

2017 Soccer Bulletin I

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Rules, Revisions, and Interpretations

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2017-18 SOCCER UPDATES

- ♦ The Implementation of the Mercy Rule—PIAA has adopted a running clock after a team has established a 7-goal differential. Upon scoring the 7th goal the officials should stop the clock to allow for any substitutions before taking the Kick Off. When the clock starts for the Kick Off **AFTER** the 7th goal has been scored it will be a running clock. It is not a running clock when the 7th goal is scored but after the ensuing Kick Off. The officials will stop the clock for injuries, cautions, or any other time the officials deem appropriate.
- ♦ Positioning of the Lead Official on a Corner—The lead official should be behind the flag on a corner taken from their side and on corners taken from the far side the official should pinch in along the goal line in order to establish a good position to watch for any interference with the goal keeper.
- ♦ Undergarments—If a player enters the field properly equipped with regard to the new rule regarding undergarments but during the run of play an undergarment becomes visible under the jersey and/or shorts and does not match the color of the jersey and/or shorts, the official should **verbally** remind the player and the player's coach to address the issue so the undergarment does not show. If the issue continues to be a problem with the same player a caution should be issued to the coach and then the player(s) after their first verbal warning.

2017-18 SOCCER UPDATES Cont'd

- ♦ 5 Minute Sit Out—A question came up regarding the 5 minute mandatory sit out when a player receives a caution. For non-PIAA affiliated schools they may elect to NOT enforce the 5-minute sit out. However, if a non-PIAA affiliated school is playing a PIAA affiliated school the 5 minute sit out rule is to be enforced for both teams.
- ♦ Knee Brace and Shin Pads—There was a question regarding the wearing of a shin pad when a player is also wearing a knee brace. Players MUST wear an age and size appropriate shin pad when wearing a knee brace. The shin pad should be worn either under or on top of the knee brace. The brace itself cannot be a substitute for the wearing of an age and size appropriate shin pad.

Notes