FOOTBALL 2023

CHSAA FALL SEASON BULLETIN

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Colorado High School Activities Association

'Seeking Excellence in Academics, Activities and Athletics'

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TO: Athletic Directors and Coaches

FROM: John Sullivan, CHSAA Assistant Commissioner

RE: 2023 FOOTBALL SEASON

DATE: July 2023

Welcome to the 2023 football season.

This bulletin is a supplement to the official CHSAA By-Laws. Coaches are urged to review and confer with their athletic director and principal in advance of the start of practice to ensure there is a clear understanding of all eligibility and playing rules including rule changes and areas of emphasis from officials. The bulletin is designed to provide both in season and post season information including playoff procedures, formats and dates.

Safety information from the CHSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is included in the bulletin and should be reviewed by coaches prior to the start of the season to ensure safety precautions are followed.

The CHSAA asks that administrators and coaches please work with your student section and fans to improve spectator behavior. Head coaches should communicate sideline expectations with all assistant coaches and players prior to the first contest. The relationship and communication between head coaches and officials is important to modeling proper sideline behavior.

Good luck and THANK YOU for all you do for our student athletes and bettering the game. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email me or my executive assistant, Sandra Williamson, at (303) 344-5050. (jsullivan@chsaa.org / swilliamson@chsaa.org)

Sincerely,

John Sullivan
CHSAA Assistant Commissioner

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2023 CHSAA FOOTBALL CALENDAR & IMPORTANT DATES

August 7 *(NFHS Week 6)*……..……First formal practice

August 07-09 *(NFHS Week 6)*……..…..No football protective equipment – helmets ONLY

August 10 *(NFHS Week 6)*…… Players full uniform, Pads - Full uniform/pads, but no contact allowed between players (limited to hitting pads and control drills). Sleds and bags may be used on all scheduled practice dates.

August 11 *(NFHS Week 6)*……..……..…….…First day of FULL physical contact

August 17 *(NFHS Week 7)*…….……First allowable Scrimmage/Zero Week

August 24 *(NFHS Week 8)*..……..…….....…….Football Week 1

September 11 (NFHS Week 11)…...……...…..……...Eligibility Regain Date

October 28 *(NFHS Week 17)*……..…….. Regular Season Ends except for 3A

November 4 *(NFHS Week 18)*…..……..…….. Football Prelims except for 3A

November 11 (NFHS Week 19)……..……..…… 3A Football Prelims

November 18 *(NFHS Week 20)*……..……..……..……6M/8M/1A/2A Football Semifinals

November 25 (NFHS Week 21) ……....3A/4A/5A Football Semifinals

November 24-25 *(NFHS Week 21)*……..…….....…6man/8man/1A/2AFootball Championship @ CSU Pueblo

6man & 1A 1:00pm; 8man & 2A 6:00pm

December 2 (NFHS Week 22)..…….……..... 3A Football Championship

1:00pm @ CSU Pueblo

December 2 (NFHS Week 22)..…….……..……..... 4A/5A Football Championship

11:00am & 3:00pm @ Canvas Stadium @CSU

December 13……..……..…….CHSAA Football Committee Meeting

Start of Formal CHSAA Practice: August 7, 2023

All players must have completed physicals and signed parent permission forms submitted to the athletic director prior to start of practice on this date. Players may start accumulating the required nine days of practice only after the start of practice on August 7th. If schools opt to play zero week and do not hold a summer camp, practice may begin July 31st.

Please note: You may have informal practice, camps/clinics prior to the formal start date but no school protective equipment may be used (exception: Helmets), nor can these informal sessions, camps or clinics have mandatory attendance required (see CHSAA Bylaws, 1780 Physical Exams and 2310 Practice). Bags, shields, etc. are not considered to be protective equipment.

Summer Camp Rules

- 10-day contact camp between Memorial Day and July 31st.
  - Camps can be conducted by college/university OR may be their own team camp.
  - Follow 4 day equipment progression
- The start fall practice one week earlier with an additional scrimmage date.
  - Begin July 31st
  - Follow 4 day equipment progression
  - May end with a scrimmage on August 11-12

Formal Practice and Equipment Use Dates

- August 7-8-9, – Shoes, jerseys and helmets may be worn
- August 10 – Full uniform/pads, but no contact allowed between players (limited to hitting pads and control drills). Sleds and bags may be used on all scheduled practice dates.
- Friday, August 11 – Full contact allowed.

Reminder: **All practice dates are limited to one-practice per day.**

(Bylaw 3310.1)

No pads or other components of regular football uniforms except shoes, jerseys and helmets may be worn by the players until the fourth day of the formal sports season. On the fourth day of the formal sports season, players may wear a full regular football uniform and pads while engaging in blocking and tackling exercises that do not include physical contact between players.

(a) ISSUE RESTRICTIONS — The issuing of protective football equipment except during the formal sports season is a violation.

EXCEPTION 1: To allow individual players who participate in football exercises or drills while in shorts, 7 on 7 competitions, and 7 on 7 drills to use Colorado issued helmets under the following criteria:

1. *The issuing of the football helmet is approved by the local school district.*
2. *Football helmets for drills and 7 on 7 may NOT be distributed before Memorial Day.*

EXCEPTION 2: An individual or team camp may use Colorado high school-issued protective football equipment under the following criteria:

1. *The issuing of the equipment is approved by the local school district.*
2. *Camps must be conducted by a college/university, an appropriate commercial organization or an individual high school.*
   a. *High schools may develop their own team camp on site or at any other location.*
3. *The camp must show proof of liability insurance.*
4. *Camps must be for students and/or teams from a variety of different schools if it is conducted by a college/university or an appropriate commercial organization. Players from a minimum of six schools must be involved in the camp. Individual school camps limit participation to those students who have completed the registration process for enrollment into that high school. (NOTE: only students from the high school sponsoring the camp may participate.)*
5. *The camp should be for a period of time that is typical for camps/clinics (3-5 days) at a college/university or an appropriate commercial organization. Camps held at individual high schools can be a maximum of 10 days at the individual school site over a period of 14 calendar days.*
6. *Camps held at individual high schools will be allowed the same period of time as the college/university camp guidelines listed above. They will follow the same progression prior to attending, by developing a four-day camp which includes, three days in helmets, followed by one day full pads with no player to player contact.*

Schools may conduct a lower-level team camp concurrent with the varsity camp, or at a separate time. An individual may only attend one ten-day team camp. If camps are held at separate times and/or locations, the individual must choose to attend either the varsity or lower-level camp. he/she/they cannot attend both.

If camps are run concurrently, the individual may only participate in either the varsity or the lower-level scrimmage. he/she/they cannot participate in both.

7. *Issuing equipment for camps held at individual school sites will mirror the restrictions of the formal football sports season. No pads or other components of regular football uniforms except shoes, jerseys, and helmets may be worn by the players until the fourth day of the team camp. On the fourth day of the team camp, players may wear a full regular football uniform and pads while engaging in blocking and tackling exercises that do not include physical contact between players. On the fifth day, full player-player contact may begin.*

8. *COMMERCIAL/COLLEGE CAMP Schools may attend a camp conducted by a college/university for a typical period (3-5 days). Prior to attending, high schools must develop a four-day camp, which would include, three days in helmets, followed by one day full pads with no player-to-player contact. The four-day camp and the commercial/college camp must both fit within the 14-calendar day time frame already established. The four-day lead up practices may not begin until Memorial Day.*

9. *Equipment must be returned and collected immediately.*

10. *Equipment for team camps cannot be issued prior to Memorial Day or after August 1.*

Summer Equipment Issue Limitations (Article 33, rule 3310, Exception)
Equipment Fitting
Coaches may fit equipment to players prior to the start of formal practice. This equipment must be secured in a location that is unavailable to players until the above stated equipment use dates. Players should not have access to this equipment until the specified equipment issue dates. Resources – USA Football Heads Up Equipment Fitting and USA Football – Proper Equipment Fitting.

Transfer/Academic Eligibility
The eligibility for fall 2023 football players should be checked immediately following the end of the second semester of the 2022-2023 school year. A good rule of thumb to avoid problems with the transfer rule is that if you don't recognize the player; make sure the athletic director has cleared him/her to practice.

Summer School Make-Up
If you have student/athletes who have been declared academically ineligible due to failing classes during the second semester of the previous school year, they may regain eligibility through the completion of summer school courses. The student must make up previous failures and the school must accept this credit and place it on the school transcript. The deadline for the completion of summer school make-up credit is the Monday of the NFHS Week Nine (August 28th 2023). (CHSAA Bylaw 1750.1)

Eight Grade Contact
1900.5 A person, acting in the capacity of the high school coach or serving in a role representing the high school, may have informational meetings with eighth-grade students who live in that high school's attendance area as established by the school district, or with those eighth-grade students that have pre-registered to attend that high school; the coach may conduct practice with those eighth graders starting May 1. This contact may include currently registered underclassmen, and the Sunday Contact rule applies to this contact after May 1.

*Q1: At what point does an 8th grade student become eligible to participate with high school aged students at a school sponsored activity (i.e. camps, practice**,** weight room, off-season workouts, etc.)?*

A1: Beginning May 1st, 8th graders that have pre-registered or live in the attendance area to attend that high school may participate with/against under classmates.

Q2: May 8th graders compete on the same team with high school students who are participating for their high school?

A2: No. It should be noted that when a Colorado school plays an out of state school that allows 8th grade students to play on their teams, the Colorado school has permission to play against that out of state school. All other CHSAA rules apply.

Q3: May a school district have an information night to view all schools programs, as well as athletic programs for 8th grade students?

A3: Yes, if all students are invited and if the program is directed toward the school in general and not just a specific sport such as football, volleyball, etc. It should be an open meeting for any school to disseminate information.

Q4: Can a HS coach have a camp or a clinic with eighth graders present?

A4: Yes, as long as there are no high school students from his/her/their school present until the May 1 date as defined by the bylaws.

Rules Meeting Required for All Head Coaches

Head coaches in all varsity sports are required to attend a CHSAA-approved rules clinic in their sport prior to the start of the first game of the season. *This is a mandatory meeting for head coaches and will be invited through their account in the rSchool platform.*

The football season shall begin in correspondence with the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Calendar week Eight. The competitive season shall be from August 22, 2022 until the final state championship.

The issuing of protective football equipment except during the formal sports season is a violation.

Youth Recognition Night (Bylaw 1900.6)

Youth recognition events/games will be defined, for the purpose of setting school protocol, as an event where individual, group or district student participants, of middle-school or younger age are recognized at a CHSAA member school athletic event. Legal and illegal protocols for such events are clearly defined below:

Acceptable:

- Free admission
- Pre-game, half-time or post-game introductions or announcements with group visibility on field, court, playing arena.
- Groups may be recognized for their participation or involvement in youth activities only.
- Teams or groups invited; must have a logical tie to the high school.

Unacceptable:

- Youth on sideline during warm-up or game*
- Youth in locker room or involved in any activities associated with the team.
- Current players/coaches cannot be involved in recognition or ceremony on any level.
- Youth receiving any merchandise, meals, or school related tokens.
- Youth provided transportation to and from event.
- Illegal contact can result in the sport specific teams' placement on probation/restriction.
- No gifts, food, certificates, school gear, prizes or awards of any kind can be handed out.
- No individual or specific group or team can be singled out at the event separate from the rest of the invitees.

* Football sidelines will be defined as running the entire length of the field. If youth athletes/teams are at a game for recognition, they should be in the endzone or in the stands when not being recognized.

2023 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE DATES

NFHS Week	Football Week	Date Range
WEEK 7	WEEK 0	8/17/2023-8/19/2023
WEEK 8	WEEK 1	8/24/2023-8/26/2023
WEEK 9	WEEK 2	8/31/2023-9/2/2023
WEEK 10	WEEK 3	9/7/2023-9/9/2023
WEEK 11	WEEK 4	9/14/2023-9/16/2023
WEEK 12	WEEK 5	9/21/2023-9/23/2023
WEEK 13	WEEK 6	9/28/2023-9/30/2023
WEEK 14	WEEK 7	10/5/2023-10/7/2023
WEEK 15	WEEK 8	10/12/2023-10/14/2023
WEEK 16	WEEK 9	10/19/2023-10/21/2023
WEEK 17*	WEEK 10*	10/26/2023-10/28/2023
WEEK 18**	WEEK 11**	11/2/2023-11/4/2023

** = End of Season 6man/8man/1A/2A/4A/5A* *** = End of Season 3A*

CHSAA WEEK 1 = NFHS WEEK 8

Please note: Two scrimmage dates are permitted for your football program. If the varsity scrimmages on Friday and the JV scrimmages on Saturday, your two allowable scrimmage dates have been utilized for the regular season. Each team/player may only participate in one scrimmage.

