



# 2024-25 NFHS SOCCER RULES POWERPOINT



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# NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

- NFHS (located in Indianapolis, IN – Est. 1920):
  - National leader and advocate for high school athletics and performing arts programs.
  - Serves 51 state associations, 19,500 high schools and 12 million student participants.
  - Writes playing rules for 17 high school sports for boys and girls.
  - Offers online education courses for high school coaches, officials, parents, students and others.
  - Ensures that students have opportunity to enjoy healthy participation, achievement and good sportsmanship in education-based athletics.



# NFHS RULES REVIEW COMMITTEE

- The NFHS Rules Review Committee is chaired by the chief operating officer and composed of all rules editors. After each committee concludes its deliberations and has adopted its recommended changes for the subsequent year, such revisions will be evaluated by the Rules Review Committee.



**Davis Whitfield**  
Chief Operating  
Officer



**Lindsey Atkinson**  
Basketball, Girls  
Lacrosse and  
Volleyball



**Bob Colgate**  
Football and Sports  
Medicine



**Sandy Searcy**  
Softball, Swimming &  
Diving and Water Polo



**Elliot Hopkins**  
Baseball and  
Wrestling



**Julie Cochran**  
Cross Country, Gymnastics,  
Field Hockey, Soccer and  
Track & Field



**James Weaver**  
Boys Lacrosse  
and Spirit



**Dan Schuster**  
Ice Hockey



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# NFHS RULES COMMITTEE



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NFHS  
Publisher



Julie Cochran  
NFHS  
Editor



Gibby Reynolds  
Wilsonville, OR  
Chair - 2027



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Woodbridge, VA  
Coaches- 2026



Teri Connor  
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Officials - 2027



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Julie Hammons  
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Section 8- 2025



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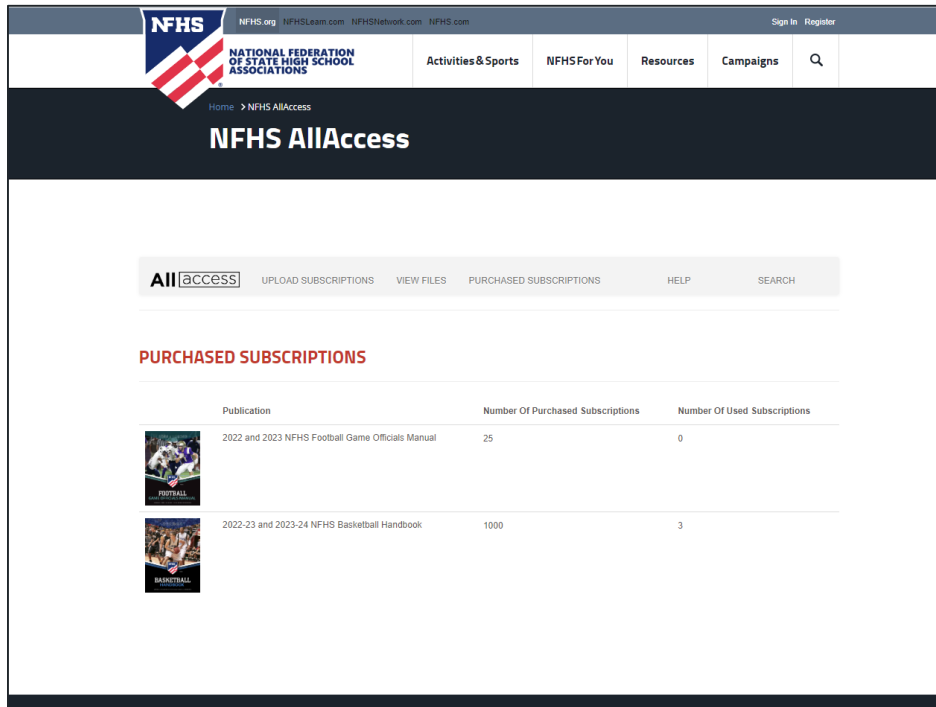
# NFHS PUBLICATIONS

- The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level.
  - Publishes 4 million pieces of materials annually.





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# NFHS AllAccess – WEBSITE

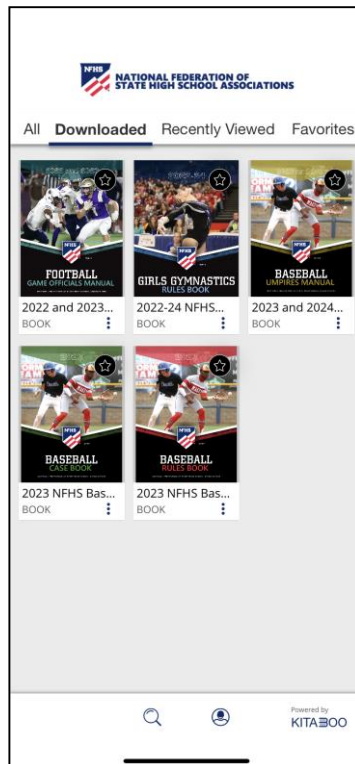


The screenshot displays the NFHS AllAccess website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the NFHS logo and the text "NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS". Below this, there are links for "Activities & Sports", "NFHS For You", "Resources", and "Campaigns", along with a search icon. The main header area features the "NFHS AllAccess" title. Below the header, there is a secondary navigation bar with "AllAccess" and links for "UPLOAD SUBSCRIPTIONS", "VIEW FILES", "PURCHASED SUBSCRIPTIONS", "HELP", and "SEARCH". The main content area is titled "PURCHASED SUBSCRIPTIONS" and contains a table with the following data:

