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Randy Soma
Assistant Executive Director

FOOTBALL ADVISORY AGENDA

Meeting: November 27, 2023

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89568701640>

10:30 AM CT

Football Advisory Committee Members:

9-man Coach Rep.	Byron Pudwill, Bon Homme	2024 (2)
11A & B Coach Rep.	Terry Jake, Elk Point Jefferson	2026 (1)
AAA/AA Coach Rep.	Jared Fredenburg, Sioux Falls Lincoln	2026 (1)
Athletic Director	Adam Nowowiejski, Belle Fourche	2025 (1)
Principal/Supt. Rep.	Derek Barrios, Watertown	2026 (2)
Official	Scott Jacobson	2026 (1)
Native Am. Rep.	Lance Witte, Lower Brule	2024 (*)

Call Meeting to Order

1. Select Recording Secretary
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Complete Expense Statements
4. Review Duties/Responsibilities
5. Review Rule Changes for 2023-24
 - a. SDHSAA Rule Changes
None
 - b. NFHS Rule Changes

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 2 1/4 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 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

1. Helping the Runner
2. Communication Between Coaches and Game Officials
3. Game Management

6. Coaches Clinic Reports

7. Reports from Committee Members – *This section of the meeting will include creation, discussion, advancement and consideration of proposals for submission to the Athletic Directors/Board of Directors for further consideration and will not be a conclusive list of potential topics. Representatives on the committee should contact their groups statewide for consideration of ideas and proposals with the understanding ideas are to be advanced for further consideration and not “automatically implemented.”*

a. Coaches Reps

Jared Fredenburg (Discussion Items)

1. Add a game against someone for all teams. Two weeks of fall camp is better than three. 10 games is better than 9, given how much players work to be rewarded with games.
2. Vince Benedetto’s Playoff Format (11AAA & 11AA)

Jake Terry (Discussion Items)

3. All Playoff games held on Friday or Saturday
4. Allow teams to request opponents for scheduling in addition to their conferences
5. Balance in scheduling between geographic locations (ex: EPJ plays 1 game vs a Northeast Team and 1 vs a West Team) to balance schedules and avoid closed/round robin schedules.
6. Schedule within class to get a true measure for power points (most popular by far email)
7. Private schools in a city with a AA population move up one classification or some sort of multiplier for private schools
8. System to allow teams who are struggling to move down a classification for a period of time to build a program
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1a8XaQmlAjSo7XW9kn6GuhVL8mpcOOVZCKWFnRhPfMdo/htmlview>
9. Classification like Nebraska <https://digitalzsports.com/7-the-number-that-demanded-our-attention-and-how-we-can-fix-the-classification-system/>
10. Classification like Illinois
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1grlAJ6k_35CUCDEVjUSpfE1u0C_QZIL6NKSPPH_Pnk/edit?usp=sharing

Byron Pudwill (Discussion Items)

b. Administrative Reps

Derek Barrios (Discussion Items)

1. Classification & Alignments (9man stay at 3 classes and move the 64 number down to 60 or lower.
2. Reduce the number of teams that qualify in 9man from 16-12 with the top 4 receiving byes.
3. Eliminate Class 11AAA and combine with the 6 largest 11AA schools and then the 5 smallest 11AA schools move into the 11A classification
 - a. Class 11AA - 15 largest schools (Pierre to RC Central); enrollment ratio of 1:2.361 (ratio of smallest to largest in class, using male-only ADM from current classification cycle)
 - b. Class 11A - Next 19 schools (Canton to Douglas); enrollment ratio of 1:2.614)
 - c. Class 11B - Remaining 11-man schools; enrollment ration of 1:1.85

Adam Nowowiejski (Discussion Items)

Lance Witte (Discussion Items)

c. Official Reps

Scott Jacobson (Discussion Items)