CHSAA MISSION STATEMENT

"Seeking Excellence in Academics, Activities, and Athletics"

In pursuit of excellence, the Colorado High School Activities Association strives to create a positive and equitable environment in which all qualified student participants are challenged and inspired to meet their highest potential.

To fulfill this mission the Colorado High School Activities Association will:

- Act as an integral component of the educational process.
- Administrate, interpret, and seek compliance with the CHSAA By-laws as needed to promote fair play within Colorado activities and athletics.
- Provide diverse and equitable opportunities for participation that encourages all qualified students to take part in the activity/athletic experience.
- Provide an environment that enhances personal development through sporting behavior, character education, teamwork, leadership, and citizenship while increasing values that partner the educational standards of the State of Colorado.
- Recognize the outstanding accomplishments of Colorado athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators through our academic and activity awards programs.

Colorado High School Activities Association

2023-2024 FOOTBALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chris Noll; Chairman, (2024, 1st Term)

NAME	SCHOOL	CLASS	POSITION	YEAR
Michael Jobman	Deer Trail	6man	P	25
Trey Eder	Eads	6man	AD	24
Colleen Ford	Lyons	8man	AD	25
Josh Vialpondo	Walsenburg	8man	AD	26
Levi Kramer	Wray	1A	Super	26
Reed Doughty	Flatirons Acad	1A	AD	26
Shawn Terry	The Academy	2A	AD	25
Chris Medina	Lamar	2A	AD	24
Aaron Bravo	District 60	3A	DAD	26
Joe Roskam	Sierra	3A	C	24
Gregg Hawkins	Palisade	3A	AD	26
Mike Griebel	TJ	4A	C	25
Paul Jefferson	Gateway	4A	AD	26
Tracie Cormaney	Pine Creek	5A	P	26
Mike Hughes	Lakewood	5A	AD	26

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 9:00 am

If you have suggestions or proposed changes that you want the committee to consider, please submit to;

Chris Noll, Colo. Springs District 11, Football Committee Chair (christopher.noll@d11.org)
John Sullivan CHSAA Assistant Commissioner, Football (jsullivan@chsaa.org)

HOW TO GET RECOMMENDED FOR 2024-2025 FOOTBALL COMMITTEE:
Contact your league president or Legislative Council Representative in February and request to be nominated. From nominations received, the CHSAA Staff makes the selections based on balance of classifications, geographical regions, and other areas to help balance representation.

CHSAA FOOTBALL COMMITTEE: MAJOR CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S REPORT:

I. MAJOR CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S REPORT:

A. Adjusted bylaw 3330: Maximum Number of Contest for 6M from 9 to 10 games.

B. Teams that currently play in classifications that do not have a bye week will have an option to schedule a game during zero week (NFHS week 7) :

- Schools scheduling games for NFHS week 7 would be required to host a padded camp at the end of the summer, thus starting their season 1 week early.
- Schools scheduling zero week games will need to inform the CHSAA of intent

II. RATIONALE:

A. 6-Man was approved by legislative council committee report in 2020-2021 to play 10 contests but was not changed as a bylaw.

B. Allows each classification to have a bye week in their schedule

- Creates a smaller game count for regular season weeks allowing for official's workload to be more spread out
- Having the end of the summer padded camp ensures athletes would get a full acclimatization period.
- Allows for more flexibility in scheduling games

III. FINANCIAL IMPACT:

A. None

B. None

IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

A. Discussion about neutral site semi-finals for 4A and 5A will continue. Possible sites will be explored

CHSAA Legislative Council Link: Click Here
CHSAA Bylaws: Click Here

MAJOR BYLAW CHANGES 2023-2024

1. *WINTER AND SPRING REGAIN DATES*
   -- Constitution & Bylaws, Article 17, Rule 1710 (d) (2)..... page 51

2. *TRANSFER 365 DAYS FROM THE LAST DATE OF PARTICIPATION*
   -- Constitution & Bylaws, Article 18, Rule 1800.1 ..... page 65

3. *CLARIFYING ATHLETIC TRANSFERS*
   -- Constitution & Bylaws, Article 18, Rule 1800.4 ..... page 68

4. *PROTECTION FOR GAME OFFICIALS*
   -- Constitution & Bylaws, Article 22, Rule 2230.1 ..... page 91

5. *SUNDAY CONTACT*
   -- Constitution & Bylaws, Article 23, Rule 2310.5 ..... page 99

Football Rules Changes - 2023

Clarified That Towels Do Not Have To Be The Same Solid Color For Each Player [1- 5-3a(5)a 4, 5 (NEW)] —
Player towels may contain one manufacturer's logo and/or one school logo neither exceeding 2¼ square inches. Towels must be a solid color but now do not have to be the same solid color for each player. Towels may not be ball- or penalty-flag colored.

Clarified When a Player Is Inbounds After Being Out of Bounds [2-29-1] — This change clarifies when a player is inbounds after being out of bounds. There is no change to any foul or subsequent penalty provisions, or any rules related to illegal participation or the provisions regarding eligibility to catch a pass.

Added A List of Criteria to Help Identify Players Who Should Be Defined as Defenseless Receivers [2-32-16d (NEW), 9-4-3g] — This change adds to the list of criteria to help identify players who should be defined as defenseless receivers related to application of unnecessary or excessive contact. This clarification should help game officials and coaches by defining allowable contact against defenseless receivers.

Intentional Grounding Exception Changed [7-5-2d EXCEPTION 2a, c (NEW), TABLE 7-5-2 d EXCEPTION 2a, c (NEW), TABLE 7-5 (1)d EXCEPTION 2a, c (NEW)] — This change permits the exception for intentional grounding to the first and only player to possess the ball after the snap ends.

Removed "Intentional" From Pass Interference in TABLE 7-5 [TABLE 7-5 2c (DELETED), 7-5 PENALTY] — By removing "intentional" from pass interference, this change puts the rule in line with how it is already enforced which is a 15-yard penalty.

Changes In Basic Spot Penalty Enforcement [10-4, TABLE 10-4 (NEW), 10-6 (DELETED)] — This change restructures and clarifies the amendments to Rule 10 to eliminate the excessive penalty enforcements for offensive fouls that occur behind the line of scrimmage. This revision stipulates the basic spot for enforcement of fouls behind the line of scrimmage is the previous spot rather than the spot of the foul unless otherwise specified by rule. Current penalties for illegal kicking, batting and participation fouls, and provisions for offensive fouls occurring in the end zone that may result in a safety remain intact.

Clarification On The Ball Being Handed Forward On A Running Play [Six-Player – Rule 7g (NEW)] — The change allows the ball to be handed forward on a running play, including to the guards/ends, while prohibiting handing the ball to the snapper provided both players are behind the neutral zone.

2023 EDITORIAL CHANGES

1-1-7; 1-1-9; 1-3-2; 1-3-7 NOTE; TABLE 1-7; 1-8 (NEW); 3-6-1b(1); TABLE 7-5 (1) d EXCEPTION 2; 9-5-1; 9-8-1; FOOTBALL FUNDAMENTALS – II-5, X-3, X-5; RESOLVING TIED GAMES – 3-1; NINE-, EIGHT- AND SIX-PLAYER RULES DIFFERENCES – RULES 2 and 7; PENALTY SUMMARY; INDEX.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

2023 FOOTBALL POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Helping the Runner

Rule changes have been made at higher levels of football allowing offensive teams to pile in behind and directly push the runner. Because of these changes, we are now seeing similar plays at the high school level. As guardians of the game, it is imperative that all stakeholders work together to remove "helping the runner" from our high school game.

Administrators, coaches and football game officials all have a responsibility to know, respect and teach/enforce the NFHS rules of high school football. Football is a vigorous, physical contact game and, for this reason, much attention is given to minimizing risk of injury to all players. Each respective rules code (NFL, NCAA and NFHS) has rules that coincide with the physical development of competing athletes and their goals for the game.

The NFHS Football Rules Committee's main focus is risk minimization, followed closely by assurance of a balance between offensive and defensive rules. Because the players on defense must guard against the pass, they are not able to counter the advantages created by "helping the runner" formations. Allowing teams to help the runner by illegal techniques swings the balance heavily in favor of the offense.

Football game officials need to change their view of "helping the runner" to a risk issue (clipping, chop block) and remove it from the "pioneer call" category and refocus on ending plays when forward progress is stopped. Pushing the pile is legal; direct contact and pushing, pulling, lifting of the runner is not.

The NFHS Coaches Code of Ethics states: "Coaches shall master the contest rules and shall teach the rules to their team members. Coaches shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules. Coaches have a tremendous influence, for good or ill, on the education of the student, and thus shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character."

If school administrators/athletic directors truly believe that activities are an extension of the classroom, they must be actively involved with programs they supervise and redirect coaches when they observe them teaching prohibited tactics.

Removing "helping the runner" from high school football will at times be met with resistance. School administrative support of football game officials, re-focus of coaches and education of players will lead to a smooth transition. All those directly involved in our great game must stay committed to trying to minimize risk to all players and maintaining the balance between offensive and defensive play.

Communication Between Coaches and Game Officials

Coaches and game officials must demonstrate respect for one another. This mutual appreciation is the foundation of appropriate and professional communication.

Football is an emotional game. Coaches and game officials must realize that competition often leads to intense interactions on the field. Both must work together and strive to manage verbal and nonverbal exchanges in ways that avoid escalating conflict.

Game officials must recognize their role in the game: to provide a service to the coaches and student-athletes in an unemotional and impartial manner. Game officials must always be respectful and maintain a calm demeanor in their comments to coaches, especially when tension is high. Game officials must avoid the urge to argue with coaches who disagree with their decisions. Coaches may ask questions, and game officials should make every effort to be approachable, actively listen, and provide correct and complete answers as soon as possible. Game officials should aim to be direct and concise in their communication of essential information.

When emotions are running especially high, game officials should de-escalate tensions and demonstrate empathy and understanding of the coach's perspective. Game officials must anticipate circumstances where coaches may become upset and pre-emptively diffuse the situation. A game official should never threaten the coach with consequences for their behavior, nor should a game official become defensive. If a coach exhibits inappropriate behavior and "crosses a line," the game official may choose to penalize the coach for unsportsmanlike conduct. However, throwing a flag should be a last resort. A better approach is to clearly and calmly tell the coach that the comments or behavior are unacceptable, and that it's difficult to focus on the on-field action if the coach continues to distract the game official.

Coaches model acceptable and unacceptable behavior for their student-athletes. If coaches disrespect game officials and make derogatory comments, players will behave in the same way. Coaches should win with grace and lose with dignity. Coaches must understand that the football field is an extension of the classroom and must exhibit proper conduct. This includes respecting the decisions of game officials even when they disagree, and handling differences of opinion in a civil and dignified manner. Dialogue with game officials should be constructive and respectful, not confrontational. Handling disagreements in a business-like manner teaches players good sportsmanship, which is a perennial focus of the NFHS. Coaches and game officials have a professional responsibility to demonstrate respect for one another and communicate appropriately. Coaches and game officials love the game and desire to positively impact young people. Proper communication during competition teaches players a valuable life lesson about conflict resolution.

Game Management

Each school community must take pride in hosting an athletic contest or event. Proper advance planning is key to an orderly, secure, safe and enjoyable activity. Planning begins with clearly defined tasks for game administration and event personnel. Beginning with the arrival of players, game officials and spectators, each school must have a purposeful plan to address any and all expected issues, as well as the unforeseen.

Preparation begins with clear and concise communication between the host and the competing school regarding the logistics of arrival and departure. Meeting and greeting the visiting team is certainly the beginning of good sportsmanship. Clearly communicated information, such as parking information, location of ticket booths and entry gates, when given to the visitors is another step in assuring a great experience for all participants.

Game officials should be afforded the same communication considerations given the visiting school community. Host administration must provide accurate information for the officiating crew so as to ease any pre-game apprehension or uncertainty. Clear, concise communication is of utmost importance. Having assigned personnel to greet game officials and address all their pre-game and post-game needs is a bare minimum for the host school. Security of game officials must be an absolute priority. Make sure the locker room is properly supervised and access is limited to proper personnel only. During the game, security of game personnel begins with ensuring that the sideline is properly secured and the playing field is restricted to essential game personnel. For safety and security reasons, essential game personnel would include game participants, reporters, photographers and game administration. All other, non-essential personnel should be located in the bleachers. All non-participants on the event level should be credentialed and restricted to being no closer than 2 yards from the sideline. Game officials are responsible for securing the team boxes and coaches' area. Sideline management begins with the consistent enforcement of game rules pertaining to the restricted area and the team box. The restricted area is designated to make the sidelines safe for all participants and to give game officials ample space to work. Game administration should be alert to requests of game officials in addressing problems beyond the team box and coaches' area.