Publication	Number Of Purchased Subscriptions	Number Of Used Subscriptions
 2022 and 2023 NFHS Football Game Officials Manual	25	0
 2022-23 and 2023-24 NFHS Basketball Handbook	1000	3

- AllAccess is the **NFHS Digital Publications Platform** that includes:
  - Rules Publications
  - High School Today Magazine
  - Policy Debate Quarterlies
  - Other NFHS Digital Publications
- Website organized for associations and individuals to assign books and manage purchases
- Visit <https://allaccess.nfhs.org>

# NFHS AllAccess – MOBILE APP



## Access Via Website or Mobile App:

- View available publications for sale
- View publications assigned to you
- Download books for offline viewing
- Read publications as an e-book
- Available on App Store and Google Play



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# RULES CHANGES



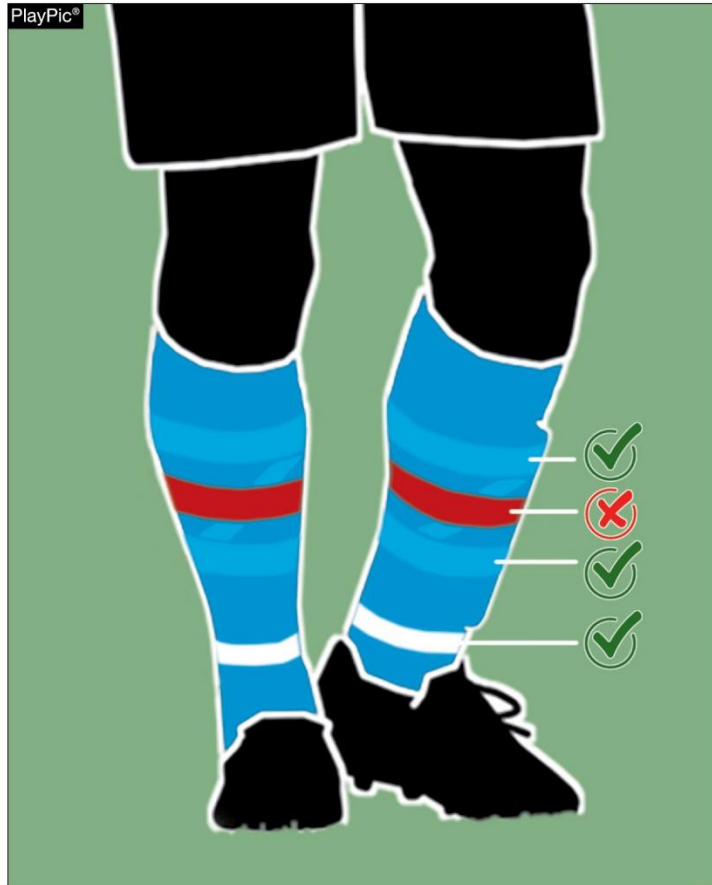
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# REQUIRED UNIFORM

## 4-1-4d



If tape or a similar material (stays/straps) is applied externally to the socks **above the ankle**, it shall be a similar color as that part of the sock to which it is applied.

Below the ankle, tape or similar material may be any color.



# FOULS AND MISCONDUCT RULE 12



The rule on Fouls and Misconduct has been revised to eliminate duplicate language and improve usability. Sections have been rearranged to enhance ease of reference. Red card offenses have been ordered by relative level of severity.



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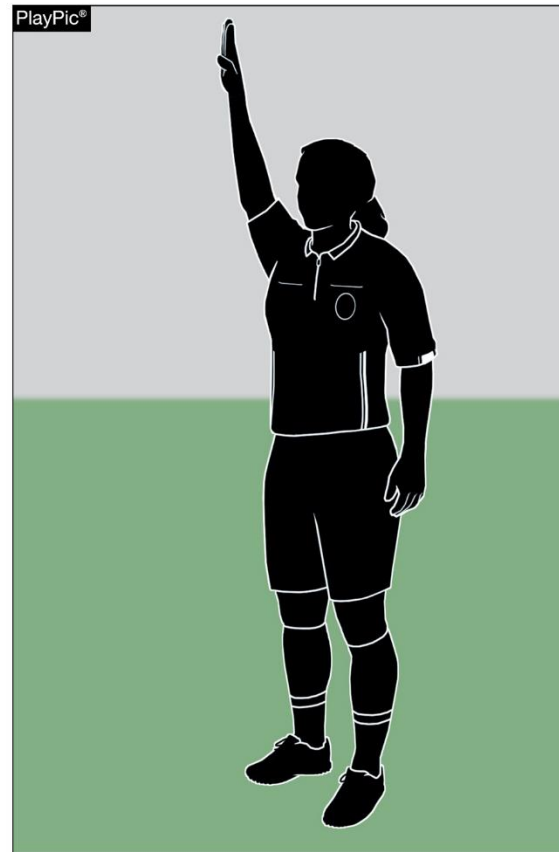


# FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

## RULE 12



DIRECT FREE KICK



INDIRECT FREE KICK

Direct and Indirect free kick fouls have their own sections now in the rules.





