



## MEMO

**TO:** Head Football Coaches, Athletic Directors, and Football Officials

**FROM:** Paul Sheehan, PIAA Statewide Football Rules Interpreter

**RE:** 2018 Varsity Football Pre-Game Coaches meeting, Coin Toss Procedures and Game Footballs

**DATE:** 8/20/18

The following procedures will be followed for all regular season Varsity Football Games played during the 2018 football season:

- **Pre- game Meetings:** The Referee and Umpire will meet with the Home Team Head Football Coach, on the field, 45 minutes prior to Kick-Off. Meeting should take no longer than 5 minutes. Referee and Umpire will then meet with the Visiting Team Head Coach, on the field, at 40 minutes prior to Kick-Off. Meeting should take no longer than 5 minutes.
- **Coin Toss:** The Referee will then conduct the coin toss and read the Sportsmanship Message at 30 minutes prior to Kick-Off at mid-field. Both head coaches and no more than 4 team captains (in uniform) must be present at this coin toss. All choices must be made at this time (i.e. receive, defer, choose direction of kick). At 3 minutes prior to Kick-Off, the ceremonial coin toss will be held at mid-field with the Referee and Umpire and no more than 4 team captains (in uniform). During this time, all other team members and staff must be completely off the playing field.
- **Consistency:** All Referees will adhere to this schedule for every game. If for some unusual reason the Referee is unable to adhere to this schedule (i.e. running late due to travel problems), they will contact the home Athletic Director.
- **Game Footballs:** Any NFHS approved football can be used during regular season games. However, only the PIAA approved Wilson GST footballs can be used in the playoffs. Please have game footballs available for inspection at the pre-game meeting as officials have been instructed to pressure test them.