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September 22, 2011

TO: ALL CCS MEMBER SCHOOLS WITH FOOTBALL TEAMS
FROM: NANCY LAZENBY BLASER, CCS COMMISSIONER
SUBJECT: GAME ENDING PROCEDURES FOR FOOTBALL

Well we are off to a rousing start for the 2011 football season. This is my second, interpretation, policy rule establishment for football in the last three weeks!

For the remainder of the 2011 Football Season in the CCS the following Game-ending procedures will be in effect. This will be in place for Varsity and JV contests unless the league has other regulations for JV games that occur during the league season.

CIF 1905

1905. NUMBER OF GAMES LIMITATION

A high school football team of any classification or name shall not play more than two games in any eight-day period. A continued game under National Federation football rules shall not be considered in this limitation.

RELEVANT NFHS FOOTBALL RULES

Rule 3.

Art. 2 By state association adoption, a point differential may be established whereby if one team has gained the established point differential, the game shall be terminated. **CCS NOTE: NO SUCH POINT DIFFERENTIAL IS ESTABLISHED BY THE CCS OR THE CIF.**

A state association may also establish guidelines to use a running clock when the point differential is reached. **CCS NOTE: CIF HAS IMPLEMENTED THE MERCY RULE**

Art.3. A period or periods may be shortened in any emergency by agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee. By mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the referee, any remaining period may be shortened at any time or the game terminated. **CCS NOTE-CCS GAME ENDING PROCEDURES AS FOLLOWS IN THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE USED TO ADJUDICATE THE OUTCOME OF ANY SUCH TERMINATED GAME.**

Art.4 Games interrupted because of events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be continued from the point of interruption, unless the teams agree to terminate the game with the existing score, or as otherwise provided by state association adoption. **CCS NOTE: THE COACH WHOSE TEAM IS LOSING AT THE TIME THE GAME IS INTERRUPTED, MAY AGREE TO TERMINATE THE GAME WITH THE EXISTING SCORE. IF THE SCORE IS TIED, BOTH COACHES MAY AGREE TO TERMINATE THE GAME AND COUNT IT AS A TIE. IF THE COACHES CANNOT AGREE, THE ADJUDICATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE GAME WOULD BE DETERMINED IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ATTACHED CCS POLICY.**

THE ATTACHED POLICY IS THE CURRENT "STATE ASSOCIATION ADOPTION" POLICY THAT WILL BE FOLLOWED FOR THE 2011 SEASON

Art. 5 When weather conditions are construed to be hazardous to life or limb of the participants, the crew of game officials is authorized to delay or suspend the game.

CCS GAME ENDING-DELAY-SUSPENSION PROCEDURES EFFECTIVE FOR THE FALL 2011 FOOTBALL SEASON

- 1 **Any REGULAR SEASON** contest which is ended because of weather, darkness, site curfews or other unanticipated emergency circumstances will be addressed under the following conditions:
 - A. Any game which is called due to circumstances as outlined in #1 above and in which the play at the time the game is called has not extended beyond the first quarter, will be administered in the following manner:
 - (1) If the coach whose team is behind in the score at the time the game is suspended agrees to terminate the game with the final outcome of the game recorded as it stands at the time of the suspension, the game will not be continued, or rescheduled and all aspects of the outcome will be recorded as a win or a loss for the respective teams. (See NFHS Rule 3, Article 3)
 - (2) If the coaches do not agree to terminate the game, such a game will be started over with all scores, etc. vacated. Such a re-scheduled game will be played as a full-regulation time contest in accordance with NFHS Rules.
 - a. Every effort must be made to reschedule the game for the next day unless it proves absolutely impossible to do so for logistical, site or official's reasons or if the next day is Sunday on which play is prohibited per CIF Bylaws,. If impossible, then every effort should be made to reschedule the contest as soon after the original contest as possible while meeting the requirements of CIF Bylaw 1905. (this is not a continued game, so it must not cause either team to exceed the limitation of 2 football games in 8 days)
 - b. If the CCS Commissioner, in consultation with the League Commissioners and both schools involved, determines that every effort has been made by those schools to reschedule the game and it is an impossibility to do so, due to the remaining schedule of one or both teams, the League Commissioner (for all league contests) and the CCS Commissioner after consulting with the League Commissioners (for all non-league contests) shall determine that the game will be vacated with no winner and/or no loser recorded. This game will be considered "no contest" and will not count towards the maximum contests for either team and will not be recorded on either game schedule or results.
 - c. After the determination of the League Commissioner and/or the CCS Commissioner that the game shall be vacated as outlined in A.2.b. above, one or both schools will be free to schedule another team during their bye week if they wish to do so or end the season without this game counting in any way as a contest (i.e. no CCS Playoff points, no wins or losses, etc.)
 - B. Any game which is called due to circumstances as outlined in #1 above and in which the play, at the time the game is called has extended beyond the first quarter but prior to the beginning of the fourth quarter shall be administered in the following manner.
 - (1) If the coach whose team is behind in the score at the time the game is suspended agrees to terminate the game with the final outcome of the game recorded as it stands at the time of the suspension, the game will not be continued, or rescheduled and all aspects of the outcome will be recorded as a win or a loss for the respective teams. (See NFHS Rule 3, Article 3)
 - (2) If the coaches do not agree to terminate the game,, the following will apply.
 - a. Every effort must be made to reschedule the game for the next day unless it proves absolutely impossible to do so for logistical, site or official's reasons or if the next day is Sunday on which play is prohibited per CIF Bylaws,. If impossible, then every effort should be made to reschedule the contest as soon after the original contest as possible. Since this is a continued game, per CIF Bylaw 1905 it does not count against the limitation of the number of contests allowed in an 8-day period.
 - b. Such a game, when rescheduled, will be resumed from the point it was called.

