



"Be The Referee" is a series of one-minute messages designed to help educate people on the rules of different sports, to help them better understand the art of officiating, and to recruit officials. "Be The Referee" features MHSAA Assistant Director Mark Uyl's insights on officiating.

Kick Returns

One of the biggest differences in high school football rules and those in college and pro deal with kick returns.

In the high school game, once a kick (a punt or kickoff) breaks the plane of the goal line, the ball is dead and a touchback is awarded.

The key is the position of the ball...if it breaks the plane of the goal line, it is a touchback. It does not matter where the feet of the returner are located. That is why the longest kick return possible under high school rules is 99 yards.

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