The conduct of non-participants is the domain of game and school administration. Expectations for the behavior of spectators and other attendees should be clearly, and repeatedly, communicated to all attendees. The reading of a sportsmanship script before the game is one method of communicating expectations. Good sportsmanship must become part of the culture of any school community. Behavior not acceptable in the school's hallways should not be acceptable on the courts or playing fields.

Appropriate conduct of the public-address announcer is vital to the game atmosphere. The public-address announcer must be the first line of sportsmanship and must exemplify expected and acceptable conduct. The goal of the public-address announcer is to inform and not entertain. Giving play-by-play of game action and/ or critiquing game officials is unacceptable. The public-address announcer must be positive and respectful to all involved in the game.

MINIMAL GAME ADMINISTRATION EXPECTATIONS

- Clearly communicated event itinerary
- Required field markings and game equipment
- Clock operator(s) • Line-to-gain crew
- Game Official accommodations
- Visiting team accommodations
- Support personnel
- Medical personnel
- Security personnel
- Hospitality for game personnel and administration, inclusive of game officials

Important NFHS Links:

- Football Field Diagrams
- General Instructions for Game and Play Clock Procedures
- Instructions for Football Line-to-Gain Crews
- Officials Football Signs
- Revised Intentional Grounding, Chop Block NFHS Article
- Preparing for the Heat – NFHS Article
- Rules Clarification – Chop Block – *from 8/2/22*

SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

For all CHSAA sports medicine policies, procedures, and protocols, please visit the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Handbook.

Lightning and Tornado Policy and Procedures and Heat Acclimatization and Safety Priorities can be found in the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Handbook.

PRACTICE LIMITS

- Practice is defined as time on the field including warm-up, stretching, practice and conditioning.
- Single practice dates should not exceed 2 hours in length with an additional 25 minutes added for water breaks. A minimum 2 water breaks should be incorporated each hour. Water should be readily available at all times. Helmets should be removed for water breaks during warm weather conditions or after intense or prolonged exercise. This will help cool the core body temperature.
- An additional 20 minutes of practice time may be added for dynamic warm-up and non-contact instructional time. The dynamic warm-up and instructional time will be helmets only, no shoulder pads. The instructional time will follow the USA Football Fundamentals model.
- Total time on the field including dynamic warm up (20 mins), water breaks (25 minutes), and practice time (120 minutes) Is not to exceed 2 hours and 45 minutes.
- NFHS SMAC Position Statement and Recommendations For Maintaining Hydration To Optimize Performance And Minimize The Risk For Exertional Heat Illness

SPORTSMANSHIP

CHSAA Game Management & Sportsmanship Expectation Guide

BECOMING AN OFFICIAL

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming an official, please contact the CHSAA official's office at mtillman@chsaa.org.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Please note: All rules and policies contained within this bulletin are subject to the ADA's requirement to provide reasonable modifications for a disabled student(s). A reasonable modification(s) shall provide a disabled student with equally effective access [to the activity] unless the provision of such reasonable modification would constitute a fundamental alteration of the essential elements of the activity involved. Please refer to CHSAA bylaw 500 for more detailed information.

MINI CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES

You can find the link for the Personal Trophy PDF HERE.

Review: CHSAA Bylaws do not allow for Administrators to review or hear appeals related to official's rulings, judgment calls, or misapplications of rules.

No Video Review Will Be Conducted

Please Note: By playing rule and Bylaw, all results are considered final at the conclusion of the contest unless otherwise noted in NFHS playing rules for that sport.

*Any of these may be used in CHSAA regular and post season games

*One of these is mandatory to use in all CHSAA post season games

GST Leather:

- F1004 (Pro Pattern)
  - F1003 (HS Pattern) *Official Ball of CHSAA.

Traditional Leather:

- WTF1233B Classic 1233 - Tan

Composite:

- WTF1780XBN GST Composite (HS Pattern)

MAX PREPS INFORMATION

Please use the following steps to start the MaxPreps process:

EXISTING USERS

1. Go to www.maxpreps.com

2. Select “Sign In” on the top right-hand side of the webpage.

3. Enter your e-mail address –This will be the e-mail address used to access your team.

4. Enter your password that you set when creating the account. If you do not remember your password, you can click the Forgot Password link on the Sign In page or you also can contact MaxPreps support at support@maxpreps.com, or MaxPreps Colorado representative, Gerry Valerio at gvalerio@maxpreps.com.

5. After entering your password, a person icon will appear at the top right-hand side of the webpage. Hover the mouse cursor over the icon and a dropdown box will appear with your list of coach admin accounts.

6. Click on the team you want to access to go to the coach admin, where you can update your schedule, roster and enter/edit stats.

    1. The next time you visit the site, simply click on “Sign In” to access your team.

NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTORS/COACHES

1. Go to www.maxpreps.com

2. Select “Sign In” on the top right-hand side of the webpage.

3. On the Sign In page, click the Create an Account button in the middle of the page.

4. Enter your email address and complete the prompts through the registration process and select the appropriate role.

5. Once the membership process is completed, you will be prompted to Request Access.

6. Fill out the Request Admin Access form and it will be sent to MaxPreps for review.

7. You also can contact MaxPreps support at support@maxpreps.com for access, or contact MaxPreps Colorado representative, Gerry Valerio, at gvalerio@maxpreps.com.

8. Once this is complete you can follow the above instructions for Existing Users to login into your account.

CHSAA REGULAR SEASON GAME MANAGEMENT REMINDERS

RULES
All regular season and playoff games will be played under the 2022 National Federation Football Rules.

EQUAL FACILITIES
Although it is necessary that one team be designated as the home team, it shall be kept in mind that the game belongs equally to both competing schools. It is strongly urged that an early week planning meeting be held to cover all details connected with the staging of every contest.

The time period between the first and second half should be equally divided so that each school will have an opportunity to present its band/spirit team. If one school does not wish to provide any half time entertainment, it may relinquish its time. If mutually agreeable to both teams, the half time period may be extended from the normal 15 minutes to 20.

The same principle of equal facilities should apply to camera sites, dressing facilities, press box seats for spotters, etc. The visiting team should inquire early in the week about the availability of sideline heaters/cooling fans and plan accordingly.

WARM-UP TIME
Teams will have a minimum of 45 minutes to warm up before the opening kick-off.

COIN TOSS ON FIELD
The pre-game coin toss shall be conducted on the field by the referee in the presence of the field captains, three to five minutes prior to the scheduled game starting time. This is mandatory for all games; the toss may **NOT** be conducted earlier, followed by a simulated toss.
Please Note: *Any pre-game performances and the National Anthem should be completed prior to the coin flip.*

SAMPLE GAME TIME COUNT DOWN
7:00 PM KICKOFF
6:57 PM COIN FLIP
6:54 PM NATIONAL ANTHEM
5:45 PM TEAMS TAKE THE FIELD

TIMEOUTS
The referee will personally inform the Head Coach when his team is out of timeouts. That is the last opportunity for a coach to question the number of timeouts he has remaining.

HALFTIME
The rules of the game concerning half time activities will apply unless officials are contacted prior to the start of the game.

TRY FOR THE EXTRA POINT(S) AT THE END OF 4TH QUARTER
If there is no time remaining on the clock at the conclusion of the 4th quarter and the try has no impact on the outcome of the contest, the try will not be conducted.

VICTORY FORMATION
Although the officials will pinch-in to closely to monitor the kneel down, they will not instruct your players on what to do nor will they physically interfere with the play. However, if the referee is given knowledge the offense will take a knee, the referee will announce this decision and soon as the ball is snapped if the quarterback does any football move other than taking a knee the referee will whistle the play dead and the clock will continue to run. Please emphasize good sportsmanship once the game has been decided.

Officials will flag and possibly disqualify players for unnecessary and excessive contact.

END OF GAME CLOCK MANAGEMENT
Three game situations:

1) If the game clock is stopped and will start on the referee's signal:
- with at least three (3.0) full seconds remaining, the offense may reasonably expect to spike the ball and have time for another play.
- with less than three (3.0) seconds remaining (2.9 or less), but at least one full (1) second remaining, there is only enough time for one play.
- with less than a full (1.0) second remaining (0.9 or less), there is not enough time for another play. The team should be allowed to attempt to snap the ball and then be told that time expired before the snap.

2) If the game clock is running and the ball is snapped:
- with at least two (2.0) full seconds remaining, the offense may reasonably expect to spike the ball and have time for another play.
- with less two (2.0) seconds remaining (1.9 or less) when the ball is snapped, there is only enough time for one play.

3) If the game clock is stopped and will start on the snap, there is enough time for another play if there is any time remaining.

40/45-POINT-MERCY RULE (All Classes)
In classes 8man, 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A and 5A, all conference and non-conference games played in Colorado, when a 40-point differential exists at any point during the game, the running clock will be used for the remainder of the game. (In 6man, the margin is 45 points)

The clock will not stop on:
1. Out of bounds plays
2. Incomplete passes
3. First downs
4. Change of possession (including touchbacks and fair catches)
5. Penalties
6. Scores

The clock will stop as required by rule on:
1. Time-outs (charged and injury)
2. End of period

This rule applies to all regular and post season contests, except the live televised championships.

Under the circumstances described above, the officials will continue to use the standard signals. The timer, prior to the game, will be given instructions by the game officials, and will ignore all signals regarding the clock except those given by the referee.

Please Note: *The use of this rule does not eliminate the use of Rule 3-1-3 which reads: "A period or periods may be shortened in any emergency by agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee. By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee, any remaining period may be shortened at any time or the game terminated."*

OVERTIME TIE-BREAKER PROCEDURES
All tie games will utilize the National Federation tie-breaker system as so delineated and reviewed in detail in the National Federation rulebook.

CHSAA GENERAL FOOTBALL REMINDERS

OFFICIAL CHSAA FOOTBALL

All footballs used during the regular season and playoffs must be a National Federation approved ball. A National Federation approval must be marked on the ball (generally located near the valve stem).

The National Federation Rulebook specified that both a rubber-covered or leather-covered football is legal and the team on offense shall be the option of designation.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING PROHIBITED ON BALL (1-3-1h): The ball cannot have commercial advertising added to the surface. The only permissible items on the ball are the ball manufacturer's name and/or logo; school name, logo and/or mascot; conference name and/or logo; state association name and/or logos; and NFHS name and/or logos.

A Wilson ball must be used in all playoff games. These balls will be supplied by the CHSAA and shipped (2 balls - two to the home team, and two the visiting team) via UPS.

OFFICIALS

Varsity games will use five officials per game; the junior varsity and freshman will use four officials per game.

FILMING/VIDEO TAPING

Film, Video Quality

Schools are encouraged to pay special attention in making certain the quality of film and video tape is the best possible to enhance the exchange of film/tape for playoff contests. Your assistance in this area will help with the administration of the playoffs.

Playoff Game Films

During the playoffs, each opponent must provide full length game footage of the two most recent games when digital/videos are recorded. When the home team does not film/video, the next opponent may secure a digital/video from a previous opponent to consummate the digital/video exchange. Additionally, when schools use both digital and videotape, the exchange will be the same (digital for digital or videotape for videotape). When no mutual agreement is reached, the schools will exchange digital in cases where both mediums are used. When one school has digital only and the other videotape only, this will be considered a regular exchange. When a school entering, the playoffs has not filmed or videotaped its games, then neither school will exchange, and this status should be communicated to the CHSAA Football Commissioner prior to the beginning of the playoffs. This exchange must be consummated by noon on Monday prior to the scheduled game. When necessary, use overnight mail to make the exchange. **Failure to meet the standards of this rule can result in penalties assessed by the commissioner**.

FILM/HUDL EXCHANGE

All of the current season's video will be made available on HUDL by 12:00 noon on Saturday. If a team has a Saturday game, then the video will be made available by 12:00 noon on Sunday. Any team that does not have all of their games available, will not be allowed to participate in the video pool.

CHSAA DRONE POLICY

The use of drones, also known as unmanned aerial vehicles, is prohibited for any purpose by any persons at all CHSAA-sanctioned events, unless express written permission is obtained: 1) from the host school district during regular season contests, or 2) the CHSAA for any postseason/playoff contest. This policy includes not only the restricted playing area of the venue(s), but also the physical confines of the entire stadium/field/arena structure. For the purposes of this policy, a drone is any aircraft without a human pilot on board.

