**Soccer Comments on the Rules - 2018-19**

By NFHS on March 01, 2018

http://www.nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/soccer-comments-on-the-rules-2018-19/

**4-1-1a:** The home team shall now be required to wear dark jerseys and the visiting team shall be required to wear solid white jerseys.  This change will allow the home team to wear their school colors before the home crowds.

**4-1-1b:** In combination with the rule change in 4-1-1a, the home team will be required to wear socks of a single dominant dark color, contrasting white, but not necessarily the color of the jersey.  The visiting team will be required to wear solid white socks.

**4-1-1d:**This rule change requires the team to wear the same color of under garments.  This change allows for players and/or schools to buy one set of under garments to be used with either set of uniforms worn.

**4.2.10:** The addition of this rule allows for state associations or designee to permit players who need to wear a head covering for medical or cosmetic or religious reasons to do so, if he required support is provided.

**8-1-2:** This rule change allows the player taking the kickoff to position himself/herself into the opponent’s half of the field in order to initiate the kickoff.

**11-1-4:** This change provides the language which identifies appropriate placement of the ball when an offside infraction occurs, even if the infraction occurs on a players own half of the field.

**12-8-1(f)14:** With this rule change if a defender attempts to deny an obvious goal scoring opportunity, in the penalty area, the defender shall be cautioned (yellowed card) and the goal is awarded if a goal is scored or a penalty kick is awarded if a goal is not scored.

**12-8-2(d)3:** If a defender attempts to deny an obvious goal scoring opportunity outside the penalty area, the defender shall be disqualified (red card) and a direct free kick shall be award at the spot of the infraction.

**13-2-1(j):** This addition clarifies that if a player, coach, or bench personnel enters or exits the competition field and interferes with play, or an official, it will result in a direct free kick for the opposing team from the point of infraction.

**13-2-3(a):** This rule change clarifies that if a player, coach, or bench personnel enters or exits the competition field and does not interfere with play, or an official, it will result in an indirect free kick taken from the spot where play stopped.

**18-1(g):** A new definition was added providing guidance to what is deliberate or what is a deliberate act.