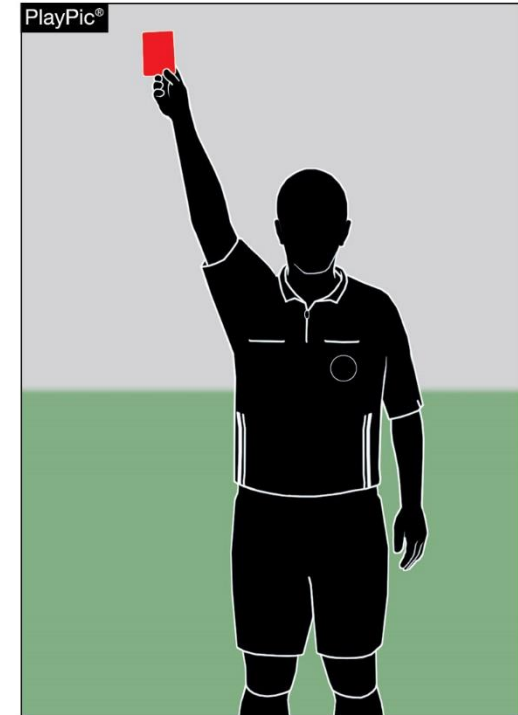
# FOULS AND MISCONDUCT RULE 12

## Terminology Changes

Wording was updated to reflect national terminology.



The term “obstruction” has been replaced by the term “impeding.”



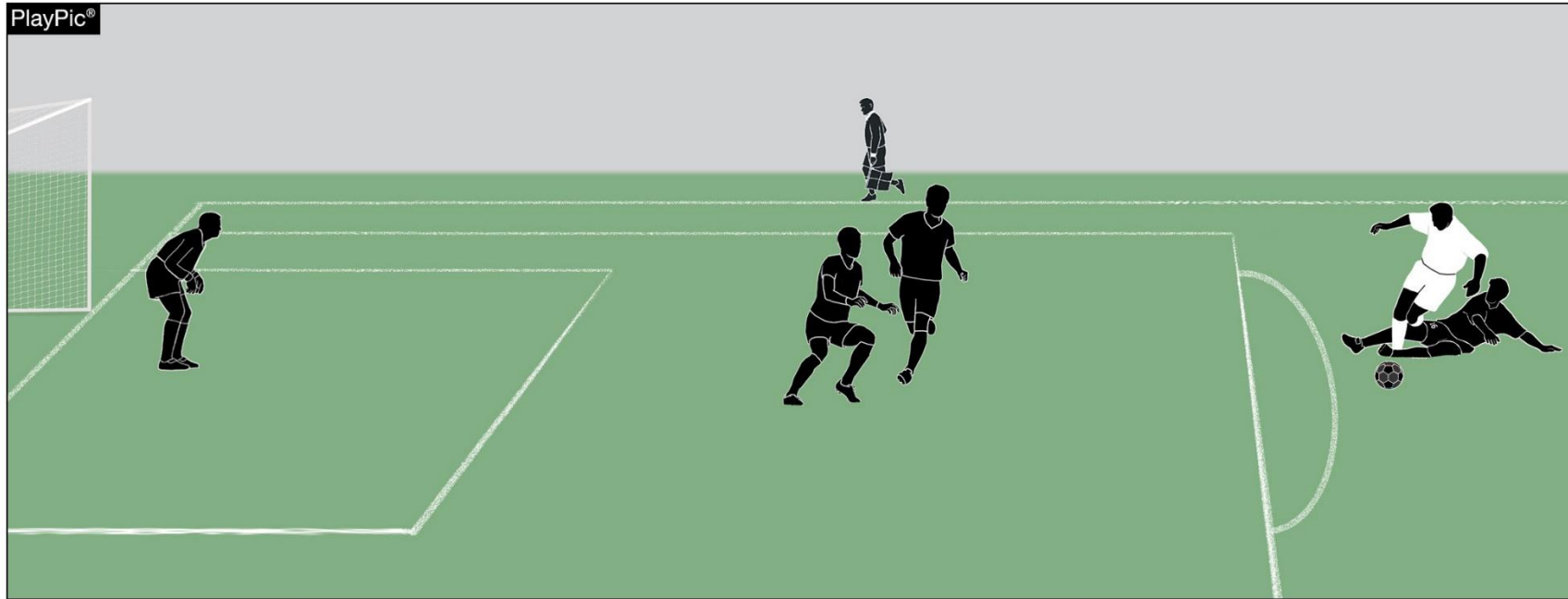
The term “disqualification” has been replaced by the term “ejection.”



