

July 31, 2018

Memo

To: All Principals, Athletic Directors and Football Coaches

From: Mark Jones, Director of Officials

Subject: Kicking Rule Modifications for NON-VARSITY Contest

Although the kicking game (special teams) is an important part of the game of football, it is understood that many non-varsity teams do not have the time or personnel to work on this aspect of the game during practice. This year the AHSAA will allow for modifications to the kicking rules while providing the opportunity to utilize this part of the game. By mutual agreement of both opposing coaches prior to the start of a non-varsity contest (If BOTH coaches don't agree, then option 1: simulation of kicks will be utilized), the kicking rules may be modified as follows.

Note: Field goals and extra points will not be modified and will be live.

Option 1 (Default: Simulation of kicks)

- All kickoffs and punts will be no blocking (no contact), no rushing and no return (mandatory fair catch).
- Teams will kickoff and punt with no return, no blocking (no contact) and no rushing.
- After the non-contact kickoff, the ball will be placed at the 35-yard line for the receiving team to begin the series.
- After the no rush and non-contact punt, the ball will be placed 30 yards (not to go inside the 20-yard line) from the line of scrimmage.

Option 2 (No Simulation of kicks)

- Teams will start from the 35-yard line in place of any kickoff.
- Punts will be 30 yards from the line of scrimmage (not to go inside the 20-yard line)

Option 3 (All kicks live)

- All kicks (punts and kickoffs) will be live under NFHS rules.

Clock Rules: The clock will run by rule in options 1 and 3. The clock will stop in option 2 once a team makes the decision to move the ball 30 yards for the punt. The clock will restart with the snap (by rule) following any kick or change of possession.