of football (35 points or greater during **both** the 3rd and 4th quarters) as it relates to the running clock, the same should be applied to the sport of basketball.

- Y 2. Football officials pre-game duties change – Pregame Mechanics Proposal.
- i. 90 minutes before kick-off crew dresses in full uniform and begins the pregame meeting.
 - ii. 60 minutes before kick-off the entire crew arrives on the field. The Referee and one other official meet with the home team coach, then visiting coach.
 1. Confirm with each coach if they will be leaving the field before kick-off and what time we will return.
 2. Other crew members observe players from each team, i.e. *player equipment *uniform compliance *proper alignment of offense, especially as it relates to lining up receivers, the meaning of official's signal (punch or not) *discussions with snappers, QB, and kick receivers (fair catch signals)
 - iii. Once the coach's meeting and observations are completed the Line Judge and the Linesmen check the chain crew equipment.
 1. Line Judge also meets with ball boys and secures game balls. Umpire checks any equipment issues.
 2. The Referee and Back Judge shall inspect the entire field and follow the outline in the NFHS manual.
 - iv. The crew then comes together for information from the coaches' meeting.
 - v. 30 minutes before kick-off meet timekeepers on the field.
 - vi. After duties are performed if ONE of the teams leaves the field the crew MAY leave the field and return to the locker room or a specific designated area.
 - vii. At the time the coach stated, but no later than 5 minutes before kick-off, the crew will arrive at the field.
 1. Referee and Umpire go to their sideline
 2. Line Judge and Back Judge will escort their team from their field access entry point to their sideline
 3. Head Linesman takes care of duties with the chain crew
 - viii. NOTE: At any time, from 60 minutes before kick-off until the coin toss with captains, if BOTH teams are on the field, the Officials MUST be on the field.
 - ix. 3 minutes before kick-off – coin toss with captains and head coaches
- Motion passed 9-0**

Rationale:

-This procedure will put the crew into an immediate pre-game mode upon arrival.
-By having the crew on the field at 60 minutes, they will have an opportunity to observe teams and take care of the administrative issues before the kick-off occurs.
This has not been the case as most teams leave the field by the 30-minute mark.

- The more pregame communication with players/coaches we have, the less chance there is for procedural fouls
- When teams leave the field this will allow officials to remove themselves from pre-game festivities and keep them engaged by bringing the teams back to the field.
- This will ensure that there will always be Officials on the field when BOTH teams are present.
- All NFHS Mechanics Manual requirements are met.

- Y 3. Football Officials Pre-game jackets - MSHSAA provide more detailed information to football officials as it relates to appropriate pre-game attire. **Motion passed 9-0**

Rationale: Sometimes the weather, especially late in the season, is very cold and can also be raining. Wearing a jacket (possibly water proof) during this time would make that time safer and help better prepare for the game. This is for the pre-game **only** and **never** during the contest. The suggestion is that the jackets would be required to be all black with some white or gray accent permissible. All crew members would be required to wear the same jackets. The only adornments, if any, would be the MSHSAA patch worn on the upper left arm or an association patch worn on the left upper chest area, just like basketball jackets. The NFHS manual only specifies what **must** be worn during the contest, not during pre-game.

- Y 4. Beginning with the 2022-23, all MSHSAA Basketball Officials will be required to wear the NCAA Basketball Uniform (striped shirt with solid black sleeves). **Motion passed 9-0**

Rationale: It would be beneficial for the Basketball Officials to upgrade to a more modern look/style of Officiating Shirt. It has been many years since there has been a change made. The new college shirts are very comfortable, attractive and are less "officiating like" because of the solid black shoulders/sleeves. Approximately every 3 or 4 years Officials need to purchase a new shirt, anyway. Communication would begin immediately with notifying all basketball officials that the new uniform is **mandated** beginning with the 2022-23 season. The **only** allowable uniform for the 2021-22 season is the current uniform being worn. This process will allow all officials to prepare for the change.

- Y 5. Wireless Crew Communication Devices to be used for sub-varsity contests. **Motion passed 9-0**

Rationale: Currently, wireless communication devices can only be used during "varsity" contests. These radios have become a great tool for varsity contests with the majority of crews using them. Crews are currently having to use new officials (1st-3rd year) for varsity contest in which radios are being used. This would provide an opportunity to utilize them in low levels, by all officials on the field, for training purposes along with making an easier transition from sub-varsity to varsity level games. If the crew utilizes the services of a "trainer", the current MSHSAA "additional guidelines" will be followed which stipulates the ONE trainer must be a MSHSAA Observer, MSHSAA Rules Interpreter, MSHSAA Mechanics Clinician, or other MSHSAA Approved Designee.

- N 6. Volleyball - Allow officials to wear pink shirt for cancer awareness week, only if both officials have a matching pink uniform shirt. **Motion passed 8-1**

Rationale: This would show the schools and communities that the officials are also in support of such causes.

Staff recommendations are shown to the left of each item.

Y = Yes	The staff's recommendation is for the Board to approve the committee's recommendation.
Y as Amended	The staff's recommendation is to approve the committee's recommendation, as amended/modified by the staff; the original committee recommendation can be viewed in the committee minutes.
N = No	The staff's recommendation is for the Board to deny the committee's recommendation for the reasons listed.
D = Discuss	The staff's recommendation is for the Board to discuss the committee's recommendation due to a variety of pros and cons being associated with its approval.
T = Table	The staff's recommendation is to table the item for further study or to table the item and refer it to another committee.