

# **CWOA**

# **2020 Football Meeting #1**

**Joel Schult**

**September 9, 2020**



# Meeting Agenda

- Administrative items
- Fall 2020 football season notes
- Spring 2021 football season notes
- 2020 rules changes
- Additional 2020 COVID rules changes
- 2020 mechanics changes
- COVID protocols for officials





# Administrative Items

- If 2020 fall football is cancelled any CWOA dues already paid will rollover to the 2021-2022 year
- Licensed officials will not drop in WIAA classification in 2021-22 if they choose not to renew licensure or are unable to fill a varsity schedule in 2020-21
- Exam 1 is due on 9/30/2020
- Football video is due on 9/30/2020
- Exam 2 (L5 & Masters only) is due on 9/30/2020
- 3rd-8th grade flag football on Saturdays 9/12-10/10 8:30AM to 11:40AM at Wausau East & Wausau West, 45 min games (need 9 guys)
  - [ckrenzelmann@msn.com](mailto:ckrenzelmann@msn.com)



# Fall 2020 Football Season Notes

- 9/1 - Schools were required to initially declare plans to participate in the fall season or spring season.
  - 11-Player Football – 68% (256 Fall), 32% (121 Alternate Fall)
  - 8-Player Football – 81% (38 Fall), 19% (9 Alternate Fall)
- Out this fall:
  - Local - SPASH, Menominee Indian, Chequamegon
  - Statewide - La Crosse, Eau Claire schools, Superior, Kimberly, Pulaski, Bay Port, Green Bay schools, Notre Dame, De Pere, West De Pere, Appleton schools, Menasha, Neenah, Oshkosh schools, FDL, Madison, Milwaukee
  - Complete listing at [https://www.wissports.net/news\\_article/show/1118359](https://www.wissports.net/news_article/show/1118359)
- Anticipate scheduling changes based on schools' declarations
- 9/17 & 9/18 - Scrimmages
- 9/23 – New “week 1”
- 7-week season
- A "5th quarter" will be allowed to give reserves playing time (JV impact)
- Football programs unable to start or complete 50 percent of the fall season, including games and practices, are eligible for a prorated spring season. Fall sports programs exceeding 50 percent of their seasons will be considered a completed season.
- 2 rounds of playoffs (regionals only) – 9/2 press release: “The Executive Staff is utilizing the data to create innovated post-season opportunities for a tournament format or a culminating event.”





# Spring 2021 Football Season Notes

- 11-Player Football – 121 teams
- 8-Player Football – 9 teams
- 3/24 - Week 1 starts
- 7 week season
- No playoffs



# 2020 Rules Changes

- **Defining Team Designated Representative for Penalty Decisions [1-4-1, 1-4-4 (NEW), 2-32-5, 3-5-2, 10-1-1, 10-1-2, 10-2-4]** – Prior to the game, the head coach will notify the referee of the designated representative (coach or player) who will make decisions regarding penalty acceptance or declination.
- **Halftime Intermission Option Following Weather Delay [Table 3-1 NOTES 2 (NEW)]** – The halftime intermission may be shortened by mutual agreement of opposing coaches if a weather delay occurs during the last three minutes of the second period.
- **40-Second Play Clock Clarification [3-6-1a(1)e EXCEPTIONS 2 and 3 (NEW)]** – To eliminate a potential timing advantage gained by the defensive team, the rules committee approved the play clock being set to 40 seconds when an officials' time-out is taken for an injury to a defensive player or a defensive player has an equipment issue.
- **25-Second Play Clock Clarification [3-6-1a(1)f (NEW)]** – Following a legal kick when either team is awarded a new series, the play clock will be set to 25 seconds.
- **Disconcerting Act Penalty Reclassified [7-1-9 (NEW), 7-1-9 PENALTY (NEW), 9-5-1d]** – Disconcerting acts or words by the defense has been reclassified from a 15-yard unsportsmanlike foul to a 5-yard foul.
- **Spiking the Ball to Conserve Time (7-5-2 EXCEPTION)** – The exception to allow a player to conserve time by intentionally throwing the ball forward to the ground immediately after receiving the snap, has been expanded to include any player positioned directly behind the center. This exception now includes snaps that are not hand-to-hand.