1. **Targeting:** Let's get serious about taking the crown of the helmet out of football. If a player is penalized for illegal helmet contact by hitting the opponent anywhere on the body with the crown of the helmet, that player should be disqualified. No more distinguishing between targeting and spearing, or the official interpreted the hit as flagrant or not. This is a significant safety concern and would be great to see High School follow college on this rule. Let's get this redefined and put some teeth into it.
2. **Knees covered with pads / pants.** While it is unlikely the NFHS will alter rule 1-5 (Player Equipment), many officials feel high school should follow college in allowing the players to wear the pants above the knees. If players, parents and coaches are ok with it, why are officials the ones having to deal with it? If officials are required to enforce the rule, then lets put teeth into proper wear of the uniform by penalizing if the rule is not followed. Some crews will enforce, while others do not. This is much like the restricted box on the sideline; some crews enforce, some do not. Officials do not want to be uniform police, they want to focus on officiating action on the field to ensure a fair game. There are too many critical pre-snap and post-snap actions to tend to, besides looking at 18-22 players to see if their knees are covered. Sending players off the field for 1 play for not following the rule irritates fans and coaches. If the rule requires officials to enforce knees being covered, lets get serious about it and go back to penalizing it – or – see if NFHS would consider a change?
3. **Restricted box:** Another safety issue here. Coaches, players and all others that might be on or near the sideline must not be in the restricted box during a live ball. Only 3 coaches may be in the restricted box on a dead ball. Nobody should be on the field between plays unless there is a timeout. This must be enforced by all crews and understood by every coach and game administrator. Need to get better at enforcing this statewide (all crews) and understanding by all coaches.

4. **Wing officials changing sides at the half:** Several officials expressed an interest in having wing officials switch sidelines in the second half. The benefit is that if there is something that happens between the coach/sideline and the official, such as an unsportsmanlike penalty, there would be a different official involved if something were to happen in the second half. This would be similar to what happens when a technical foul is issued in basketball. You try to have a different official give the second technical if one is warranted.
5. **Use of Stadium Field Microphone for referees.** Crews would like to see more high schools using stadium field microphones for the referee to announce penalties, etc. Referees should take advantage of all high schools that provide microphones to enhance the communication of the game with coaches and fans.

d. SDHSAA Representatives

8. Review SDHSAA Handbook Sections for Football

9. Review recommendations; additional opportunity for proposals following group discussion

Proposals

1. **12 Team Playoff in 9-Man Football (See attachment)**
2. **Scheduling Regions 11B/11A (See attachment)**

10. Adjourn

Athletic Advisory Committees Policies

Membership

1. Each term shall be three years in length.
2. A person may serve no more than two consecutive terms.
3. Any person appointed to a partial term shall be eligible for two additional terms.
4. Only head coaches are eligible to serve on an advisory committee. Current committee members who assume an assistant coach position may complete their current term but would not be allowed to serve an additional term.
5. The Board of Directors shall appoint individuals to the various positions based upon nominations submitted by each professional group that is to be represented on said committee. Names placed in nomination must have the approval of the local school superintendent. Any sport that has an official's association, a representative of that association will be included on the advisory committee and be allowed to vote on those items pertaining to the officiating of the sport.
6. Whenever a vacancy occurs on any sports committee, every effort should be made to fill said vacancy with a qualified person from the gender that is under-represented.
7. An alternating system shall be established in the sports of basketball, golf, tennis and track/cross country whereby the coaches in each class in said committees will alternate between coaches of boy's teams with coaches of girl's teams. An alternating system will be used for principals and superintendents whenever a vacancy occurs.
8. Duties and Responsibilities.
 - A. The individual sports committees will meet once a year, and draft their recommendations for changes and/or revisions. The SDHSAA will pay mileage and per diem costs for this meeting.
 - B. Each sports committee will seek input from all schools, especially the coaches, via whatever means is feasible and workable. Examples might be, but not limited to, such things as meeting with coaches at a state event, conducting a survey of coaches in each class respectively, poll administrators at area administrators' meetings, etc.**
 - C. Each committee will annually review the section of the Handbook that pertains to their sport.
 - D. Upon request, all Advisory Committee recommendations will be made available to the various secondary administrative organizations for their review and recommendations.
 - E. The proposals with all recommendations will be presented to the Board of Directors at their April Meeting.
 - F. All regulations approved by the Board of Directors will be implemented for the next school year unless the Board of Directors determines otherwise.
 - G. The Board of Directors shall have the power to adopt such rules and regulations in connection with any and all high school activities that are not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws, as the Board may deem necessary. The Board of Directors may adopt such rules or regulations at any regular or special meeting that might be scheduled.