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# FOULS AND MISCONDUCT RULE 12

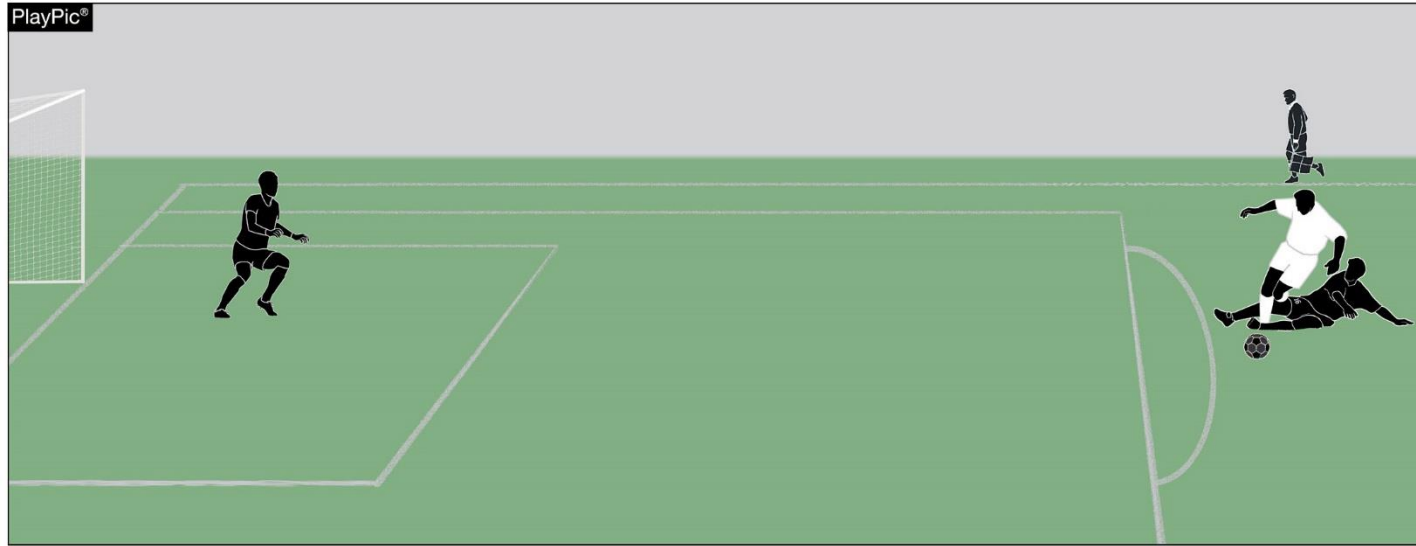


Rule 12 now includes the criteria for Stopping a Promising Attack (SPA) in Section 8.



# FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

## RULE 12



Article 4 in 12-8 provides guidance that all elements must be satisfied for obvious goal-scoring opportunities:

- Distance between the offense and the goal,
- General direction of play,
- Likelihood of keeping control of the ball,
- Location and number of defenders.





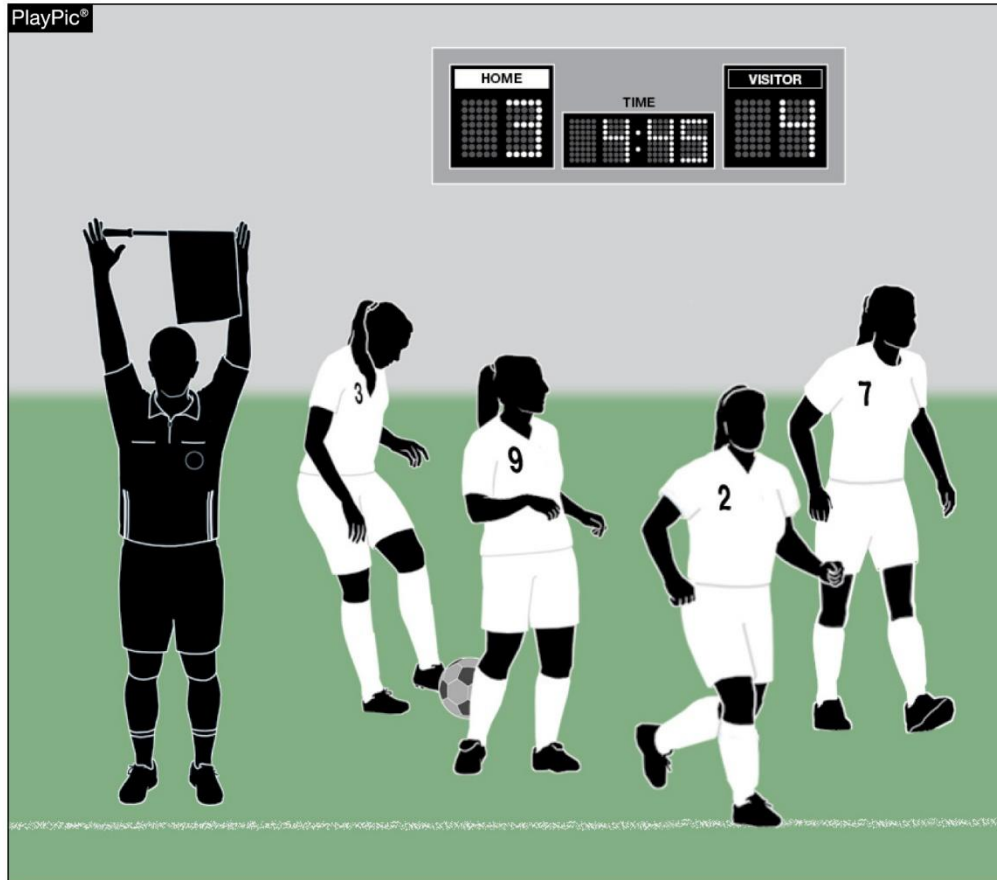
# EDITORIAL CHANGES



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# TIME – OUT AND IN 7-4-3



The clock shall be stopped when a substitute by the team in the lead is beckoned onto the field in the final five minutes of regulation or overtime.



