

RULES INTERPRETATION
PERSISTENT INFRINGEMENT

SJSOA Chapter Meeting
14 September 2009

Persistent Infringement

- ❑ Players who repeatedly commit fouls
- ❑ Players who are repeatedly fouled
- ❑ Referees need to maintain an ongoing database of information during each game:
 - Players involved
 - The time
 - Frequency of the fouls

Players who repeatedly commit fouls

- ❑ Why persistently foul opponents?
 - To disrupt play.
 - Lack of skill.
 - Over-aggressiveness.
 - Intimidation.
- ❑ Result - increased frustration levels and the intensity of the match, leading to dissent and retaliation.
- ❑ Recognizing PI is critical to match control.

Players who repeatedly commit fouls

- ❑ Key – picking the appropriate time to caution the culprit for PI.
- ❑ There is no magic number of fouls that define persistence.
- ❑ Consider the severity of fouls, the time between the fouls committed, and the atmosphere of the game.
- ❑ Issue **caution** for “persistently infringing the Rules of the Game” (PI).

Players who are repeatedly fouled

- ❑ Individual player is the target of repeated fouls from multiple players.
- ❑ Multiple players fouling multiple opponents.
- ❑ Typically target the skillful/creative play maker who gets repeated touches on the ball.
- ❑ Evaluate the number and nature of fouls committed against the single opponent as well as the time span of the fouls.
- ❑ Issue **caution** for “unsporting behavior” (USB).

Persistent Infringement

- ❑ Referees should consider the following when evaluating PI:
 - Read the game tactically.
 - Be aware of creative players.
 - Be aware of destructive tactics aimed at destroying the rhythm of the game.
 - Be aware of the time span of the fouls – 3 fouls in 3 minutes vs. 3 fouls in minutes 2, 47, and 78.

Being Assessed / Evaluated

- ☐ "Don't go changin' ... to try and please me"
- ☐ Officiate the game in the same manner as any other game.
- ☐ Evaluators are looking for:
 - Field coverage and signal mechanics
 - Foul recognition
 - Game and player management
- ☐ When getting feedback - never Yeah, but ...

Misconduct Penalties

- ☐ **Yellow card** - player sent off the field and may be substituted.
- ☐ **Red Card** - player disqualified; team may not substitute (plays short); send report to NJSIAA.
- ☐ **Red/Yellow** cards (shown in same hand) - issued for excessive celebration (without warning) and for second caution to the same player; player sent off the field and may be substituted; no report.
- ☐ **Red** and **Yellow** cards (shown in separate hands) - issued for handling to deny goal-scoring opportunity; player sent off the field and may not be substituted; no 2-game suspension; no report.

Don't get wrapped up about Pre-Wrap

- ☐ Rule 4 - Player Equipment - details aspects of legally equipping players.
- ☐ Rule 4.2.2 ... Hair control devices may be worn if made of soft materials and not for adornment.
- ☐ No restrictions on color.

Game Situation 1

- With keeper already in possession of the ball after making a save, attacker A1 gets tripped on purpose by defender B1. The severity of a trip warrants a caution.

What's the restart? Are we awarding a penalty kick here even though the foul had no bearing on the play? Or does the keeper get to play the ball out? Or is there some other procedure?

Game Situation 1

- To have a (penal) foul, the ball must be in-play, the offense must occur on the field, and it must occur between two opponents ... so the example of defender B1 tripping attacker A1 while the ball is in-play would be a foul (vs. misconduct).
- While officials are not tasked with determining player intent, if B1 had time to avoid the trip, or caused the trip in a purposeful manner (in the official's opinion), then the foul must be recognized and called.
- Since tripping is, by definition, a penal foul, the restart would be a direct free kick ... unless the foul is committed by the defender in the penalty area (such as this example), so the restart would be a penalty kick.

Game Situation 1

- Depending on the nature of the offense, the tenor of the match, potential game control issues, etc., certainly a **caution** could be warranted ... if the offense was flagrant in nature, **disqualification** could be warranted.
- From a mechanics point of view, when the offense occurs, you would blow a HARD whistle, coming in and pointing to the penalty spot ... stop the clock ... isolate B1 and issue the **caution** ... have B1 leave the field (and may be replaced) ... then execute the penalty kick restart.

Next SJSOA Chapter Meetings

- ▣ Thursday October 1 - 7 PM at Eastern HS
- ▣ Tuesday, October 20 - 7 PM at Eastern HS - Nomination of Officers for the 2010 season.
- ▣ Monday, November 10 - 6 PM at Gloucester County Vo-Tech - Season-end banquet and election of Officers.
