**2019 NJSIAA Football Replay - Talking Points**

**Why is NJSIAA endorsing replay review?**

The most fundamental underpinnings of interscholastic sports are to promote fair play and sportsmanship. Winning and losing are considered secondary, but we all know that does always hold true. We strive to make sure the game is played fairly and is officiated consistently by neutral arbiters. Occasionally, an officiating judgmental error can determine the final outcome, usually to no one’s satisfaction.

Replay review’s goal is to get the officials calls on the field correct. Officials use various methods and techniques to determine the correct call on each play. Unfortunately, there are times when an officials’ judgment on a particular play comes into question. Replay can assist officials in correcting some of those judgment calls that would otherwise go unchecked. It adds another significant tool to the box for officials and game administrators in striving to reach the goal of the “correct team” getting the benefits of an official’s judgment.

**What is the Philosophy of Replay**?

The instant replay process operates under the fundamental assumption that the ruling on the field is

correct. The replay official may reverse a ruling if, and only if, the video evidence convinces him beyond all doubt that the ruling was incorrect. Without such conclusive video evidence, the replay official must allow the ruling to stand.

**Who is Eligible to Participate in Replay?**

For the 2019 regular season, member schools will be able to participate on a voluntary basis in the year two experiment. The member school must agree to full compliance with the rules and regulations for replay. For a contest to be designated as a replay game, both schools must have the required equipment and agree prior to the contest to participate. The game referee will certify prior to the contest beginning that both head coaches agree to the replay rules and regulations. All decisions of the replay official are final and are not subject to review or appeal. The NJSIAA reserves the right to initiate and implement replay at its discretion for its post season tournament. At this time, NJSIAA anticipates using replay in all rounds of the State Tournament, including the Regional Championships at neutral site venues

For teams adding Sideline in 2019 and also participating in Replay Review, you can ask Hudl to provide a free IPad to your school

**What plays are Reviewable?**

For the 2019 season, reviewable plays include:

a. A potential touchdown, safety, or try for point (2 pts)

b. Field goals and try for point attempts if and only if the ball is ruled below or above the crossbar, or, inside or outside of the uprights when it is lower that the top of the upright

c. A turnover or potential turnover

**What Personnel are needed for replay?**

Instant replay personnel shall consist of the number of persons needed to operate the replay equipment within the necessary time constraints. Typically in a high school contest, this would include personnel to operate the cameras and the video equipment. The Replay Official will be defined as the assigned game Referee. He will be solely responsible for review and adjudication of a reviewable play. He will be assisted by an official of his choosing (defined as the Replay Assistant) with preference given to the official who was directly involved in the reviewable play. The Referee’s decision on any review will be final. Additional personnel can be utilized as needed i.e. cameras, stats, technicians, etc. The home school should have available a video technician to assist the referee when he is reviewing the play.

The officiating crew must consist of a minimum of six officials.

**What equipment is necessary?**

The type of equipment used to carry out necessary instant replay duties shall be Hudl Sideline or similar video technology (**Edge or Insight replay systems**) that provides replay during the contest, or NJSIAA sanctioned television/video broadcasts**. A minimum of three cameras are required. At least one contestant must have a two angle supported system**. More cameras can be used if available. At least two replay IPads (one for each team) must be made available to the replay official for review. If replay equipment other than Hudl Sideline or similar technology is used, a replay monitor must be made available for official’s review. Each IPad should display two camera angles if supported – preferably a sideline and end zone. If more cameras are available, goal line angles would be used.

A communication device shall be made available to the replay official (preferably a wireless microphone operated by the referee) so that he can convey information to the press box and relay pertinent information for a public address announcement

**How is replay initiated?**

During the contest each team will be granted one challenge per half. If a challenge is successful the team will be allowed one more challenge in that half. Unused challenges in the first half do not carry over to second half and second half challenges do not carry over to an overtime period.

In each overtime, teams will be granted one challenge. If successful, no additional challenges will be

granted in that overtime. Unused challenges do not carry over to subsequent overtimes

**Special Provisions**—in the last three minutes of the contest, each team will be granted one additional challenge, if they have already used their second half challenge(s). If they have a challenge left, they do not get an additional one.

There will be no challenges granted in the last two minutes of a contest if Team A is leading by 17 or more points or if the running clock (35 point second half differential) is in effect.

**What is the process?**

The head coach of either team may request that the game be stopped and a play be reviewed by

challenging the on-field ruling.

1. A head coach initiates this challenge by taking a team timeout before the ball is next legally put in play. And then informs the referee that he is challenging the ruling of the previous play. If a head coach’s challenge is successful, he retains the challenge, which he may use only once more during the half.

2. After a review has been completed, if the on-field ruling is reversed, that team’s timeout will not be

charged.

3. After a review has been completed, and the on-field ruling is not reversed, the charged team timeout counts as one of the three permitted that team for that half or the one permitted in that extra period.

4. If a head coach requests a team timeout to challenge an on-field ruling and the play being challenged is not reviewable, the timeout shall count as one of the three permitted his team during that half of the game or the one permitted in that extra period.

5. A head coach may not challenge an on-field ruling if all the team’s timeouts have been used for that half or in that overtime period. **Exception: In the last three minutes of the game, a challenge will be granted if all three timeouts have been used, though the team will be assessed a 5 yd. penalty administered at the succeeding spot, if the challenge was unsuccessful**.

**What are the procedures for administering the replay review?**

a. When a game is to be stopped by a head coach’s challenge, the officials on the field will be notified by the head coach.

b. When the game has been stopped due to a head coach’s challenge, the referee shall announce: “The (name of institution) head coach has challenged the ruling of (state the ruling). The play is under further review.”

c. All reviews shall be based upon video evidence provided by and coming directly from the televised

production (if used) of the game or from other video means available (Hudl Sideline) to the replay official.

d. After the referee has conferred with the calling official and the review process has been completed, he shall make one of the following announcements:

1. If the video evidence confirms the on-field RULING: “After further review, the ruling on the field is

confirmed.”

2. If there is no indisputable (conclusive) evidence to reverse the on-field RULING: “After further review, the ruling on the field stands.”

3. If the on-field ruling is reversed) “After further review, the ruling is [followed by a brief description of the video evidence] is reversed. Therefore, [followed by a brief description of the impact of the ruling].”

e.. If a ruling is reversed, the referee or his assistant shall record all pertinent data as needed (next down, distance, yard line, position of the ball, clock status/adjustment) in order to resume play under the correct game conditions.

**What are the criteria for a reversal?**

To reverse an on-field ruling, the replay official must be convinced beyond all doubt by indisputable video evidence through one or more video replays provided to the video replay monitor /device

**For more information and to access the 2019 NJSIAA replay Review Rules and Regulations, go to the NJSIAA website**

[**www.njsiaa.org**](http://www.njsiaa.org)

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