- c. If the CCS Commissioner, in consultation with the League Commissioners and both schools involved, determines that every effort has been made by those schools to reschedule the game and it is an impossibility to do so, due to the remaining schedule of one or both teams, the League Commissioner (for all league contests) and the CCS Commissioner after consulting with the League Commissioners (for all non-league contests) shall determine that the game will be vacated with no winner and/or no loser recorded. This game will be considered “no contest” and will not count towards the maximum contests for either team and will not be recorded on either game schedule or results.
 - d. After the determination of the League Commissioner and/or the CCS Commissioner that the game shall be vacated as outlined in B.2.c above, one or both schools will be free to schedule another team during their bye week if they wish to do so or end the season without this game counting in any way as a contest (i.e. no CCS Playoff points, no wins or losses, etc.)
 - C. Any game which is called due to circumstances as outlined in #1 above and in which the play at the time the game is called has extended past the first play of the 4th quarter, but prior to the conclusion of regulation time shall be administered in the following manner.
 - (1) The outcome of the game as reflected in the score at the time the game is called shall stand as the final outcome of the game.
 - (2) This game shall not be rescheduled
 - (3) This game shall count and be recorded in all ways as a full-regulation game.
- 2. **Any POST-SEASON, CCS PLAYOFF contest** which is ended because of weather, darkness, site curfews or other unanticipated emergency circumstances will be addressed under the following conditions:
 - A. Any game which is called due to circumstances as outlined in #1 above and in which the play at the time the game is called has not extended beyond the first quarter, will be administered in the following manner:
 - (1) If the coach whose team is behind in the score at the time the game is suspended agrees to terminate the game with the final outcome of the game recorded as it stands at the time of the suspension, the game will not be continued, or rescheduled and all aspects of the outcome will be recorded as a win or a loss for the respective teams and the victorious team will advance in the CCS playoffs. (See NFHS Rule 3, Article 3)
 - (2) If the circumstances in #1 above are not met, such a game will be started over with all scores, etc. vacated. Such a re-scheduled game will be played as a full-regulation time contest in accordance with NFHS Rules and in compliance with the CCS Playoff Policy and at the discretion of CCS Playoff Management.
 - a. Every effort must be made to reschedule the game for the next day unless it proves absolutely impossible to do so for logistical, site, playoff schedule or official's reasons in compliance with CCS playoff Policy and the determination of CCS Playoff Management
 - B. Any game which is called due to circumstances as outlined in #1 above and in which the play at the time the game is called has extended past the first quarter but prior to the beginning of the fourth quarter shall be administered in the following manner.
 - (1) Such a game, when rescheduled, will be resumed from the point it was called unless one of the teams wishes to forfeit the contest. If that occurs, the teams involved will take a W or L respectively and the Winner will progress in the CCS Playoff tournament.
 - (2) Every effort must be made to reschedule the game for the next day unless it proves absolutely impossible to do so for logistical, site or official's reasons. If impossible, then every effort shall be made to reschedule the contest as soon after the original contest as possible. Since this is a continued game, per CIF Bylaw 1905 it does not count against the limitation of the number of contests allowed in an 8-day period.

- C. Any game which is called due to circumstances as outlined in #1 above and in which the play at the time the game is called has extended past the first play of the 4th quarter, but prior to the conclusion of regulation time shall be administered in the following manner.
- (1) The outcome of the game as reflected in the score at the time the game is called shall stand as the final outcome of the game.
 - (2) This game shall not be rescheduled
 - (3) This game shall count and be recorded in all ways as a full-regulation game and the winner will progress in the CCS Playoff tournament..

The CCS football Committee shall be addressing this and recommending a long-term policy for such circumstances. Such a proposal for a permanent policy will proceed through the regular governance structure of CCS required to approve such a policy and it is anticipated would become effective for the 2012-2013 school year. The policy included herein will be in effect for the remainder of the 2011 Football season.

NFHS Lightning Guidelines can be found in the appendix of the NFHS Football Rule Book.



Guidelines on Handling Contests During Lightning Disturbances

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a default policy to those responsible for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of contests based on the presence of lightning. The preferred sources from which to request such a policy for your facility would include your state high school association and the nearest office of the National Weather Service.

Proactive Planning

1. Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during events.
2. Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby shelters.
3. Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of play:
 - a. When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play and take shelter immediately.
 - b. Thirty-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
 - c. Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30-minute count, reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.
4. Hold periodic reviews for appropriate personnel.

For more detailed information, refer to the "Guidelines for Lightning Safety" contained in the NFHS Sports Medicine Handbook.

Reviewed and Approved in 2010