Statewide Interpreter Paul Sheehan 2020 Season Updates

Return to Play Guidelines: Please review the return to competition guidelines that are posted on the [PIAA website](http://www.piaa.org). These are the guidelines as approved by the Board of Directors. Listed below are issues that have come up over the past week:

- For the coin toss, only one official (Referee) is to conduct the coin toss while wearing a mask.
- Neck gaiters are legal to be worn. They can be pulled down around the neck when not in use. A player tackled by the gaiter, is not a foul under the horse collar rule.
- As per return to competition guidelines, face shields and visors that are not completely clear are NOT legal unless the head coach has an exception letter from Dr. Lombardi (PIAA). The "pink" tinted shields are not legal. Do not allow the athlete to participate, explain to the coach why they can't participate, then report this to the PIAA. Timeouts and the intermission between periods may be extended up to 2 minutes. If the athletes want to get their water bottles that are at the bench, allow them to do so. The extra time is for hydration. The guidelines state the conference should take place between the 9 yard marks and more than 1 coach may be involved and electronic technology can be used, (For this year only).
- The team box may be extended to the 10 yard lines for social distancing of substitutes only. No coaches are allowed outside the 25 yard lines. If the substitutes are outside the 25 yard lines and are using "flash cards" or are doing any type of messaging of plays to the players on the field, do not allow it. If they want to assist in calling plays, they must be within the 25 yard lines.

Cancer Awareness Month: October is cancer awareness month. Teams must conform to rule 1-5-3-a-5-a, every player wearing a solid color towel must be of the same color. So players who choose to wear a towel must all have the same solid color. The size of the towel must also conform to the rule. Players may wear pink color socks, sweat bands on wrists, sleeves, tape on shoes etc. these items are not covered by rule as to what color may be worn. Officials can only use a pink whistle for cancer awareness games. No other pink uniform items or equipment (i.e. hats, flags, wrist bands) are allowed.
2020 Plays for Review

Play 1: 4th down and 5 at the A40 yard line. QB A10 runs to the 50 yard line where he throws an incomplete forward pass to A80 who is standing at the B35? If the penalty is refused, it is A’s ball 1st and 10 from the 50, obviously won't happen. If the penalty is accepted, it is a 5 yard penalty from the spot of the throw (running play) AND loss of down. However, after enforcement the line to gain was made so it's a first down for Team A at the A45 yard line. Reminder, loss of down means loss of the right to repeat the same down. rule(5-2-2-c) casebook play (5.2.2.B)

Play 2: Receiver A80 is running a sideline pattern and inadvertently steps on the sideline from where he leaps and possesses a pass from QB A10. His first contact with the ground is out of bounds? This is simply an incomplete forward pass, it is not a foul for illegal participation because the receiver did not return to the field of play.

Play 3: QB throws an incomplete illegal forward pass from his own end zone. This is a safety regardless if the penalty is accepted or not. If the distance penalty is declined, the spot of enforcement is from the spot of the pass (Rule 7-5-3)

Play 4: A placekick holder cannot hand or pass (forward or backward) while their knee is on the ground. This is a dead ball and the play is over at the spot where they are kneeling. If they want to pass or hand off the football, they must rise before doing so. (4-2-2-exceptions).