# TIMER 6-2-3



The official timer shall start or stop the timing device as per 7-4 when signaled to do so by the referee.

This change removes a duplicate reference to timer duties.





# MISCONDUCT

## 12-5-1f15, 5-1-2



Amended language related to prohibition of players, coaches, bench personnel or officials related to the use of alcohol, tobacco or controlled or illicit substance(s) for non-medicinal purposes beginning with arrival at the competition site until departure following the completion of the contest.

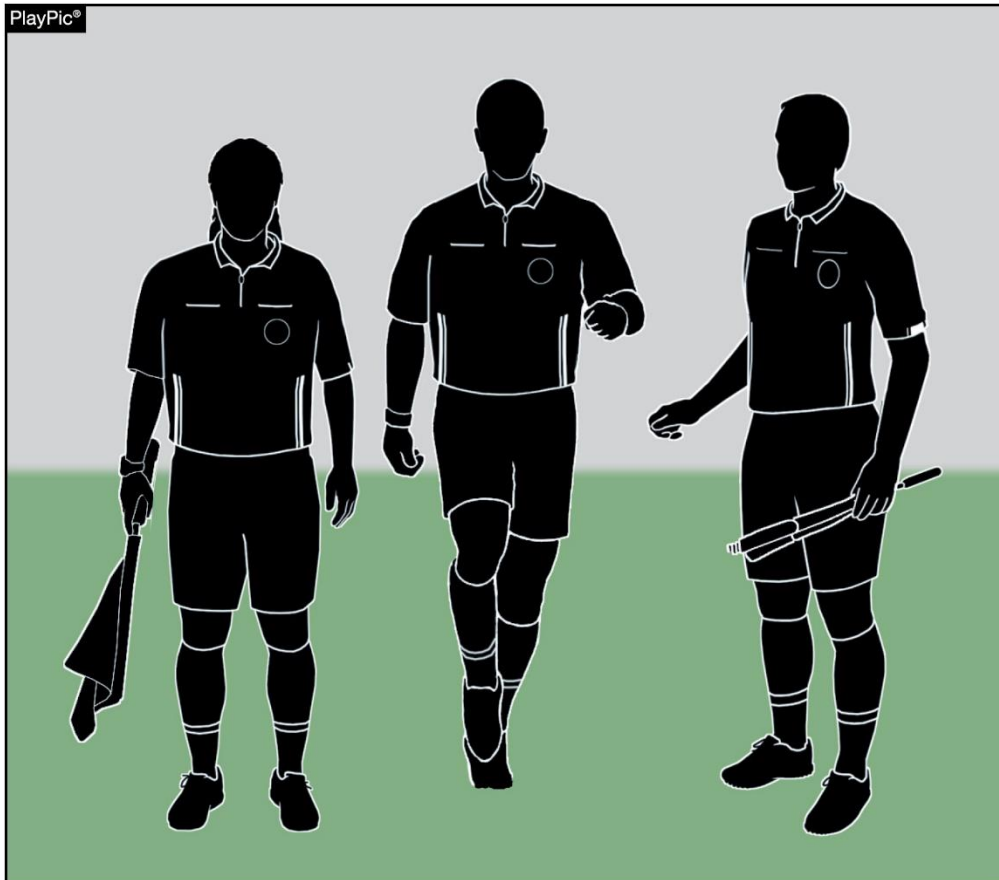


# POINTS OF EMPHASIS



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# OFFICIAL'S TOOLBOX FOR GAME MANAGEMENT



Referees have a variety of skills, techniques and strategies within their “toolbox” to effectively officiate a match and maintain control over players, coaches and the game environment.