SCOUTING
Scouting of opponent's practice during the football season is unethical. The scouting of varsity games may not be done in the stadium press box.

SCOUTING BY VIDEOTAPE
- Videotaping by scouts must be done from a designated area in the stands.
- No electrical power will be provided by the home team
- No videotaping from the press box.

PROTESTS
No protests involving the judgment or possible misapplication of a rule by a game official will be considered by the CHSAA. However, coaches may direct questions to the game officials as they pertain to a possible misapplication of the rules in accordance with the National Federation Football rules. Coaches are encouraged to carry a National Federation Rulebook with them for all contests. Schools will still have the opportunity to protest a contest in accordance with CHSAA rules as it pertains to use of an ineligible participant. Schools which have knowledge concerning the ineligibility of an opponent are required by CHSAA bylaws to notify the CHSAA prior to competition.

FIELD COMMUNICATION POLICY
The home team is not required to provide communication devices to the visiting team. If a team's devices become inoperable, the referee, as a courtesy, should notify the opponents; however, the team with operable equipment is not required to stop using it.

USE OF BANDS
Bands are to be off the field five minutes before the kick-off and twelve minutes after the end of the first half. Bands must stay clear of the field immediately before half time until both teams have left the field. Arrangements for a visiting marching band are to be made by invitation only. Pep band members will be admitted at no charge with their sponsor and if they have their instruments.

Visiting team bands - During regular season and post-season games, a visiting school must obtain permission from the host-school administration to allow the band to attend and play/perform for a game.

TIMER, CHECK TIMER
The timer for all playoff contests shall be a faculty member or responsible adult. The visiting team is encouraged to provide a check timer, but if it does not, the home team timer alone is responsible.

ANNOUNCER
The announcer should be a faculty member or responsible adult who can set the tone of the game by calling the fans' attention to the following points of reference: (1) CHSAA contests are conducted under the strictest code of good sporting behavior; (2) The officials are neutral individuals, representing the Commissioner, and have been selected because of demonstrated ability; (3) Fans are encouraged to support their own team and display proper protocol and sporting behavior with respect to the opponent and officials' decisions.

PRESS BOX ACCOMMODATIONS
The home school is responsible to supervise proper accommodations in the press box. An adult should be assigned to handle this important function. Press box seats should be reserved for members of the media. They have been advised to call ahead and reserve seats. Sometimes this is not possible, and the person in charge of the press box should use common sense in admitting bona fide members of the press to a seat.

Too often, the press box loses its meaning, when faculty members, friends, relatives, district personnel, board members, etc., occupy it. This is not the purpose of the press box. Schools are reminded of the importance of maintaining good public relations and are encouraged to cooperate fully with members of the media.

CHSAA EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Every member school is required to create a venue-specific Emergency Action Plan (VEAP) for each site that the member school practices and hosts athletic contest. *(Please use this template that has been created for consistency)*.

The VEAP must include location, emergency access, emergency contact information and a listing of each member in protocol's duties. An Annual VEAP training must take place no less than one time a year.

This plan must be completed for all on-site and off-site practice/competition venues.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Proper medical services should be provided as warranted. The site director will ensure that an ambulance is present or on call. It is strongly urged that a physician be present at all contests.

UNCONSCIOUS PLAYER

National Federation Rule 3, Section 5, Article 10 (b) – Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the game and shall not return to play until cleared by until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional.

BLEEDING PLAYER

National Federation Rule 3, Section 5, Article 10 (c) – A game official discovers any player who is bleeding, has an open wound, has any amount of blood on his/her uniform, or has blood on his/her person. The player shall be directed to leave the game until the bleeding is cleaned, and/or the uniform is changed before returning to competition.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Starting time due to weather conditions may be adjusted upon consultation and mutual agreement of the administrators from the affected schools. Emergency postponement consideration is to involve administrators from the affected schools and the CHSAA Commissioner (or his/her designee).

When a game has been postponed, it is the host school's responsibility to notify:

(1) the visiting school
(2) CHSAA office
(3) officials
(4) game workers
(5) media (where applicable)

Playoff contests shall not be postponed without approval of the CHSAA Commissioner (or his/her designee). The Commissioner (or his/her designee) shall have the authority to select an alternate site in the event of poor playing conditions.

Initially, schools have the added responsibility of making alternative travel plans to contests based upon weather forecasts, etc. As a common factor, input and recommendations are to be sought from the Highway Patrol Division of Highways and Travel. If you anticipate poor weather, adjust the time when your team will depart and/or take an alternative route if possible.

EQUITY STATEMENT

Members of both sexes are eligible to compete and coach in interscholastic football. The pronoun "he" is used in the bulletin in the generic sense and refers to members of both sexes.

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REQUIRES CHSAA APPROVAL

Under CHSAA by-law 2620.1, a school group or individual representing a school organization or group may travel out of state, not for competitive purposes, upon the approval of the local school board and/or administration.

MAXPREPS – FOOTBALL COACHES

MAXPREPS is the official site we use to collect data for regular season scores and statistics. Please report all game information to this site (www.maxpreps.com). More information and a user guide may be found on the CHSAA homepage: www.chsaanow.com

NOTE: Out-of-state opponents and scores must be verified by the Colorado team via Maxpreps.

COACHING REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Each year, by the first competitive date of each sports season, all member school athletic/activity directors must enter all of their athletic coaches and activity sponsors (music, speech, student leadership, etc.), regardless of level, rank, or pay, into the CHSAA Database. All first-year athletic coaches and activity sponsors, regardless of level, rank, or pay, must complete the CHSAA 1st Year Coaches Course.

For more information regarding new coaching registration requirements please see CHSAA Handbook Bylaw 1620.

PLAYER EJECTION

Any player who has been ejected from a match or contest shall be disqualified for the remainder of that match or contest. In addition, the player shall be suspended from competition for the next scheduled match or contest played at the same level (sophomore, junior varsity, or varsity).

COACH EJECTION

A coach ejected from a contest for committing an unsportsmanlike act shall be suspended from coaching for the next regularly scheduled match or contest of the same level. He/she may not coach in any other contest at any level during this time.

A coach ejected from a game is automatically placed on probation according to policies established by the Board of Directors (For necessary action by the school administration, see Bylaw 2420.11).

A coach ejected from a game is required to complete the following courses offered on-line by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS): Sportsmanship; and, Teaching and Modeling Behavior. These courses shall be completed before he/she will be removed from probation and must be finished in a reasonable amount of time during the season to be determined by the school's athletic director.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT ACT *(Example)*

Immediately following the contest, the coach of Team A curses the game officials as they are leaving the field and prior to their return to their dressing room. This occurs: (a) before; or (b) after the referee has declared the end of the contest with the proper signal.

> **RULING:** In either situation, this is an unsportsmanlike act. Fouls such as this foul will not involve a distance penalty as the game has ended for the purpose of on-field play, but unsportsmanlike acts such as this remain under the authority of the game officials for the purpose of filing necessary reports regarding unsportsmanlike acts.

ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTION

Each league will determine all conference based on league bylaws and a league vote. A League representative will submit 1st Team All-League to Brad Cochi, Amanda McClure amcclure@chsaa.org

Note: Coaches who nominate a player All-conference on offense and defense would count as two selections.

ATHLETE/COACH OF THE YEAR

Each conference will select an Offensive and Defensive Player of the Year and a Coach of the Year at the conclusion of the regular season. The Players of the year must be a member of the All-Conference team. Both will be selected by a vote of the coaches at the All Conference Meeting.

FORFEITS:

A. A team that wins because it is awarded a forfeit will count the game as a win for its season record. A team that loses because of a forfeit will count the game as a loss for its season record.
B. If a school fails to field a team and does not play one game, each of its scheduled games shall be counted as no contest. Opponents may schedule a replacement game.
C. If a school plays at least one game and discontinues its schedule, each of its games scheduled prior to the season shall count as a forfeit and will be computed in the RPI standings. If a non-conference game is canceled because a team discontinues its schedule, a school may reschedule another game during that week to replace the forfeit or accept the forfeit.
D. All games scheduled after the start of the season must be approved by the Commissioner to count in the RPI standings.

SELECTION AND SEEDING TIE-BREAKER:

A. If two or more teams have the same seeding index, the following tiebreaker shall be used (in the order listed):
    1) Head-to-head competition
    2) MaxPreps Rating
    3) CHSAA RPI Rating
    4) Coin flip

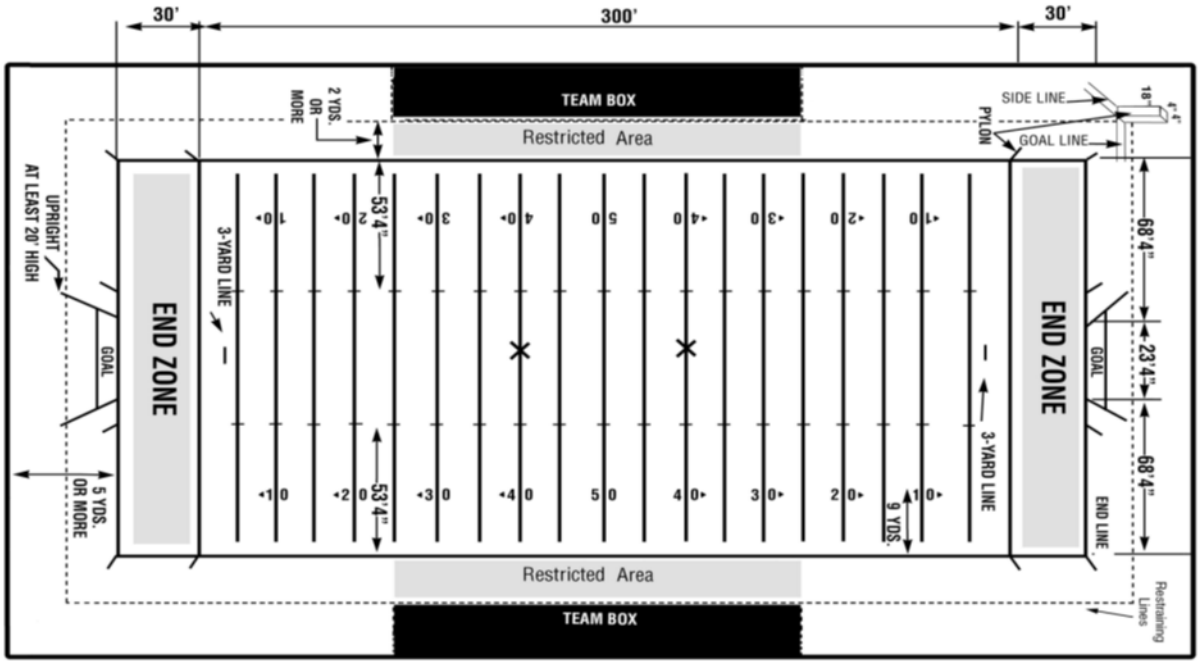
1. Teams playing an opponent twice will receive separate RPI points.
2. JV opponents will not accumulate Final RPI Standing points.
3. Enrollment for out-of-state schools will be equated to Colorado classifications.
4. The number of points a team scores in a game will have no bearing on the RPI point system.
5. NO GAMES - conference or non-conference - WILL END IN A TIE. If the game is to be extended, the National Federation tiebreaker method (10-yard line) shall be used.

CHSAA FOOTBALL FIELD/SIDELINE REMINDERS

FIELD SIZE (6Man, 8Man)

The playing field size for 8man football contests is 40 x 100 yards with 15-yard side zones. This pertains to all regular season and playoff contests.

The playing field for all 6man football contests is 40 x 80 yards with 15-yard side zones and the team box boundaries between the 25-yard lines**.**



CHAIN CREW/BALL PERSONS

Experienced chain crews are a necessity for sound administration of a football game. DO NOT NEGLECT SUB-VARSITY GAMES IN THIS AREA. Qualified ball persons are also an important part of on-field administration. Be sure that the ball persons you use are physically mature enough to handle the duties and do not present an injury risk to themselves or the players. As per National Federation Football Rule, as soon as a first down is indicated and the chain clipped at the five-yard interval, the chain and down marker should be moved back off the sideline six feet. Notify your chain crew of this procedure.

TEAM BENCHES, SIDELINES

During CHSAA regular season and playoff contests, the team benches and sidelines are to be restricted to authorized personnel consisting of substitutes, coaches, student managers, trainer and team physician. Parents, members of booster clubs, alumni and other such unauthorized personnel must sit in the stands. Schools are urged to issue visible sideline tags to those authorized for easy recognition. Do not allow teams attendants to walk the sidelines outside the team box.

