

2026-27 Soccer Officials Exam for Postseason Tournament Consideration

1. During the regular season, a thunderstorm rolls into the area and causes a 90-minute delay in the match. The score is 2-1 with 30 minutes to go in the game. It was 0-0 at halftime. What is the correct result?
 - A. Since there was a one goal differential, the game can be resumed from the point of suspension at a later date.
 - B. Since at least one half has been completed, the match is over. The final score is 2-1.
 - C. Since at least one half has been completed, the match is over. The final score is 0-0.
2. On a warm fall night, the night sky shows lightning in the distance. The game, which is in the second half, is stopped. When can you resume the game?
 - A. Since the game started 90 minutes ago, there can be no weather delays. The game is over.
 - B. Teams should go to their locker rooms and wait for 30 minutes after the most recent lightning in the sky. The center official is the only person who can restart the game.
 - C. The school administrator meets with the officiating crew, and shows them their school-approved lightning detection app. Even though lightning can be seen in the distance, the app shows the lightning is more than 10 miles away and moving away from the area. Together, the school administrator and officiating crew decide to restart the game, even though the 30 minutes are not expired.
3. After the game, a coach or player uses abusive language toward the officials while the officials are in the parking lot of the school.
 - A. The official has no jurisdiction in the parking lot of the school.
 - B. The officials display a red card to the coach or player. If it is a dangerous situation, do not show a card. Instead, safely leave the parking lot and contact the school athletic director to inform them of a parking lot disqualification. The coach or player is now ineligible to participate in the next day of competition.
 - C. The officials display a red card to the coach or player. The coach or player may still participate in the next game.
4. Team A is in the lead during the last five minutes of the game. Team B has a player who has reported to the official area and is ready to substitute. Team A then sends a player to report to the official area and is ready to substitute. The ball goes out of play and Team B is awarded a throw in.
 - A. Allow both subs, and do not stop the clock.
 - B. Allow both subs, but stop the clock.
 - C. Caution the Team A coach for unsporting behavior.
5. When play is stopped because of an apparent injury, at what point is the player required to be removed from the game?
 - A. When the clock is stopped.
 - B. When the coach/trainer is beckoned onto the field.
6. A1 and B1 collide at midfield and fall to the ground. B1 immediately jumps up and runs away, but A1 remains on the ground. The center referee stops the clock to check on the injured player. Team A's trainer runs onto the field to check on A1 before being beckoned.
 - A. The clock was stopped, so A1 must come out of the game.
 - B. The clock was stopped, but the coach/trainer was not beckoned. A1 may stay on the field.
 - C. The clock was stopped, but the trainer ran onto the field. A1 must come out of the game.

7. An assistant coach has been warned about dissent but continues to loudly question the referee. Who can be cautioned in this scenario?
 - A. The assistant coach.
 - B. The head coach.
 - C. BOTH the assistant coach AND the head coach.
8. At halftime, the coach advises the referee that one of their players arrived late and was not on the roster. The coach wants to have this player participate in the second half.
 - A. The player is allowed to be added to the roster and play.
 - B. Since the player was not on the roster, it is not permitted.
 - C. None of the answers is correct.
9. A1 is beckoned to enter the field of play as a substitute for A2. While A2 is still on the field, A2 strikes an opponent. The correct decision is:
 - A. Disallow the substitution.
 - B. Show the red card to A2 and team A plays short.
 - C. Show the yellow card to A2 and team A plays short.
 - D. Eject A2 but the team does not play short.
10. At kickoff, A1, who is going to take the kick, is standing in the opponent's half of the field. After the whistle is sounded, A1 plays the ball to A2, who was also in the opponent's half of the field.
 - A. None of the answers are correct.
 - B. Award an indirect free kick for team B.
 - C. Retake the kick since A2 was not in a legal position.
11. B1 receives the ball just past the halfway line. As the play unfolds, B1 has an obvious goal-scoring opportunity. A2, the only defender between B1 and the goalkeeper, attempts to play the ball but fouls B1 just outside the penalty area. B1 does not take a shot. The correct restart is:
 - A. Award a penalty kick to team B and disqualify A2 for denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.
 - B. Award a direct free kick to team B.
 - C. Award a direct free kick to team B and disqualify A2 for denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.
 - D. Award a penalty kick to team B and caution A2.
12. The referee correctly awards an indirect free kick for impeding, but does not raise the arm to indicate the correct restart. A1 kicks the ball directly into the opponent's goal. The correct restart is:
 - A. A corner kick for team A.
 - B. A kickoff.
 - C. Rekick since the Referee did not properly signal.
 - D. An indirect free kick for team B.
13. After a scramble in front of the net, B5 attempts to clear the ball but it is stopped by A6. A6 takes a shot and it strikes the referee who is standing in the penalty area. The ball goes into the goal. What is the appropriate restart?
 - A. There is no restart, play on.
 - B. Indirect free kick for Team A.
 - C. Indirect free kick for Team B.
 - D. Drop ball to the team that last touched the ball prior to hitting the referee (Team A).
 - E. Drop ball to the defending goalkeeper (Team B).