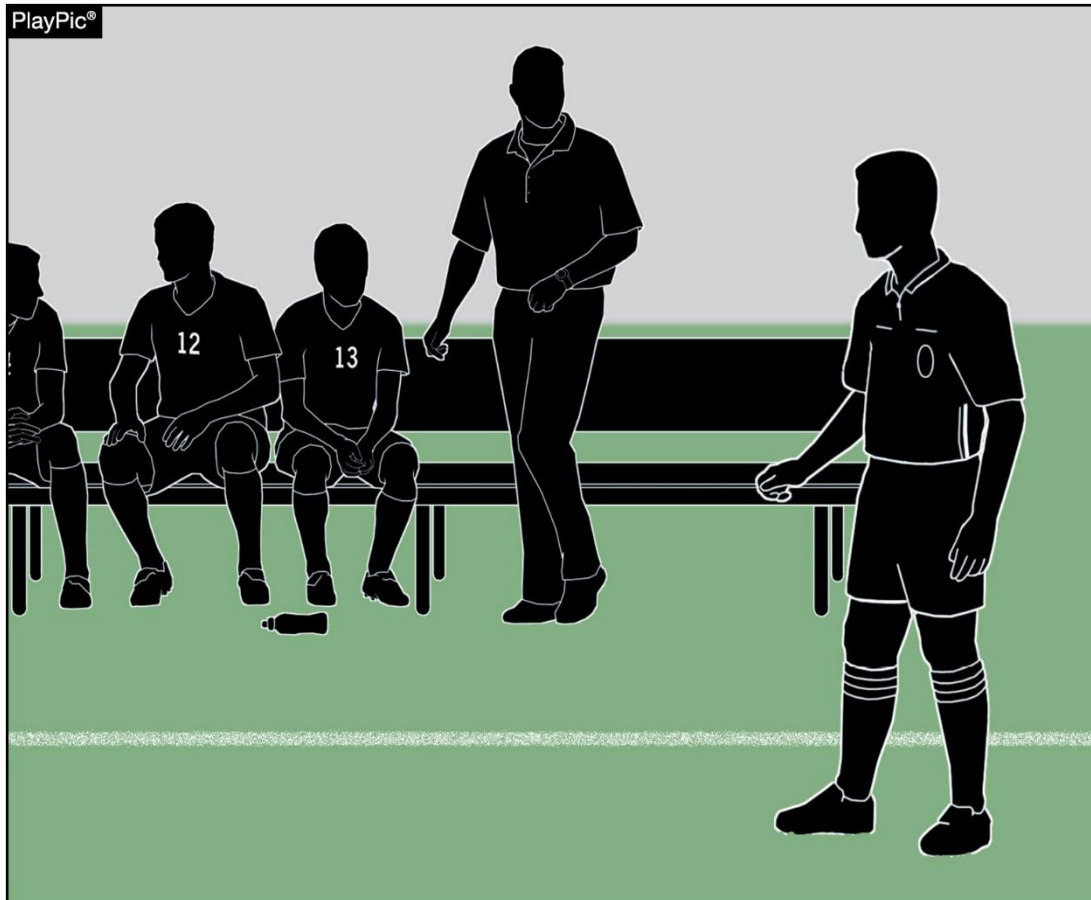
# OFFICIAL'S TOOLBOX FOR GAME MANAGEMENT



These tools include:

- Communication – Using verbal and non-verbal cues to convey decision, instructions, warnings and working with game site administration to facilitate a positive game environment.
- Game control – Using authority to manage the tempo and flow of the game, intervening to calm tensions, prevent conflicts and address unsporting behavior.

# OFFICIAL'S TOOLBOX FOR GAME MANAGEMENT



- Development – With the explanation of misconduct, both coaches and officials should approach interactions with respect and maintain professionalism.
- Adaptability – Referees must adapt to changing circumstances and adjust their officiating style based on the level of play, the behavior of players and unexpected developments during the match.

## STOPPING A PROMISING ATTACK



The strategy of tactically fouling with the aim to interrupt the attacking team's progress without necessarily denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity is a form of misconduct.

Rule 12 highlights the importance of discerning the nature of these types of tactical offenses for consistent and fair officiating.

## STOPPING A PROMISING ATTACK



Fouls that stop a promising attack (SPA)

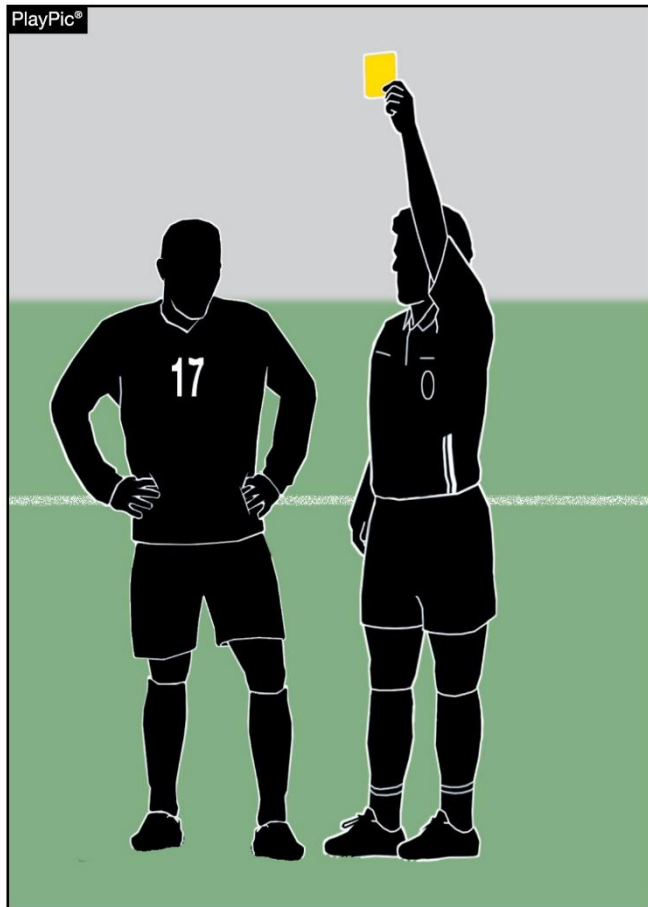
- might not be severe in nature,
- but the offense's impact on the attacking team's potential needs to be recognized and dealt with accordingly.

Officials need to understand

- to understand the nuanced dynamics of play,
- maintain a tactical awareness of the phase of play, and
- recognize SPA incidents.