SIDELINE MEDIA EXPECTIONS

No media other than one's own team is permitted within 5 yards of their coaches' box.

SIDELINE ZONE FOR SAFETY

The CHSAA Football Advisory Committee strongly recommends that each field add a zone of two or more yards off the sideline be used as a restraining line to maintain a clear area for players and officials along the sideline. The zone will be marked with hash marks and would extend to two yards in back of the end zone line and extended across the back of the end zone.

Most Commonly Asked Rules Questions

Q1: Which gloves are legal?
A1: *Those which carry a securely attached label or stamp (NOCSAE Standard).*

Q2: Must all face masks and helmets carry the NOCSAE Seal?
A2: *Yes.*

Q3: Are colored mouth guards required equipment?
A3: *No. Completely clear or completely white tooth and mouth protectors are no longer prohibited.*

Q4: The NCAA inbound lines are 60' (not the high school 53' 4"). What should schools which play on college fields do to comply with the high school rules?
A4: *The first preference is to mark the field for high school requirements. If this is not possible, play as marked.*

Q5: We play our games on a college field which has goal posts measuring 18' 6" between the uprights instead of the 23' 4" specified in the National Federation rules. May our opponents or conference require that 23' 4" uprights be used in our high school games?
A5: *No. High schools using college fields may use the 18' 6" upright. Neither league nor opponent may dictate that the high school upright be used.*

Q6: Do any CHSAA rules exist for determining the winner of a contest ended prematurely because of acts of God?
A6: *No. Games interrupted because of events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be continued from the point of interruption unless the teams agree to terminate the game with the existing score, or there are conference or league rules which apply. Conferences should consider adopting a policy to handle unusual circumstances.*

Q7: Can the timing of a sub varsity quarter be adjusted?
A7: *Yes – Schools/leagues should establish the time frame for league or conference opponents or communicate with non-conference opponents well in advance of the contest. It is strongly recommended that a 10-minute quarter be used for sub varsity games*.

Q8: Where may the coaches stand?
A8: *All team personnel must remain two yards behind the sideline while the ball is live. Up to three coaches are allowed in the "restricted area" - the two-yard belt adjacent to the sideline, when the ball is dead (9-8-3).*

Q10: May an athlete wear a tinted eye-shield with a Doctor's prescription?
A10: *No. All eye-shields must be free of any tint.*

CHSAA GENERAL, ELIGIBILTY & CONDUCT RULES

Please Note: Each coach should become familiar with all eligibility rules. CHSAA Handbook has been distributed to member schools. If you do not have access to this material, contact your athletic director.

Check the CHSAA Handbook for the details related to the following rules.

PLAYING OF AN INELIGIBLE WILL RESULT IN FORFEITURE..... Article 2400
SUMMER SCHOOL MAKE-UP ..... Article 1750.1
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RULE ..... Article 1870
PRACTICE ..... Article 2310
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION/PARENT CONSENT ..... Article 1780
MEDICAL RELEASE FOR INJURIES ..... Article 1780.2

NONCONTACT UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT BY NONPLAYERS

National Federation Rule 9, Sec. 8, Article 1, "A substitute who leaves the team box and enters the playing field during a fight will be ejected. A player ejected for leaving the bench area during a fight is ineligible for the next contest. (Also, see "Who is Your Get Back Guy")

SUNDAY RESTRICTION – *CHSAA Bylaw 2310.5*

No high school interscholastic contests, practices for interscholastic contests, camps, nor association between participants and coaches/directors of any CHSAA sanctioned sport from the student's school shall take place on Sundays during the competitive high school season (start of official practice through the state tournament). The Commissioner may, when deemed advisable, allow postponed state-level events to be played on Sunday. Teams playing on Monday in district, regional or in a state-culminating event will be exempt from this rule.

Reminders:

1. The NFHS rulebook (Table 1-7, pg 24) delegate's authority to the state associations for certain rules. The following shall apply in Colorado.

2. The football committee strongly recommends that coaches share film with officials following each contest in an educational effort to improve the game.

3. The CHSAA Football Advisory Committee reminds schools that in the case of extreme travel, teams can elect to establish a site more conducive to that travel for a playoff game. This does not, however, alleviate the home school of its responsibility as host.

4. The Wilson football has been the designated ball for the CHSAA playoffs and must be used in all playoff games.

5. It is strongly encouraged that leagues do not use a point differential as a tie-breaker in league standings. Having point differentials as part of the criteria has created hard feelings and unsporting acts, due to late scoring attempts in order to reach the maximum point differentials.

6. P. A. announcers shall remain neutral.

7. Schools should assign official's escorts to and from the locker rooms at halftime and at the conclusion of the game. Officials should never be escorted through spectators.

Seeding and Qualifying

The seeding committee for all classifications will be the members of the football committee, minus any active coaches. If necessary, replacements for the active coaches will come from the same classification in roughly the same geographic area of the state. The committee will meet at the CHSAA office or online on the Sunday following the final week of the regular season.

Following the end of the regular season, the procedures listed below will be utilized to capture the playoff bracket and serve as the criteria used for seeding the bracket.

The top 16 teams (24 in 4A and 5A) in the classification based on the CHSAA Selection and Seeding Index will qualify for the post-season bracket. Each conference champion will automatically be placed on the playoff bracket. Conference champions are determined by the conference Bylaws or policies. If a conference champion is not ranked in the top 16 (24) based on the final CHSAA Selection and Seeding Index, they will replace the lowest ranked team that is not a conference champion in the top 16 (24).

Seeding Criteria (once qualifiers are determined)

The CHSAA Selection and Seeding Index will be utilized to place teams on the 16(24)-team bracket. Once on the bracket, teams can be moved one spot at maximum based upon a head-to-head regular season game, if they are consecutive seeds on the bracket.

· If the scenario exists where three or more consecutive seeded teams have all played one another, they will remain as originally placed on the bracket.

· A conference champion not ranked in the top 16(24) of the final seeding and selection index will be placed in the bracket.

· When possible, conference opponents will not be paired against one another in the first round and geography will be a consideration in the first round. These adjustments can be made for seeds #9-16/24.

· Only the league champion in both 5A Metro North and the 4A I-25 are eligible for post season.

Playoff Hosting Policy and Procedure

- 5A, 4A, 3A, 8man high seed hosts until finals.
- 2A & 6man high seed hosts semi-finals. 2nd round playoff game host shall be the team which has had the fewer home games during the state playoffs. If both teams have had an equal number of home games the team with the higher designation will host that game.
- 1A higher seeds host round one and home team at each subsequent playoff game shall be that team which has had the fewer home games during the state playoffs. If both teams have had an equal number of home games the team with the higher designation will host that game.

Informational Items and State Adoptions

The 6man through 3A championship game sites will be hosted at Colorado State University-Pueblo, 4A and 5A will be hosted at CSU Fort Collins at Canvas Stadium.

In 4A and 5A, the top eight seeded teams will receive a first-round bye, and host in the second round of the playoff bracket. Teams seeded numbers 9-24 will play in the first round, with the higher seeded team hosting.

5A semifinal sites must accommodate a seating capacity equal to or greater than 5,000. Playoff schools that cannot accommodate the minimum seating capacity of their classification must designate a regional site prior to their first playoff contest.

The NFHS rulebook (Table 1-7) delegates authority to the state associations for certain rules. The following shall apply in Colorado.

1-1-4 Note Determining the number of game officials – Five for all levels with exceptions allowed on a case-by-case basis for A6 and A8.

1-1-7 Time officials assume authority – Whenever they enter the field.

1-2-1 Size of A6 and A8 fields – 100 yards forA8; 80 yards for A6 (p. 89-91 of Rules Book).

1-2-3g Note 3 Size of team box – No change; between 25-yard lines.

1-3-2 Note Mandating specific ball for playoff competition – An NFHS approved Wilson ball with logo must be used for all playoff games.

1-3-7 Use of supplementary equipment – Authorized.

1-3-7 Note Instant Replay – Not authorized.

1-5-1b, 2-3 Note Commemorative Patches – Must be requested of CHSAA on a case-by-case basis.

1-6-1 Note Use of drum for partially deaf teams – Authorized.

1-7 Reasonable accommodations for special needs - Must be requested of CHSAA on a case-by-case basis.

3-1-1 Note Procedure to resolve ties- NFHS overtime procedure (p. 86-89 of Rules Book).

3-1-2 Mercy Rule – The game is functionally over. The objective is to run out the clock as quickly and gracefully as possible with a total focus on safety while retaining some semblance to a normal game. It is an opportunity for second team and sub varsity players to get some snaps. Thus, throwing passes, etc. may appear to be “running up the score” when they are not. Please leave that type of sportsmanship issue to the coaches and be sensitive to teams who want to avert a shutout.

In all classes for all conference and non-conference games played in Colorado, except for A6, when a team is ahead at any time by 40 or more points, or goes ahead by 40 or more points, a running clock will be used for the remainder of the game. For class A6, the threshold is 45 points.

The clock will **not** stop on:

1. Out of bounds plays

2. Incomplete passes

6 Man

6M League 1	***East Central League***	***6M League 3***
Briggsdale	Arickaree	Bethune
Fleming	Flagler (no team)	Deer Trail
North Park	Genoa-Hugo	Hanover
Peetz	Hi Plains	Kiowa
Prairie	Idalia	Manzanola
Weldon Valley	Otis	Miami
	Stratton	
6 Man East	***Southwest Division***	***Independent***
Cheraw	Branson/Kim	Antonito
Cheyenne Wells	Cotopaxi (no team)	Pikes Peak Christian (no team)
Eads	La Veta	
Granada	Mountain Valley	
Kit Carson	Primero	
Walsh	Sangre de Cristo	
	Sierra Grande	

8 Man

Mountain Conference	***8M League 2***	***Black Forest League***	***Plains Conference***
Dolores	Hayden	Calhan	Akron
Dove Creek	Plateau Valley	Elbert	Caliche
Mancos	Rangely	Simla	Dayspring Christian
Sanford	Soroco	South Park	Haxtun
Sargent	Vail Christian	St. Mary's	Merino
	West Grand		Sedgwick County
Central League	***Six County Football Conference***	***Ark Valley League***	***Independent***
Belleview Christian	Crowley County	Holly	Norwood
Byers	Custer County	Las Animas	Lake County
Front Range Christian	Dolores Huerta Prep	McClave	
Gilpin County	Fowler	Swink	
Justice	Hoehne	Springfield	
Lyons	Walsenburg	Wiley	

1A

Western Slope	***South Central***	***Tri Peaks League***
Buena Vista	Centauri	CSCS
Cedaredge	Center	Banning Lewis
Gunnison	Del Norte	Ellicott
Meeker	Ignacio	Peyton
North Fork	Monte Vista	Rocky Ford
Olathe *(JV only)*	Trinidad	Rye
Roaring Fork *(JV only)*		
North Central	***Frontier***	***Longs Peak League***
Burlington	Clear Creek	Estes Park
Holyoke	Denver Christian	Flatirons Academy
Limon	Jefferson	Highland
Wiggins	Middle Park	Manual
Wray	Platte Canyon	Pinnacle Charter
Yuma	Strasburg	Sheridan

2A

Patriot League Central	*Patriot East*	*Front Range Mtn. Conference*	
Bennett	Arvada	Academy	
D'Evelyn	Brush	Berthoud	
Platte Valley	Sterling	Eaton	
Prospect Ridge	Timnath	Forge Christian	
Valley	University	Fort Lupton	
Wellington	Weld	Steamboat	
Colorado League	***Intermountain League***	***Western Slope League***	***Southwest League***
Classical Academy	Bayfield	Aspen	Alamosa
Elizabeth	Cortez	Basalt	Florence
Kent	Delta	Coal Ridge	La Junta
Englewood	Pagosa	Grand Valley	Lamar
Alameda	Salida	Moffat	Manitou Springs
Denver West		Rifle	Woodland Park

3A

Southern League 2	*Pikes Peak FB Conference*	*Western Slope 3A*	
Harrison	Canon City	Battle Mountain (jv only)	
Lewis-Palmer	Discovery Canyon	Durango	
Pueblo Centennial	Mitchell (jv only)	Eagle Valley	
Pueblo Central	Pueblo County	Glenwood Springs	
Pueblo South	Pueblo East	Palisade	
Sierra	Sand Creek	Summit	
Mountain Metro	***Metro Northeast***	***North Central FB Conference***	***League 7***
Conifer	Fort Morgan	Denver North	Mountain View
Evergreen	Holy Family	Frederick	Northridge
Green Mountain	JFK	George Washington	Resurrection Christian
Littleton	Lincoln	Mead	Roosevelt
Skyview	Lutheran	Niwot	Severance
Wheat Ridge	Northfield	Riverdale Ridge	Thompson Valley

