

PIAA (*additional adoptions 2022 Season*)

Mercy Rule: The Mercy Rule cannot go into effect until the second half. When one team gains a 6 goal differential over its opponent the Mercy Rule will be applied to the match, **second half only**. Upon scoring the 6th goal the officials should stop the clock to allow for any substitutions before taking the Kick Off. When the clock starts for the Kick Off, **AFTER** the 6th goal has been scored, it will be a running clock after goals. The officials will stop the clock for injuries, cautions, or any other time the officials deem appropriate. **ADDITION:** Once the Mercy Rule is applied during the second half, if the team in the lead decides to substitute during the last 5 minutes **THE CLOCK SHOULD NOT BE STOPPED**. The Mercy Rule takes priority over the new rule whereby the clock is stopped if the team in the lead decides to sub during the last 5 minutes of the second half (**All levels of competition**)

Corner Kick: When the ball is kicked from the right or lead official side, the lead official will take a position behind the ball and corner flag

Sportsmanship Message: Include – “Coaches please certify to the officials that your contestants will be legally equipped and uniformed according to NFHS rules and PIAA adoptions **at the kickoff**”

Arrival at the Site: At least **thirty minutes** prior to the scheduled kickoff.

Cold Weather Attire: Rule 4-2-1f, *exception #2*: This exception addresses the opportunity for players to wear soft and yielding caps during inclement weather. This exception has been adopted by PIAA over the years and serves as a good common sense rule. The caps are to be alike in color and are to serve the rule’s spirit and intent of player warmth and not hair control devices.

Suspended Game: Rule 7-1-3 (PIAA Modification) Restart at the point of suspension if less than one half is played. If more than one half is played and a winner is determined, it is an official game and the result stands. If a winner cannot be determined, the game is resumed from the point of suspension.

Head Coverings and Adornments: Modify Rule 4-2-10 to permit the **wearing of religious head coverings, that fit securely, are allowed to be worn, unless the item is harmful to other players**. Rule 4-2-11 **Hair adornments**, such as beads, may be worn in the hair if they are secured to the head and do not present a risk of injury to the player, teammates, or opponents.

Caution/Yellow Card: Modify Rule 12-8-1 PENALTY, to provide for a 5-minute playing time sit out following the issuance of a yellow card to a player, with the opportunity for that player’s Team to substitute for that player.

Goalkeeper Possession - Goalkeeper possession can be ball in hands OR ball at his/her feet in playing distance. Do not confuse goalkeeper possession as only being interpreted as the ball in hand

Appropriate Health Care Professional – PIAA – MD or DO only!

Dual or Double Dual System of Control only (Modify Rule 5-1-1 NOTE)

PIAA continues to utilize the *pre-2011-2012* NFHS Official Soccer Signals

PIAA Affiliated Schools: All games involving a PIAA school must use PIAA RULES.

Tie Contest (*Regular Season, Varsity only*) – (after 2 x 40 min periods of play) play a maximum of 2-ten minute periods of “Sudden Victory”

Official Time: Rules 6-2-1 and 6-2-3: The official time/score is to be kept by the scorer at the scoring table or on the scoreboard/clock. Signal the last two minutes of any period. Exception – by mutual agreement of opposing coaches the official time may be kept by Head Referee

Official Ball: Wilson **VIVIDO** (March 2022) **NOTE:** Member schools are reminded that the adoption is for use during the PIAA District and PIAA State Championship play. Schools are **NOT** required to use these balls during their regular season contests.

Officials’ Uniform: **Shirt** – Long or Short sleeved alternating black and white 1-inch vertically striped shirt with a black collar or **pro style** Black or Yellow shirt. All officials must dress alike. **Shorts** – Black (long trousers, culottes or skirt may also be worn. **Stockings** – Long black with three white stripes at the top. **Shoes** – Solid Black or Predominantly Black with some white, cleaned, and shined. No jewelry except wedding bands and medical-alert bracelets.

Ejection (Red Cards): Report to PIAA **AND** to Rules Interpreter (Ken Johnson - kjohn6363@aol.com)