## STOPPING A PROMISING ATTACK

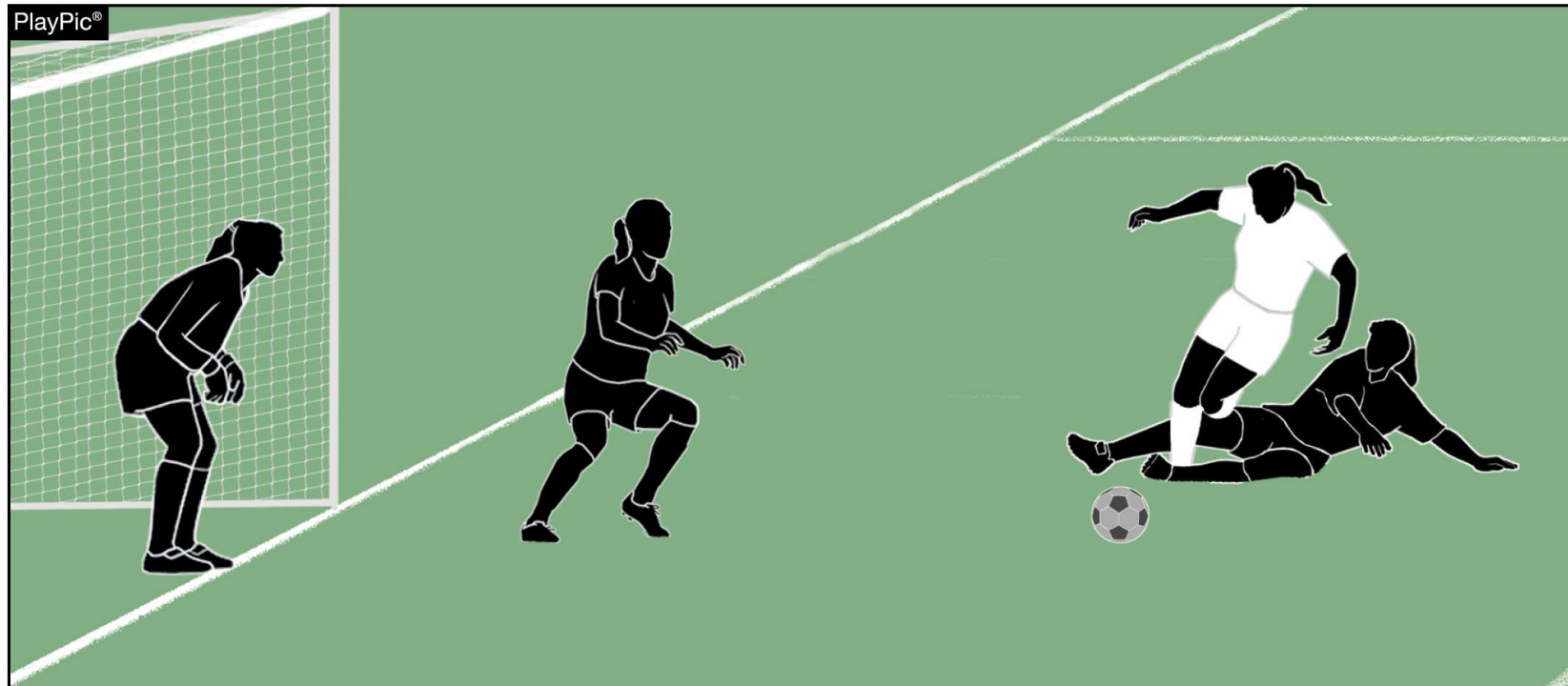


Referees are tasked with evaluating multiple factors to determine the promise of an attack, encompassing elements like:

- Player positioning,
- Ball control,
- Defensive presence,
- Team's pace.

Any foul disrupting a promising attack is considered misconduct, warranting a caution and a yellow card for the offending player.