14. B2 approaches A3 to block their shot on goal. While attempting to do so, B2 moves their left hand/arm, toward their body to avoid handling the ball. Despite this, the ball touches the hand/arm, which is placed on B2's chest, and then goes out over the goal line without touching any other player (no goal is scored).
- A. Handball and penalty kick.
 - B. Handball, send off B2 for DOGSO and penalty kick.
 - C. Corner kick.
15. A1 shoots on goal and the goalkeeper dives and deflects the ball with the hands. The goalkeeper quickly gets up, dribbles the ball with the feet and then picks it up with the hands when being challenged by A1.
- A. Illegal second touch with the hands and indirect free kick to opponents.
 - B. Legal since the ball was only deflected and there was no possession.
 - C. Illegal and caution goalkeeper for SPA.
16. The goalkeeper makes a save.
- A. She has 6 seconds to release the ball after gaining possession. The penalty for not doing so is an indirect free kick.
 - B. She has 6 seconds to release the ball after gaining possession. The penalty for not doing so is a corner kick.
 - C. She has 8 seconds to release the ball after gaining possession. The penalty for not doing so is an indirect free kick.
 - D. She has 8 seconds to release the ball after gaining possession. The penalty for not doing so is a corner kick.
17. A1 is in an offside position at the moment A2 takes a direct free kick. While the ball is in the air, A1 jumps to head it but does not touch ball. The attacker's movement confuses the goalkeeper, who fails to make a save, and the ball ends the goal.
- A. Goal.
 - B. Stop play prior to the kick and move A2 back.
 - C. No goal; offside since A2 interfered with the goalkeeper.
18. What is the penalty for Stopping a Promising Attack (SPA) inside the penalty area when the defender attempts to play the ball?
- A. Penalty kick and red card
 - B. Penalty kick and yellow card
 - C. Penalty kick and no card
19. The ball goes out of play while two players are challenging for it near the touchline. The assistant referee indicates that the throw-in is awarded to team A, but B1 quickly picks up the ball and throws it onto the field before the referee intervenes.
- A. Stop play and caution B1.
 - B. Allow play to continue since the game has restarted.
 - C. Stop play and have team A take the throw-in.
20. A1 is carelessly tackled by B2 in the middle of the field. The referee applies advantage because the fouled player quickly gets up and regains possession of the ball; however, B3 intercepts the ball and immediately kicks it out of play.
- A. Throw-in for team A.
 - B. Free kick for team A at the point of the foul since the advantage did not materialize.
 - C. Free kick for team A and caution B3 for kicking the ball away.

21. A2 is on the attack approximately 25 yards from the goal. B3 commits a careless tackle on A2. A2 quickly gets up, spots the ball and takes a quick kick and passes the ball to A4 who now has a goal-scoring opportunity.
- Stop play and caution B3 for the tackle and restart with a direct free kick.
 - Stop play and eject B3 for the careless tackle.
 - All play to continue.
22. A3 shoots the ball from within the penalty area and it goes wide for a goal kick. Just after the ball crosses the goal line B2 tackles A3 with excessive force.
- Goal kick and red card, ejection, B2.
 - Penalty kick and red card, ejection, B2.
 - Goal kick and no ejection since the ball was out of play.
23. A2 takes a penalty kick. Before the ball is kicked, defender B7 enters the penalty area early, A2 is distracted by B7 and kicks the ball into the goal.
- This is a goal. The encroachment is not penalized because there was no impact. Play is restarted with a kickoff.
 - There is encroachment by Team B before the kick, so there must be a retake of the penalty kick.
24. A2 takes a penalty kick. Before the ball is kicked, defender B7 enters the penalty area early, A2 is unaware of B7's encroachment, and kicks the ball over the goal.
- B7 encroached, so there must be a retake of the penalty kick.
 - B7 encroached, and since the ball went over the goal, the restart is a corner kick.
 - A2 was unaware of the encroachment, thus there was no impact. There is no goal, and the restart is a goal kick.
25. A2 takes a penalty kick. Before the ball is kicked, attacker A6 enters the penalty area early. A2 takes the kick, which is deflected by the goalkeeper, landing at the feet of A6 and A6 scores.
- This is a goal. The encroachment is not penalized because there was no immediate impact. Play is restarted with a kickoff.
 - The encroachment of A6 impacted the subsequent play. There is no goal, and play is restarted with an indirect free kick for Team B.
 - The encroachment of A6 impacted the subsequent play. There is no goal, and play is restarted with a direct free kick for Team B.
26. When a penalty kick is awarded, the referee observes B2 lined up outside the edge of the penalty area 6 yards from the goal line.
- Allow the kick to be taken and if it is missed, award a rekick.
 - Allow the kick to be taken and after it is completed, caution B2.
 - Advise B2 that they must move behind the ball prior to the kick.
27. During a penalty kick shootout, each teams' five kickers, goalkeepers and officials are on the field. Where should the coaches and remaining bench players be located?
- At midfield with the kickers.
 - On the touchline, near the goal.
 - In the Team and Coaching Area.
28. The home team is wearing a dark top but with solid white sleeves. What is the best response of the official?
- These uniforms are legal. Play the game.
 - These uniforms are illegal, but the game should be played.
 - These uniforms are illegal, but the game should be played. In addition, the official should make the home team coach aware that they will be contacting the MHSAA to alert the office of the illegal uniforms.

29. During the MHSAA postseason tournament, both teams show up wearing dark jersey tops. What is the best course of action by the official?
- A. Do not start play until the visiting team is wearing white jersey tops.
 - B. If the official can clearly distinguish between the two teams, play the game. Contact the MHSAA after the game so the MHSAA can clear up future confusion.
30. In the second game of a JV/Varsity doubleheader, B20 checks into the second half. Play starts, and then the coach from Team A alerts officials that B20 played in both halves of the JV game and the first half of the varsity game, so this makes B20's fourth half of the day. What should the official do?
- A. Players are only allowed three halves in one day, so the official must stop the game, award a forfeit, and then contact the MHSAA office.
 - B. Players are only allowed three halves in one day, but officials are not responsible for tracking this. The game should continue, but the official should contact the MHSAA office. The MHSAA office will work with the schools to determine if there is a violation.