ADVISORY RULE PROPOSAL CHANGE



Schools wishing to make a rules proposal change for the advisory committee to consider shall complete this form and submit to the SDHSAA office preferably two weeks PRIOR to the meeting date so the proposal may be added to the agenda.

Please select the sport in which the rules proposal is being submitted.

- | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Basketball | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Football | <input type="radio"/> Soccer | <input type="radio"/> Volleyball |
| <input type="radio"/> Comp. Cheer | <input type="radio"/> Golf | <input type="radio"/> Softball | <input type="radio"/> Wrestling |
| <input type="radio"/> Comp Dance | <input type="radio"/> Gymnastics | <input type="radio"/> Tennis | <input type="radio"/> In-/Out-of-Season |
| <input type="radio"/> Cross Country/Track | | | |

Title of Proposal: 12 Team Playoff in 9-Man Football

Proposal will affect the following classes (please check all that apply):

- ☒ Class B
- ☒ Class A
- ☒ Class AA

Proposed Rule Change:

The current playoff format for 9-man football involves 16-teams making the playoffs each year. This proposal recommends a 12-team playoff format in all 9-man football classes. This format proposal would allow the top 4-teams seeded by the SDHSAA to receive a first-round bye. Teams seeded 5 through 12 would play based on the SDHSAA bracket format (5 vs 12, 6 vs 11, 7 vs 10, 8 vs 9) during the first-round. To ensure that the top 4 seeds are rewarded for their efforts throughout the year, the second round of playoffs would be reseeded. The remaining teams would be placed in a 2nd round bracket (1 seed vs. the lowest seed, 2 seed vs. the second lowest seed, 3 seed vs. the third lowest seed, and the 4 seed vs. fourth lowest seed etc.) based on seeding from the SDHSAA.

Rationale for Rule Change:

1. Allowing a first-round bye for the top 4-seeds would allow for more competitive games in the first-round of play.

For example: In 9A, a 12 seed beat a 5 seed, an 11 seed beat a 6 seed, and a 9 seed beat an 8 seed. And a 7 seed made it to the state championship. In 9AA, a 10 seed beat a 7 seed, and a 9 seed beat an 8 seed. In 9B a 12 seed beat a 5 seed, an 11 seed beat a 6 seed, and a 10 seed beat a 7 seed.

2. Teams that were seeded 1 through 4 did not have a loss in this year's (2023) 9-man playoffs. This proposal would minimize teams having to travel long distances and not having competitive games for the teams seeded 13 to 16.

3. This change rewards teams who have a top 4 finish, while still allowing a larger percentage (12 teams instead of 8) of teams to make the playoffs.

4. The goal of this rule change is to allow for a more competitive playoff format in the 9-man classifications, and still allow a fair number of teams who are competitive to play in the postseason.

BYRON PUDWILL
Print Coach Name

Bon Homme High School
Member School

Byron Pudwill
Coach Signature

GARY KORTAN
Print Athletic Director Name

Bon Homme High School
Member School

Gary Kortan
Athletic Director Signature

ADVISORY RULE PROPOSAL CHANGE



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| <input type="radio"/> Cross Country/Track | | | |

Title of Proposal: scheduling - regions

Proposal will affect the following classes (please check all that apply):

- ☒ Class B
☒ Class A
☐ Class AA

Proposed Rule Change:

In order to even out travel, I propose that class 11A be the 21st-36th largest schools and 11B the next 32 largest schools with the rest being divided up into the 3 9-man classes. The state will be divided into 4 regions of 4 schools for class A and 4 regions of 8 schools for B. In A each team will play the 3 other teams in their region every year, they'll play 2 teams from each of the other 3 regions on a rotating basis (1 home, 1 away). In class B they can either play 2 teams from each region or 5 teams from their own region and one from each of the other three regions.

Rationale for Rule Change:

to "even up" travel
to allow "rivalry" games, but still play other schools around the state
to make sure that everyone plays everyone in their class at some point
to keep everyone playing in their own classification
could possibly have "All-Region" teams - to get kids some recognition
to ensure that everyone will travel some, but no one will have a ridiculous travel schedule

Print Coach Name

Member School

Coach Signature

Print Athletic Director Name

Member School

Athletic Director Signature