# Additional 2020 COVID Rules Changes

- **Team Box (Rule 1-2-3g)**
  - The team box may be extended up to the 10-yard line for players only.
  - Maintain social distancing of six feet.
  - Cloth face coverings are permissible for coaches, nonplayers, and substitutes.
- **Charged Time-outs and Authorized Conferences (Rules 2-6-2, 3-5-3, 3-5-8)**
  - A single charged time-out may be extended to a maximum of two minutes.
  - The authorized conference for a charged time-out should take place between the 9-yard marks and not at the sideline for social distancing purposes. It would be permissible for more than one coach to be involved in the conference and for technology to be used.
  - Each game official and player should have their own beverage container brought out to them on the field.
- **Intermission Between Periods and After Scoring (Rule 3-5-7I)**
  - The intermission may be extended to a maximum of two minutes between the first and second and the third and fourth periods and following a try, successful field goal or safety, and prior to the succeeding free kick.



# Add'l 2020 COVID Rules Changes (Cont'd)

- **Ball (Rule 1-3-2)**
  - The ball should be cleaned and disinfected throughout the contest.
  - Ball holders should maintain social distancing at all times.
- **Gloves (Rule 1-5-2b)**
  - Gloves are permissible but must still meet either the NOCSAE standard or SFIA specification.
- **Face Masks [Rules 1-5-1a, 1-5-3c(4)]**
  - Cloth face coverings that tie to the head or loop around the ears under the helmet are permissible to be worn under the faceguard. Athletes may **NOT** use a “buff” or neck gaiter as it could result in a neck/tracheal/laryngeal injury if grabbed from behind and used to drag a ball carrier down.
  - No facial covering or shield on the outside of any faceguard. It should be on the inside of the faceguard for risk minimization issues.
  - Plastic shields covering the entire face (unless integrated into the face mask and attached to the helmet and clear without presence of any tint) shall not be allowed during the contest.
- **Tooth and Mouth Protectors [Rule 1-5-1d (5)]**
  - Athletes should refrain from the removal of mouthguards while on the playing field. If mouthguards are removed on the sidelines or bench area, the athlete should use hand sanitizer each time after touching the mouthguard.





# 2020 mechanics changes

- **Clock operators should report to officials 30 minutes prior to kickoff (see page 22)**
- **The Referee, and Coach should discuss if their team is allowed to have players extend to the 10 yd line or not**
- **Pre-Game Conference, Coin Toss and Overtime:**
  - For the coin toss, limit attendees to the referee, umpire and one designated representative from each team.
  - Coin toss should take place in the center of the field with individuals maintaining social distancing and wearing masks.
  - No handshakes prior to and following the coin toss.
  - Maintain social distancing while performing all pregame responsibilities with all officiating crew members, game administration staff, line-to-gain crew, clock operators, individuals handling the balls during the game and team personnel.
  - For the overtime procedure, please use the same procedure as used at the start of the contest for the coin toss.
- **Wing gets second-half choice at conclusion of second period**
- **Umpire is responsible for play clock on 4-man crew**



# COVID Protocols for Officials

- Officials are not responsible for monitoring activities on the sidelines, such as social distancing, hand washing, symptoms of illnesses and other such issues. This monitoring remains with the coaching staff and school personnel.
- Electronic whistles are **permissible** – choose a whistle that will carry outside. Bring an extra battery.
- Cloth face coverings are **strongly encouraged**. If worn, the crew should match.
- Bring personal hand sanitizer and/or wash hands frequently. Gloves are **permissible**.
- Do not share uniforms, towels, and other apparel/equipment.
- Officials should **use their own water bottles**.
- If possible, dressing facilities for game officials and teams should be large enough for them to use social distancing protocols and should be properly cleaned and disinfected prior to their arrival.
- WVC - masks are **required**, electronic whistles recommended
- Cloverbelt, Big Rivers, Lumberjack – masks are **required** during play or when near other people, traditional whistles should be blown under mask, electronic whistles **recommended**. Arrive dressed if possible.





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