

## Officiating Guidelines for the Iredell County Athletic Conference

All matches through March 8<sup>th</sup> will be cut to 25 minutes halves with no overtime. After daylight saving time begins, they will return to normal times. Until March 9<sup>th</sup>, all games will begin at 4:00.

These procedures and amendments to the NCHSAA Rules were developed at the Blue Ridge Athletic Conference Athletic Director's meeting of January 29th and subsequent discussion.

**Profanity** in any form by any individual is unacceptable. If a player, coach or individual in the technical area uses profanity, they are to be sent from the match. If a spectator uses profanity, the match administrator is to be notified and the individual sent from the match.

**Team areas** will be on opposite sides of the field, diagonally across from each other. The technical area will be marked but may be from '25' to '25'. Coaches are expected to stay in their technical area.

**Player equipment** will consist of a numbered jersey, shorts, socks, shoes and shinguards. Jerseys may be of any color or color combination if distinguishable from the opponent's uniform. Keeper jerseys should be distinguishable from field players. Socks must cover the shinguards.

**Administrator** or administrator designee from the home team will be present at every match.

**Send offs** (Red Cards) will be for both Disqualifications and Ejections. For a disqualification, the player will sit out the remainder of the match and may not be replaced. For an ejection, the player will sit out the remainder of the match and not be replaced during that match. Additionally, the player will be ineligible for the next match.

**Duration of the match** is two Thirty-minute halves. Time will be kept on the field by the referee. It will be a 'running clock' except for water breaks, if water breaks are used, and injuries.

Coaches and officials will decide prior to the start of the match if water breaks are required. If used, the referee is to stop the clock, and allow 2-3 minutes for the water break. It is not a 'coaching' opportunity.

The clock will be stopped for all injuries until the injured player is removed from the field. If removal may be a prolonged period, the 'home' AD may choose to consider the match as complete.

At the end of the match, if, in the opinion of the referee, a coach has changed his/her pattern of substitution to apparently waste time, the referee may stop the clock, warn the offending coach that a continuation of the new pattern will result in the clock being stopped on each occurrence and may result in the coach receiving a caution (yellow card).

**Overtime** will be used to decide a winner if the score is tied at the end of regulation play. A coin flip will decide which team has the kickoff and which team will defend which goal. One five-minute 'golden goal' overtime period. If the score is still tied at the end of the overtime period, the match is over and is recorded as a tie

**Playoff Overtime** If tied at the end of regulation they receive a 5-minute break. A coin will take place and the winner will decide which end of the field to defend. A 5-minute "golden goal" overtime period will take place. If there is no score, they will receive a 2-minute break and resume with a second 5-minute "golden goal" period. If still tied, they will **complete shots from the mark** to determine a winner. A coin flip will take place and the winner will decide if they wish to kick first or second.

**Weather Suspension** after the start of the match will be for either thunder or lightening as determined by the referee or a designated 'weather official'. The suspension will be for thirty (30) minutes and will continue in thirty (30) minute increments for each subsequent occurrence unless match continuation is deemed safe by the referee. If the delay becomes a total of one (1) hour from the initial stoppage, the match will be considered complete.

NOTE: at any point after the start of the match, the 'home' athletic director may terminate the match.

**Any Rules not specifically addressed** above will be the NFHS Rules as amended by NCHSAA for the 2018-19 school year.

**Questions** should be addressed to David Whitman at [david@blueridgesoccer.org](mailto:david@blueridgesoccer.org).