PIAA Post-Season Play Officials Review Memo: Girl’s Lacrosse
May 2018

As final league games take place and we begin to officiate post-season play, please take a few moments to review protocols and rules that may come up in games as play-offs take place. 2018 NFHS rule book locations have been noted.

Reminders:

1. Review your 2018 Pre-Game, Overtimes and Carding Procedures Card including –
   a. Pre-Game protocol (pg. 25)
      i. Be sure to arrive on time to allow officiating team pre-game discussion, and to meet all additional pre-game field checks and administration reviews. Head officials should prepare for their pregame…. What needs to be reviewed? May include: gen communication, CSA calls, restraining line, carding, overtime, etc
      ii. Officiating team must be dressed alike, must be wearing black shoes, and all officials must have their PIAA patch attached to striped officials shirt.
   b. Overtime/Tie-Breaking Procedures for Post Season Play (pg. 30.... NOTE: PIAA adoptions for overtime on card AND on pre-season bulletin found on PIAA website at piaa.org: click sports – spring sports – girls lacrosse)
   c. Carding Procedures (pg. 60 - 64)
      i. Delay of Game (pg. 50) Misconduct and Suspension (pg. 60) Coach Misconduct (pg. 64)
   d. Suspended/Interrupted Game Procedures (pg. 30)
      i. Officiating Team should include a specific discussion concerning any weather related issues and protocols as part of pre-game. (Communication procedure with on site admin, where do players & officials go?, etc)
   e. Upon arriving at venue, be sure all site requirements are met. Ex: NOCSAE balls, audible horn, etc. If crew has any concerns bring to attention of site manager immediately to correct before game time.

2. Best Practices On Areas Of The Game Frequently Reviewed:
   a. Stick Checks Reminder (Cross Inspection: pg 16  Section 4, Art 3 a & b)
      i. Please adhere to RB instruction specific to cross inspection. Don’t be “looking for additional issues”.
         Our entire emphasis should be to get the girls on the field to play.
      ii. Should an official become aware of non-compliance, (Ex: Shooting strings not attached through sidewall), the official will make every effort to guide the player/coach towards the correction that must be made to get the stick within compliance by game time. If the correction can be made, there is no penalty and the stick can be used. If the stick cannot
be corrected by game time, it will be held at table until half-time, when it can be checked again. Team personnel may work on the stick at the table at any time during first half to bring it into compliance by halftime. Again, beyond holding the stick, there is no other penalty.

b. Stick Check Requests: (pg 17, ART 4-7)
   i. Should a coach request a stick check, the check would be for pocket depth only, unless measurement of length is specifically requested
   ii. Requests can be made at any time by Head Coach or any player on the field during a stoppage of the game clock, and must include player’s number. The team requesting the stick check will not lose any of its two allowable requests if the crosse is found to be illegal. Two requests during play are allowed per team for crossovers of players on the field.
   iii. NFHS has clarified that stick requests can be made on final goals scored during regulation OR overtime. It is important that officials are ready for this potential as they must be immediately prepared to call time out (even after last horn), stop players from leaving field, retrieve the stick requested (very likely the shooter’s) with immediacy and perform the requested stick check. Officials should follow guidelines on page 43 following the inspection of any player’s crosse. Be familiar with requirements of proper request for stick check as well as execution. (pg 17)

c. Time Outs: (pg 28 & 29)
   i. 2 Allowed per team during regulation play - they DO NOT carry over.
      1 allowed per team during all of overtime.
   ii. Coaches should be reminded to state color when requesting time out to official on field from sideline
   iii. Officials should review proper administration for after goal or clear possession T.O. requests.
      1. Note – page 27 under Official Timer: If coach cannot get attention of official to call time out, they may ask timer to sound horn as an official time out request. Horn may be sounded after a goal is scored or any time the requester’s team is in clear possession of the ball.

d. 3- Man Positioning and Responsibilities: Review Your Umpire Manual, begins pg 94, Part 3

Reminders and best practices have been shared to help you prepare for an outstanding post season.

Good luck and enjoy your games!