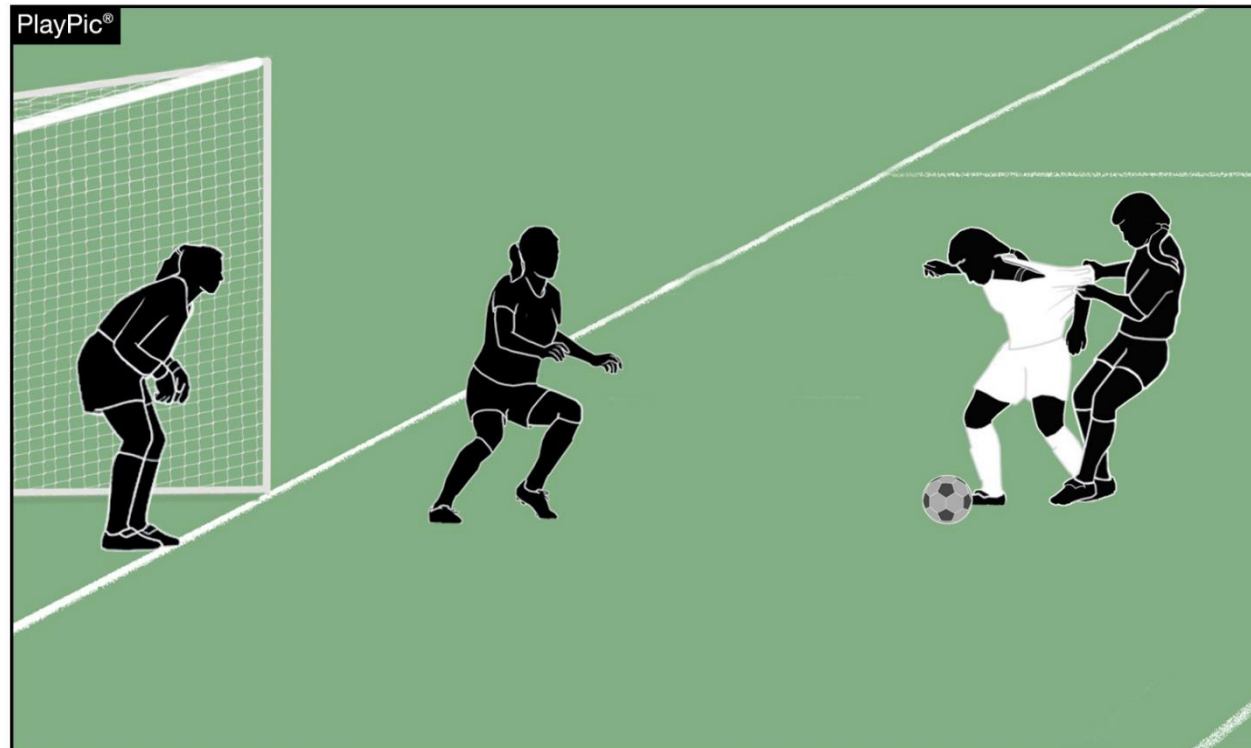
# STOPPING A PROMISING ATTACK



If SPA occurs within the offender's penalty area, and the foul is an attempt to play the ball, the player is not cautioned if the referee awards a penalty kick.



# STOPPING A PROMISING ATTACK



In other SPA circumstances inside the penalty area (e.g., holding, pulling, pushing, no possibility to play the ball, etc.) the offending player must be cautioned.

## AFTER A GOAL



After a goal is scored, officials must stay alert. In addition to administrative tasks, officials must be vigilant for any signs of tension or potential misconduct and address issues promptly to prevent situations from escalating.

Key aspects include:

- Officials need to work as a team to determine if the goal was, in fact, scored properly.
- Identifying and addressing any unsporting actions or misconduct.



## AFTER A GOAL



- The officiating crew must monitor players for excessive or inappropriate behavior, such as taunting, or potential confrontations, dissent or other provocative actions.



## AFTER A GOAL



Officials should focus on the players, recognize situations that could lead to conflicts, be present and proactive in their responses, and deal with misconduct appropriately.



## AFTER A GOAL



The crew should cover record keeping and beckoning in substitutes in their pre-game discussions.



# NFHS AUTHENTICATION MARK UPDATE



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# NFHS AUTHENTICATING MARK UPDATE



Current Logos

New Logo



## Specifications

- Do not use the NFHS Authenticating Mark without prior written approval from the NFHS.
- This mark is for use of licensees only.

## Minimum size

- **Inflatable Balls - 2 ½"** (Basketball, Football, Soccer, Volleyball, and Water Polo)
- **Non-Inflatable Balls - 1 ¼"** (Baseball, Field Hockey, Ice Hockey Puck, Lacrosse, and Softball)
- On a ball or puck, the NFHS logo may be smaller than manufacturer's logo, but should be placed in proximity to the manufacturer's name for easy identification. Allow enough space around the logo so it can be easily recognized as distinct and separate.
- Reproduce the logo only from the vector artwork provided here or on Direct Licensing Hub. Do not copy, scan art electronically or use as a template to redraw the symbol.

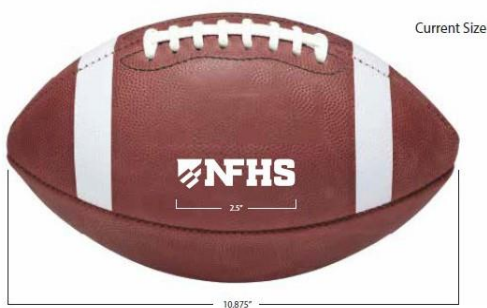
**Note:** If sizing or specifications do not work well in your design situation, contact K12 Licensing.



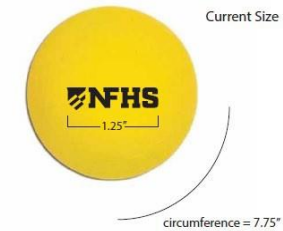
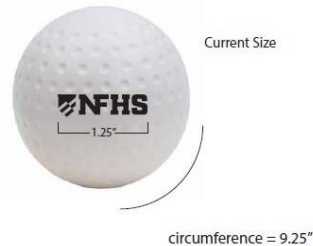
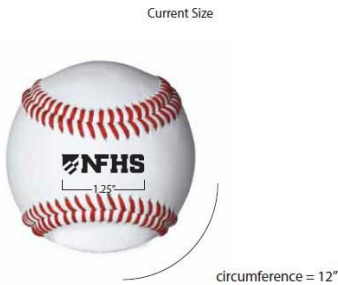
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# NFHS AUTHENTICATING MARK UPDATE



A current list of NFHS authenticated products can be found at [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org), Resources, Authenticating Mark.



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# SOCCER

Old Size



OR

Current Size



circumference = 27.5"

circumference = 27.5"



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# THANK YOU

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