4A

Northern 1	***Northern 2***	***Pikes Peak League***	***Southern FB Conference***
GJ Central	Erie	Air Academy	Coronado
Greeley Central	Greeley West	Cheyenne Mountain	Falcon
Loveland	Longmont	Palmer Ridge	Mesa Ridge
Skyline	Monarch	Rampart	Montrose
Windsor	Silver Creek	Vista Ridge	Pueblo West
Southeast Metro League	***Mountain West***	***Metro 2 League***	***I25 League***
Denver South	Bear Creek	Adams City	Centaurus
Far Northeast	Dakota Ridge	Aurora Central	Gateway
Ponderosa	Golden	Broomfield	Hinkley
Thomas Jefferson	Grand Junction	Fruita Monument	Liberty
Vista PEAK	Standley Lake	Heritage	Palmer
			Thornton
			Widefield

5A

Jeffco	***Front Range -South***	***Front Range North***	***Centennial***
Arvada West	Brighton	Boulder	Arapahoe
Chatfield	Horizon	Fairview	Cherokee Trail
Columbine	Legacy+	Fort Collins	Cherry Creek
Lakewood	Mullen	Fossil Ridge	Eaglecrest
Pomona	Prairie View	Poudre	Grandview
Ralston Valley	Rangeview	Rocky Mountain	Smoky Hill
South Metro	***Southern League***	***Metro North***	
Castle View	Chaparral	Denver East	
Highlands Ranch	Douglas County	Doherty	
Mountain Vista	Fountain Fort Carson	Mountain Range	
Rock Canyon	Legend	Northglenn	
Thunderridge	Pine Creek	Overland	
Valor Christian	Regis Jesuit	Westminster	

CHSAA PLAYOFF INFORMATION

I. PLAYOFF TIMES, SITES AND OTHER INFORMATION:

1. It is the desire of the Association that schools mutually establish game times and dates which best accommodate the interests of each school and community.

   NOTE: All mutually established game times and dates are subject to final approval by the CHSAA office. When mutual agreement for the game time and date cannot be reached the following statements will apply:

   a. Saturday, 1:00 p.m. and Friday 7:00 p.m. are preferred.
   b. Semifinal games will be played on Saturday, 1:00 p.m. Exception: Semifinal games may be played on Friday, 7:00 p.m. if it is mutually agreed upon by both teams, if there is a facility conflict, or there is a television opportunity.
   c. Thursday playoff games will be allowed through the quarterfinals if mutually agreed upon by both teams. If not agreed upon the preferred game times will be Friday at 7:00 p.m. or Saturday at 1:00 p.m.
   d. When mutual agreement cannot be reached and travel distance is 150 miles or greater, then the game will be played on Saturday. Friday night will be considered a reasonable option if the distance is less than 150 miles.
   e. Both home and visitor will be provided the opportunity to supply input in the scheduling process but more weight shall be given to the home team preference.
   f. Six or seven days rest following the previous game shall be considered adequate and will not be a consideration when establishing the date.
   g. The Commissioner shall have the sole province to designate game times, dates and sites, including weeks when a school district is hosting more than one game.

2. Stadium Arrangements – The Commissioner (or his designee) has the authority to select the site based on the adequacy of the seating, field conditions, etc.

3. Playoff games shall not be postponed without the permission of the Commissioner (or his/her designee).

4. The Commissioner (or his/her designee) shall have the authority to select an alternate site in the event of poor playing conditions.

5. Determining sites for State Football Playoff Games (**ALL CLASSIFICATIONS**) - In the opening round of the state playoffs, the teams with the higher designation (No. 1 higher than No. 2) will host.

6. Postseason format following opening round:

   a. 5A, 4A, 3A, 8man high seed hosts until finals.
   b. 2A & 6man high seed hosts semi-finals.
      i. High Seed hosts round 1 and semifinals. For round 2, home team shall be that team which has had the fewer home games during the state playoffs. If both teams have had an equal number of home games the team with the higher designation will host that game.
   c. 1A higher seeds host round one and home team at each subsequent playoff game shall be that team which has had the fewer home games during the state playoffs. If both teams have had an equal number of home games the team with the higher designation will host that game.

For bracketing purposes, the team designated on the bracket as the higher seed shall remain as the designated home team regardless of where the game is played.

Situation 1: Team A is designated the home team by a coin flip, but will not guarantee Team B's expenses. Team B guarantees A's expenses and hosts the game.
Ruling 1: For future site consideration, Team A has played a home game, while team B has been away.

Situation 2: Team A wins the coin flip, but chooses to travel to Team B.
Ruling 2: Team A has been home; Team B has been away.

Situation 3: Team A, designated as the home team, cannot meet the seating requirements and plays the game at Team B's field.
Ruling 3: Team A has been at home; Team B has been away.

Situation 4: Teams A and B agree to play at a neutral site.
Ruling 4: Home and visiting team must still be designated based on the criteria above.

7. State playoff officials for all classifications will be assigned by the CHSAA office.
8. For all playoff contests, there will be an exchange of the most recent two complete digitals. If one school films/videos and the other school does not, the upcoming opponent may secure a film from a previous opponent so that an exchange of digitals can be completed. The exchange must be consummated by 12:00 noon on Monday preceding the next contest.
9. A field to be used for any playoff game must have a field clock, or an extra official shall be hired in order that official time may be kept on the field by officials.
10. Five-person official crews will be used in all state playoff contests for football.
11. Regulation field for 8Man is 40 x 100 yards with 15-yard side zones.
12. Mercy Rule:

In classes 8man, 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A and 5A and at all levels (all conference and non-conference games), when a 40-point differential exists at any time during the game a running clock shall be used for the remainder of the game regardless of whether the score drops back below the mercy rule differential. (In 6man, the margin is 45 points). See the following procedures below:

The clock will not be stopped when:

1. The ball goes out-of-bounds.
2. A forward pass is incomplete.
3. A score or touchback occurs.
4. A fair catch is made or awarded.

The clock will be stopped when:

1. The period ends.
2. Charged or injury time out.

The mercy rule will not be used in any live televised championship games.

12. Equal Facilities (Field Phone)

If telephone facilities for both teams are provided as a standard practice (during the regular season) at a playoff site, then the same number of telephone facilities must be provided for both teams. This number must stay consistent throughout the contest. If one set of phones becomes inoperable during the contest, then neither team may use the phones initially provided. Teams are permitted to bring their own set of phones to a contest. These phones will be considered "extra" and are not under the procedure as outlined above.

The responsibility for notifying both teams of phone problems should belong to the referee.

If a school does not provide phone facilities to both teams as a standard practice (during the regular season), then it is up to each team, home or away, to provide its own phones. The home team will not be required to provide phones to the visiting team if it is not done during the regular season.

13. Warm-up Time

A minimum of 45 minutes should be allowed for each team for pre-game warm-up.

TENTATIVE SITES AND NOTIFICATION OF SITES AND GAME TIMES

Schools are asked to have sites tentatively under reservation in advance, thus providing for a quick release of information and game arrangements. The home school must notify the CHSAA Office by 11:00 a.m. Monday as to the exact site and negotiated time of the upcoming contest.

AWARDS

In all classifications, the following team awards will be presented by the Commissioner, Associate Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner at mid-field immediately following the team handshake. The trophy presentation provides a great educational opportunity for both teams. Plan with your team an appropriate way to accept the trophy on behalf of the school.

1 Championship trophy
1 Second place trophy

CHSAA FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY

The principal of each school participating in the CHSAA football playoffs shall be responsible to see that prescribed procedures pertaining to playoff regulations, as outlined in this section, are followed. If the principal so desires, this responsibility may be delegated to a member of his/her staff.

1. **All performing groups** (i.e., dance groups, pom pons, flag teams, drill teams, etc.) must make previous arrangements with the site director. The site director will arrange for admission either by passes, gate list, or other means.
    a. Marching band members in official uniform who are scheduled to perform at half time will be admitted at the discretion of the site director and are not limited to the 35 member maximum for pep bands.
    b. The CHSAA defines a pep band as a musical group from the school's music program and designed to perform before games, at time outs and halftime (sharing time with opposing school's pep band). The number of members allowed is 35, must have typical pep band instrumentation (50% wind instruments is minimum).

FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Playoff financial reports, please note that each host school will receive an email Saray Vernon-Brunner prior to hosting with an attached excel report.

Hosting CHSAA playoff events correctly is a major responsibility. The hard work and conscientious efforts of the site host is greatly appreciated by not only the CHSAA administrative staff but also all the schools, participants and fans at these events.

While at times, hosting events is an addition to your already full schedule, it does provide opportunities for your school and teams.

Schools should plan/negotiate the transportation guarantee as soon as possible before the upcoming contest. This is required to avoid miscommunication and give a clear picture of the financial responsibilities of the host. **See CHSAA Legislative Council Minutes, Tournament and Playoff Finance report - Reimbursements.**

ALLOWABLE TRANSPORTATION, MEALS AND LODGING

Schools should plan/negotiate the transportation guarantee as soon as possible before the upcoming contest. This is required to avoid miscommunication and give a clear picture of the financial responsibilities of the host. See CHSAA Legislative Council Minutes, Tournament and Playoff Finance report - Reimbursements.

Maximum number of participants:
*Roster count plus no more than 5 coaches and/or non-participants must not exceed the following maximums:

Class	Maximum
6man & 8man	25
1A	35
2A	40
3A	44
4A	47
5A	50

MEAL ALLOWANCE:

A. Meal allowance, where permitted in team competition, may apply at all district, regional and state playoff tournament levels when travel is in excess of 60 miles (road miles one-way) or 120 miles round trip, and/or involves overnight lodging for tournament play.

B. *Note – The meal reimbursement form will automatically calculate the information provided in the tables.*

C. The meal allowance for all sports in all district and state playoff tournaments will be as follows:

Meal	Amount
Breakfast	$4.00
Lunch	$5.00
Dinner	$6.00

ALLOWABLE EXPENSES:

A. Maximum host school allowable game expense:

Football	Maximum
6man & 8man	$300
1A & 2A	$400
3A	$550
4A	$675
5A	$750

B. The allowable expenses are not intended to cover all expenses incurred, but rather to help offset them.

C. At the discretion of the host school, expenses in employing police may be added to the maximum allowable game expense. Expenses must be itemized.

D. In emergency situations which make it impossible for the home school to stay within the above allowances, the Commissioner may approve deviations from the maximum allowable expenses.

1. Bleachers moved in is an expense of the host school.
2. Snow removal is the financial responsibility of the host school.

E. In the case of a weather emergency during a state playoff contest, additional team expenses for meals, lodging and transportation incurred may be reimbursed from the contingency fund upon application to the Commissioner or designee.

F. In football, CHSAA will receive 10% of the gross receipts and 70% of the net proceeds, after expenses have been paid for all playoff games. The two participating schools will divide (equally-15% each) the remaining 30% of the net proceeds.

G. When a football championship game is played at a predetermined high school site, each competing school will receive 10% of the gross income. The school or facility hosting the contest will also receive 10% of the gross. The remaining 70% of the gross income will go to the CHSAA.

H. When a multi-classification football championship event is held at a predetermined site, each team's share of the gate will be determined by the CHSAA.

I. In football only, if the host school shows a net loss greater than the amount shown on the statement, which should be paid to the CHSAA, no money is owed to the CHSAA.

Example 1: If a school hosting a football playoff game shows a net loss of $1.00 and the CHSAA share shown on the statement is $50.00, the net amount paid to the CHSAA is $49.00.

Example 2: If a school hosting a football playoff game shows a net loss of $100.00 and the CHSAA share shown on the statement is $50.00, no money is owed to the CHSAA.

HOST GUARANTEE EXPENSES

If the host team will not guarantee the expenses (as outlined in this bulletin) of the team designated to travel and if the designated traveling team will guarantee the expenses of the other team on its field, then the game site will be changed.

If neither team will guarantee expenses, then the game will be played as originally scheduled. If there is a deficit, and neither team has guaranteed expenses, both schools shall share the deficit equally.

ADMISSION PRICES

The following are the minimum admission prices for CHSAA state football playoff games as established by the CHSAA Board of Directors:

Prelims, Quarterfinals

General Admission……	$10.00
Student (K-12) & Sr. Citizen (age 60)……	$7.00
Pre-school (age 4 and under)……..	*Free*

Semifinals

General Admission……	$12.00
Student (K-12) & Sr. Citizen (age 60)……	$9.00
Pre-school (age 4 and under)……..	*Free*

Please Note: *By mutual agreement, participating schools may charge more than the above minimum prices. However, past experience has shown that public relations are enhanced if people are paying the same price for the same class of game at every location.* ***Finals prices will be $20.***

COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS, CHSAA PASSES

Each school competing in the playoffs shall provide a gate-list that will serve as complimentary tickets (not including players, coaches and managers) for each playoff game to the host school – A-6 (10 tickets), A-8 (12), 1A (15), 2A & 3A (20), 4A & 5A (25) (except championship games where 15 will be provided). If additional complimentary tickets are desired, they must be purchased at the prevailing rate by the school. Only the CHSAA Courtesy Card, CHSCA Coaches Pass, CHSAA Official Pass (official only) and CHSAA Press Pass will be honored at all football playoff contests. **No league passes will be honored.**

CHSAA COURTESY CARDS & CHSCA CARDS AT PLAYOFF EVENTS

Only the CHSAA Courtesy Card, CHSCA Coaches Pass, CHSAA Official and CHSAA Press Pass will be honored at all football playoff contests. **No league passes will be honored.**

BAND & PEP BAND ADMISSION INFORMATION

Only 35 pep band members, including director, will be admitted at no charge to the state playoffs, providing each member of said groups complies with the following conditions:

1. The site director is notified in advance and the group appears at the entrance designated by the site director.

STATE SPIRIT ENTRY

Roster maximum as designated by classification plus 2 coaches. All spirit teams must be in uniform for free entry into the playoff games.

Varsity spirit rosters team maximum are based on roster classification using basketball enrollment numbers. Based on classification, varsity cheer, varsity co-ed, varsity pom, varsity jazz and varsity hip-hop teams will have roster limits for sideline, competitions and school representation based on classification. Roster limits per class/division will remain the same and not change based on your football classification:

- 1A/2A (Cheer, Pom) will have a maximum of **20** each squad
- 1A/2A (Co-ed) and 3A (Cheer/Co-Ed, Pom) will have a maximum of **20** each squad
- 4A/5A(Cheer, Pom, Co-ed) All Class Jazz and All Class Hip-Hop will have a maximum of **28** each squad

Alternates are included in the varsity roster limits

Cheerleaders must be in uniform, accompanied by two sponsors. Band members must have an instrument in possession and be accompanied by the director.

Official's Game Fees for Football 2023-2024

Click HERE to be taken to the Officials Info Page on CHSAANow

FOOTBALL	
Varsity (4 or 5 Officials)	$85.00
Sub-Varsity	$60.00

OFFICALS' PLAYOFF PAYMENT
Host schools will pay for officials for all games in which they host.
CHSAA will pay for officials for the State Championship games (neutral site).

PROCEDURES FOR ASSIGNING FOOTBALL PLAYOFF OFFICIALS

In assigning officials to all playoff games the CHSAA staff will make every attempt to assign officials from a neutral area within reasonable travel distance from the game site, unless the two competing schools are from the same assignment area.

The CHSAA staff has adopted a standard format for soliciting input and assigning state officials.

A. Administrator in charge of each activity will solicit input from the following:

1. League presidents - coaches' input at this level.
   a. Assigners
2. Coaches Associations (CHSCA)
3. Area Directors
   a. President or designee and Board of Directors of CFOA
   b. Individual Officials
4. CHSAA Football Committee
5. District Athletic Directors

B. The state officials will be selected based on the following:
1. Compliance with CFOA requirements
2. Recommendations (above)
3. Past performance evaluations at state
4. Geographic representation
5. Attempt to maximize opportunities for officials to work state playoffs. In conjunction with the CFOA, the CHSAA will attempt to use a minimum of 10% officials who have not worked the previous year's state playoffs.
6. When possible, an official shall not officiate the State Championship finals of the same classification in consecutive years.

Please Note: Some officials areas are requesting application for playoff assignments. If so, that process will also be considered when selections are made.

Neutrality Priority When Assigning Officials to in Post Season/Travel Cost an Impact

Every effort will be made to cut the travel cost when assigning officials in the post season though the priority of assigning will be to maintain neutrality. In general if two teams are competing from different areas of the state, the officials will not be assigned from either of the areas of the competing teams. However if the teams are from the same area, the officials could be assigned from the same area or any combination of areas. Below is the legend for area football officials and a couple of examples.

Football Officials by Area

1. Metro Denver
2. Canon City
3. Colorado Springs
4. Pueblo
5. Trinidad
6. La Junta
7. Ft. Collins
8. Boulder/Longmont
9. Wray
10. Greeley
11. Monte Vista
12. Durango
13. Cortez
14. Grand Junction/West Central
15. Lamar
16. Craig/Steamboat Springs
17. Glenwood Springs

Examples 1: Pine Creek from Colorado Springs is playing Highlands Ranch from the metro Denver area. The officials will be selected from any of the other areas. Therefore a crew from Limon, which is from the East, could be selected whether the game is played at Highlands Ranch or Pine Creek.

Example 2: If George Washington from Denver plays Fairview from Boulder, the officials could be selected from any area. The three officials may be selected from three different areas or any combination of areas. This would be true if the two teams were from Durango and Fort Collins.

The concept of mixed crews is important in football where the teams come from all areas of the state. In many cases it is simpler to ensure neutrality by having umpires from two or three different areas of the state on a game. Following these guidelines, a school can determine on its own from which area playoff officials could be assigned.

CHSAA MISCELLANEOUS FOOTBALL INFORMATION

Sportsmanship Protocol at all CHSAA Contests and Activities

1. National Anthem-When the National Anthem is played or the Pledge of Allegiance is recited, students, fans, coaches and players should stand at attention, remove hats and face the flag.
2. Cheerleaders/Fans/Spectators
   - It is recommended that there be positive cheers only.
   - Only cheerleaders may use megaphones.
   - All patrons must wear shirts and shoes. Face painting is allowed.
   - Cheer and tumbling routines must be in front the your team's student body. Routines that spill onto the area of the opposing team are prohibited.
   - Cheer squads may perform under the basket area outside the free vertical lane lines at all times.
3. Banners
   - One cloth or vinyl banner may be used, but must be sanctioned by the game management, principal, and/or athletic director before the contest. Note: Some facilities, including venues used for CHSAA playoffs, may not allow any banners. Paper banners are not allowed at CHSAA sponsored playoff events.

     The words and graphics on banners must be positive: i.e. "beat", "outscore", "conquer", etc.; Negative banners: i.e. "kill", "maim", "scalp", etc., will be confiscated and may result in no future use of banners.
   - Banners must not block the view of others.
4. Noisemakers
   - All artificial noisemakers are prohibited. This includes: cowbells, drums, whistles, horns, plastic clackers, thunder sticks, etc. Exception: bleacher kicking is permitted if the facility management allows it.
   - An air horn or cannon may be used on the field only if supervised by a school designee. It should never be disruptive to the playing of the game and used only during dead ball periods at the end of playing action.
   - No musical instruments and/or amplified music, including drums, shall play while the game clock is running or when a 'live-ball' situation is applicable by rule, whether the game is indoor or outdoor. This includes fanfares, drum rolls, etc. The only time the game, once started, is not "in progress" is during a timeout or intermission. This applies to the use of outdoor, in-gym, or in-arena sound systems and public address announcements. The announcer is an integral member of game administration and is a reporter of information not necessarily obvious to spectators. Great care must be exercised to see that neither team gains an advantage from announcements over the public address system. Announcers are not "play-by-play" announcers.
   - There shall be no amplified instruments at any CHSAA playoff events.

5. A list of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors can be found in the Game Management and Sportsmanship Expectation Guide included in your school box.

CHEER FOR YOUR TEAM AND NOT AGAINST THE OPPONENT!!

KUKULSKI BROTHERS

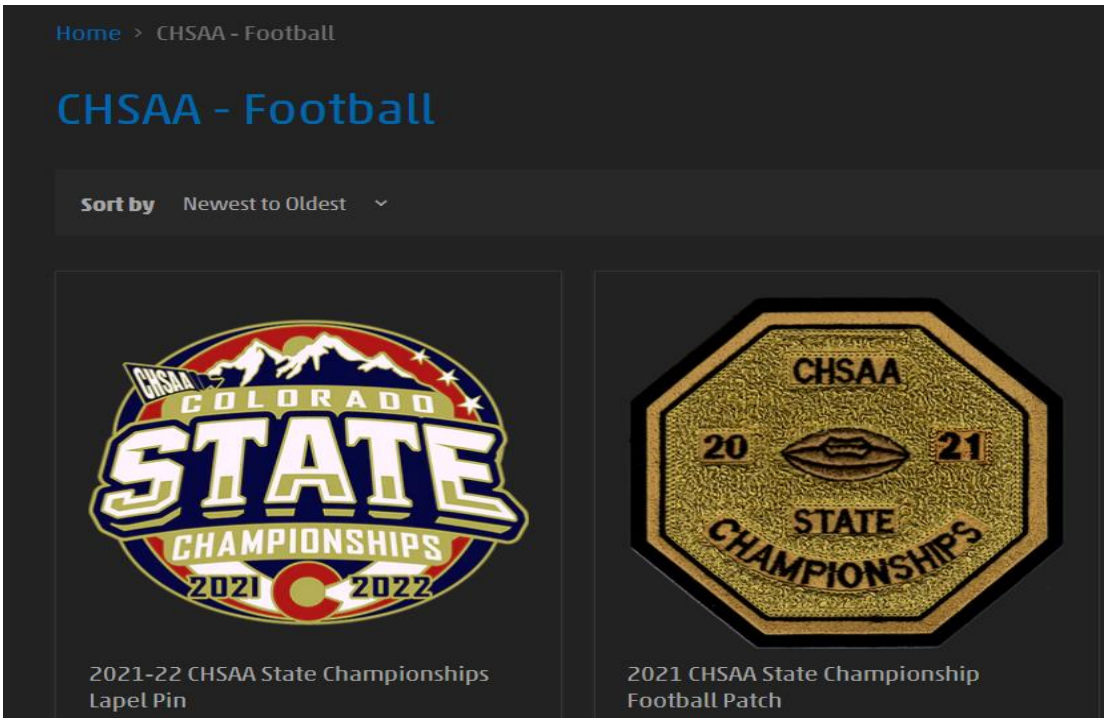
Have your Roster and Team Photo ready for submission to the digital program. Teams are welcome to submit early, however only the state qualifiers will be featured in the digital program.

Please submit your roster and team photo directly to Kukulski Brothers **no later than Thursday, November 16, 2023 :** submit@kukulskipublishing.com

Email Subject title: should include the Name of the school/ CHSAA football program

Past and present CHSAA State Football merchandise can always be ordered online at:

https://store.kukulskibrothers.com/collections/chsaa-football



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JOHNSTOWN, PA

STADIUM SYSTEM
CANAAN, CT

USA RECONDITIONING
GARFIELD, NJ

XENITH
DETROIT, MI

Dear Sir/Madam,

NAERA (National Athletic Equipment Reconditioners Association), NOCSAE (National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment) and helmet manufacturers are informing you of reconditioning and recertification recommendations for football, lacrosse, baseball and softball helmets.

NAERA recommends that during every football, lacrosse, baseball and softball season or practice period, every helmet should be cleaned and inspected regularly by a school or organization staff member with knowledge of manufacturer recommendations. We further recommend every helmet should be reconditioned and recertified annually unless stated otherwise by the manufacturer. ONLY a company licensed by NOCSAE can perform the recertification of football, lacrosse, baseball and softball helmets. For a list of NAERA members that are licensed by NOCSAE please visit our web site www.naera.net. More information regarding NOCSAE and their standards can be found at www.nocsae.org.

Reconditioning/Recertification and Sanitization Post Covid-19: NAERA recommends every football, lacrosse, baseball and softball helmet be reconditioned and recertified prior to being issued to all athletes, unless stated otherwise by the manufacturer. NAERA further recommends that nonrecertifiable equipment, including but not limited to, football and lacrosse shoulder pads, chest protectors and shin guards be sanitized in accordance to manufacturer guidelines.

On January 1, 2017 NOCSAE put into effect standard ND 001 6.1.1 shown below.

ND 001 6.1.1. Helmets intended to be recertified shall have a recertification interval provided by the manufacturer. Certification life is limited to this time period. Helmets not recertified during the stated interval shall no longer be certified. Recertification interval required for warranty validation shall satisfy this requirement.

What does ND 001 6.1.1 mean for your school or organization? For **Football** helmets, as of this writing, the requirements from all football helmet manufacturers for recertification is a ***minimum*** of every other year. If you acquired new helmets in 2021 these helmets will need recertification per this standard for 2023 play.

Helmets that have a lapsed certification per NOCSAE DOC. 001 may be recertified under most conditions. Always ask your NAERA representative if you have doubts. **Remember when your team Captain or Coach tells the official your team is legally equipped, you need to know that is correct and factual.**

Every state association playing under NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations) and NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) rules has adopted the NOCSAE standards for football, lacrosse, baseball and softball helmets. Other state associations may have similar rules; however, most support the helmet manufactures recommendations.

NAERA encourages schools and organizations to send your equipment for reconditioning and recertification as soon as your season is complete. Please make certain you are using a reconditioning company licensed by NOCSAE.

Sincerely,
Tony Beam
Tony Beam, BA, E.S., CAA

NFHS GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR FOOTBALL GAME AND PLAY CLOCK OPERATORS

A. The game and play clock operators should report to the game officials at the stadium at least 30 minutes before game time for the following purposes:

1. To synchronize timer's watch with official game time as established by the game official responsible for timing.
2. To advise game officials whether the game clock operator and/or play clock operator will be in the press box or on the field/side- line. Determine procedure for communications with both operators and test procedures prior to the games.
3. To discuss coordination of starting, stopping and adjusting the game clock or play clock in accordance with the playing rules.
4. To discuss if the game clock horn (mechanical signal) can be turned off. Preference is for the game clock horn (mechanical signal) to be turned off for the duration of the game.

B. The game clock is normally started 30 minutes before game time. The halftime intermission will start on the referee's signal when the players and game officials leave the field. All pregame and halftime activities shall be synchronized with the game clock. The mandatory three-minute warm-up period will be put on the game clock after the intermission time has elapsed and shall be started immediately.

C. The game clock operator shall have an extra stopwatch available. In case of failure of the game clock, the game clock operator shall immediately contact the game officials, giving them the correct data regarding the official time. The game official responsible for timing will then pick up the correct game time on the stopwatch. If the game clock becomes inoperative and is subsequently repaired, it will not be used again until the next period or when the referee determines it is operational. The public-address announcer shall indicate the game clock will not be official until the malfunction is corrected and a subsequent announcement is made on the public-address system.

D. Game Clock Procedures

1. The game clock operator is an integral member of the officiating crew and game administration. Unfair advantages occur when the game clock is not started or stopped correctly by rule. Great care must be exercised to see that no time lag occurs in starting or stopping the game clock.
2. On all free kicks, the nearest game official(s) will signal the legal touching of the ball by indicating that the game clock should start.
3. Any game official may signal a time-out; therefore, the game clock operator should be alert to stop the game clock.
4. The incompletion signal will stop the game clock.
5. The game clock operator will automatically stop the clock following a touchdown, field goal, touchback or safety after the appropriate scoring signal has been made.
6. After the game clock has been stopped, the referee will start it again on the referee's start-the-clock signal and if no such signal is given, the game clock operator will start the clock on the snap without the signal from the referee.
7. The referee may start the game clock again in certain instances before the ready-for-play.
8. The try is not a timed down.
9. There are instances when a period shall be extended by an untimed down. During these extensions, leave the game clock at :00. Do not reset the game clock for the next period until the referee declares the period over by facing the press box and holding the ball overhead.
10. Each state association may decide whether or not to utilize a running game clock in certain situations, and the procedures for those situations.

E. Play Clock Procedures

1. The following set of instructions is for the play clock operators to assist with the rules on the play clock that now involves a 40-second or 25-second possibility for a delay of game. The following are the instructions for the 40-second and the 25-second play clock, to be used if and when visible play clocks are available to be used.
2. Note to the Play Clock Operator: Starting the 40-second play clock "immediately" is to be interpreted as starting the 40 seconds as quickly as the covering official signals the end of the down using Signal #3 (time-out) or Signal #7 (dead ball with one arm straight up) or Signal #10 (incomplete pass). These are the only three signals you should expect at the end of a down prior to the 40-second play clock starting.
3. The following addresses the play situations that require the 40-second option:

(a) The Team A (offense) runner is stopped inbounds short of a first down. The game clock continues to run and the 40-second play clock is started immediately except at the end of a 4th down.
(b) The Team A (offense) runner is stopped inbounds beyond the line-to-gain (first down). The game clock is stopped for the first down and the 40-second play clock is started immediately. The referee will then restart (wind) the game clock (no whistle involved) as quickly as the football is placed on the ground and ready for play.
(c) The Team A (offense) runner or a Team A fumble or a Team A backward pass goes out of bounds. The game clock is stopped and the 40-second play clock is started immediately. The game clock will not start again until the next legal snap.
(d) A Team A (offense) legal forward pass is incomplete. The game clock is stopped and the 40-second play clock is started immediately. The game clock will not start again until the next legal snap.
(e) If Team B (defense) is the only team to commit a foul.

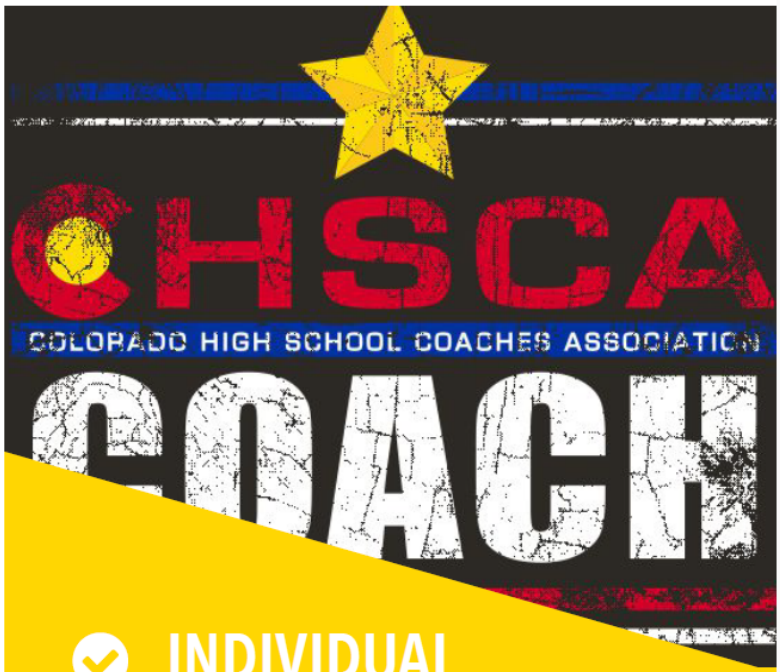
4. There is no signal/whistle from the referee during the 40 seconds except to restart the game clock following a first down inbounds. It is important to note that none of the situations listed above involve an administrative stop/interruption in play. All of those pos- sibilities are addressed in the next section.
5. **Administrative Stoppages/Interruptions:** It is always possible for the situations that are listed below to occur during the game that are administrative issues/interruptions to the normal flow of play. This list does not necessarily include every possibility.
6. **Note to the Play Clock Operator:** Every situation listed below – with two exceptions – will result in a 25-second play clock that is not started immediately at any time, but you will wait until the situation has been addressed and the referee will then utilize Signal #1 which is the very common ready-for-play (with the whistle sounded) or Signal #2 (wind) which restarts both clocks (with the whistle sounded).
   Game Situations: (a) any foul occurs; (b) play is stopped for an injured player (40 seconds if a defensive player); (c) any down that involves a score; (d) either team is granted a time-out; (e) play is stopped to address an equipment issue (40 seconds if a defensive player); (f) any down that includes a legal kick followed by a new series; (g) a measurement for a first down; (h) team possession changes during or after a down; (i) the beginning of any period; (j) an inadvertent whistle; and (k) an untimed down. This list includes most 25-second play clock situations, but an extremely rare situation is also a possibility (a dog runs across the field; the lights go out; weather conditions).
7. **General Statements**
   (a) Always set the play clock back to 40 during a down in progress. You will have plenty of time to change it back to 25 at the end of the down if necessary.
   (b) The common ready-for-play whistle/signal is not used for a 40-second play clock.
   (c) It is very important that the same individual in the press box is not responsible for both clocks. An official on the field will be responsible for the play clock if no visible play clocks are used.
   (d) The game clock operator must always be ready for the referee to wind/start the game clock when it is stopped. The game clock will always start on a legal snap if it is not already started/running prior to the legal snap.
   (e) Make certain that you always run the 25-second play clock prior to an extra point try, prior to a kickoff and prior to the kick following a safety.
8. Finally, the play clock operator must always be ready for the referee to reset the 40-second clock to 25 seconds if and when the 40 seconds has run down past and below 25 seconds and the football is still not yet on the ground ready for the next down. The referee's signal for this is a pumping motion with one hand up and down near his head. The same pumping motion with both hands is a reset to 40 seconds.

PLAY CLOCK/GAME CLOCK PROCEDURES

Event	Play Clock Starts At	Game Clock Starts	Covering Official's Signal	Referee's Signal
Dead Ball Inbounds	40	Running	S #7	None
Dead Ball Out Of Bounds	40	Snap	S #3	None
Incomplete Pass	40	Snap	S #10	None
Team A Awarded 1st Down	40	Signal	S #3	Wind
Penalty Administration	25	Ready	S #3	Wind
Charged Team Timeout	25	Snap	S #3	Chop
Injury / Helmet Off *	40/25	Ready	S #3	Wind
Measurement	25	Ready	S #3	Wind
Double Change Of Possession – Team A Snaps	25	Ready	S #7	Wind
Change Of Possession - Team B Snaps	25	Snap	S #3	Chop

Touchdown	25	N/A	S #3	Chop
Try, Field Goal, Safety	25	Varies **	Varies **	Chop
Start Of Each Period	25	Varies	Varies	Chop
Legal Kick	25	Snap	S #3	Chop
Start Of Overtime Period	25	N/A	N/A	Chop
Other Administrative Stoppages ***	25	Ready	S #3	Wind
* **See Rule 3-6-1a(1)e EXCEPTIONS For Defensive Injuries and Fouls**				
** **The Game Clock Will Start on the Legal Touch of a Free Kick**				
*** **Includes Inadvertent Whistle and Period Extension**				
See the Current NFHS Football Rules Book for the NFHS Official Football Signals				

COLORADO HIGH SCHOOL COACHES ASSOCIATION



- **INDIVIDUAL COACH SIGN UPS**
  www.colohsca.org
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Bundle Link—
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"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." – John F. Kennedy

WHY JOIN?

It's YOUR professional organization

01 **BENEFITS**
TWO Million dollar liability insurance, admission card to state tournament events, hospitalities, can nominate for all state and scholarships, CHSCA communications, and apply for Coaching training grants.

02 **EDUCATION**
Coaching clinics, new coach trainings, online learning calls, coaching resources, leadership training, PLUS… we're working on more online learning opportunities!

03 **ALL STATE GAMES**
We run the biggest and BEST All-State games in the state! Hosted by CSU Pueblo we bring together top senior athletes from across the entire state to compete. HEAD COACH must be a member to nominate a player for all state.

04 **RECOGNITION**
Colorado Coaches Hall of Fame, Sport Coach of the Year Awards, Longevity Awards, Achievement Awards, Special Recognition Awards, Nominations to National Coach of the Year Awards.

AWESOME SPORT CLINICS 2023-2024

The COLORADO HIGH SCHOOL COACHES ASSOCIATION
is proud to announce the
68th Annual

ALL STATE GAMES
Football
June 10-14, 2024
at Colorado State University Pueblo

This is a first-class event to cap off your outstanding seniors' high school careers and to honor top coaches from across the state of Colorado. Sports showcased in the 2024 CHSCA All State Games include Softball, Volleyball, Football, Golf, Boys and Girls Basketball, Boys and Girls Soccer, Wrestling and Spirit.

1. **Players and coaches are nominated and selected by CHSCA football MEMBER coaches. All nominated players MUST PLAY FOR A CHSCA MEMBER HEAD COACH**.**
2. **All nominations must be submitted representing your LEAGUE via the CHSCA All State Games website** Nomination information will be sent out to all CHSCA member head coaches prior to the nomination period which is open OCTOBER 29-NOVEMBER 17, 2023.**

****Go to www.CHSCAAllStateGames.org under the ALL STATE GAMES/ FOOTBALL tab.**

Note: At your league meetings, be ready with your player nominations INCLUDING CONTACT EMAIL AND PHONE then DESIGNATE A CHSCA member to submit for your league.

3. **Selections will be made at the Football Coaches meeting that will take place on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 10:00am location TBD.**

**** Register today to get all the benefits of your CHSCA membership~ including the opportunity for you and your players to participate in the All State Games (and to ensure that your league can nominate players and that you can vote to select the teams).**

www.colohsca.org