Rule Changes:	
3-1-3	Each ~~coach~~ team shall submit a team roster, ~~bench personnel and coaches names~~ containing the names of all players, all bench personnel, and all coaches to the officials at least five minutes prior to the start of the contest. The game shall not begin until this is complete. Players, bench personnel and coaches may be added to the roster after the start of play. **Rationale:** Coaches are usually very busy with other matters just prior to the start of each game and may delegate this task to a team manager, assistant coach, or even a student or player.
4-1-1	~~Beginning with the 2008 fall season,~~ Shinguards must meet the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) specifications. The NOCSAE seal and the appropriate height range of the player shall appear on the shinguard. Beginning with the 2012 fall season, the NOCSAE seal and height range shall be permanently marked on the front of the shinguard. **Rationale:** This assists with the enforcement of this risk minimization rule and stays consistent with the spirit of the rule. This standardizes the way the shinguards are marked.
4-2-1g	Illegal equipment shall not be worn by any player. This applies to any equipment which, in the opinion of the referee, is dangerous or confusing. Types of equipment which are illegal include, but are not limited to, the following: g. ankle braces made of metal or unyielding materials, unless covered by a stocking or other suitable material. Ankle braces not made of metal or unyielding material may be worn outside a stocking. **Rationale:** The current rule allows wearing of ankle braces but requires that they be worn under stockings or other suitable material. However, many ankle braces are designed to be worn over the stocking.
5-1-3a	The officials shall be dressed alike in the uniforms primarily consisting of: (a) a shirt approved by the state association; in the event of a color conflict between the officials and the field players of either team, the officials shall change to a jersey of a color distinct from the field players of both teams. **Rationale:** This amendment would permit the referee to wear the primary shirt color, similar to that of the goalkeeper(s), however, not the field players.
Major Editorial Changes:	
3-2-1b	b. taking the kickoff (5-2-2d 3) **Rationale:** Editorial correction
3-3-2e	1. An athlete who is bleeding ... shall leave the field, but may be replaced. 2. If the removed player is being replaced during a penalty kick situation, the substitute may not take the penalty kick. **Rationale:** Editorial correction for consistency.
3-3-2 Situation K	Player A2 is injured … Note that an injured player leaving the field under his/her own power would not be considered a violation of ~~3-6-2~~ 12-8-1a. **Rationale:** Editorial correction – incorrect reference
4-1-1i 2	The jersey of the goalkeeper shall be distinctly different from that of any ~~official,~~ teammate or opponent, except the other goalkeeper. The shorts and stockings of the goalkeeper are not required to be the same color as his/her teammates. **Rationale:** Consistency with rule change
4-3 Situation A	Prior to the start of the contest, the referee meets with the teams' head coaches and captains and after reciting a sportsmanship message asks both head coaches if their teams are properly and legally equipped according to NFHS Soccer Rules. Each coach answers in the affirmative. (a)

	After the contest has started, Player A is noticed to have a shinguard that has the NOCSAE seal indicating that the shinguard is undersized for the player's height; (b) after the second half starts, Player A is noticed to be wearing illegal jewelry; (c) during the course of play, a knee brace is dislodged by a collision between two players. **RULING:** In (a) and (b), if it is the first offense, the player is sent off the field and the coach of Team A is cautioned for the team not being legally equipped. If it is the second offense, the player is cautioned. In (c), player is not cautioned, leaves the field and may re-enter ~~at the next dead ball~~ after reporting to an official, who shall be satisfied that the knee brace is now in order.
5-2-3a	a. assist the head referee or center referee in inspecting the game balls, field of play~~,~~ and nets~~, players uniforms and equipment~~; **Rationale:** Editorial correction for consistency
8-1-3	The ball shall be kicked while it is stationary on the ground in the center of the field of play. A goal may be scored directly from the kickoff. The ball is in play when it moves forward. If the kickoff is taken improperly, it must be retaken. **Rationale:** Editorial correction for consistency
9-2-2	~~(Also see 9-3-1)~~ (Also see 9-3) **Rationale:** Editorial correction – incorrect reference
10-1-3	d. goal kick into a team's own goal e. corner kick into a team's own goal **Rationale:** Editorial correction for consistency
12-1-1	~~A player shall not spit, kick, strike, attempt to kick, or strike or jump at an opponent.~~ A player shall not kick, attempt to kick, strike, attempt to strike, spit at, or jump at an opponent. **Rationale:** Editorial correction for grammar
12-1-3 Situation	(See definition of SLIDING TACKLE in 18-1-1~~ee~~) **Rationale:** Editorial correction – incorrect reference
12-8-3 Situation C	A person within Team A's team area spits at the referee. RULING: The person, if identifiable, is disqualified. If not identifiable, the coach is disqualified (12-8-4-~~a~~b). **Rationale:** Editorial correction – incorrect reference
13-2-1	Direct free kicks are awarded and taken from the point of the infraction: (Except as in 13-1-3 and 14-1-1) **Rationale:** Editorial correction for consistency
13-2-1 d, e, f	d. if a player, other than the goalkeeper in his/her own penalty area, deliberately handles the ball (12-2-~~1~~); e. if a player pushes an opponent with the hand(s) or arm(s) extended from the body (12-3-~~1~~); f. if a player holds an opponent (12-3-~~1~~); **Rationale:** Editorial correction – incorrect reference
13-2-1-g	~~g~~i. If a player charges an opponent in a ~~violent or~~ dangerous or reckless manner or using excessive force (12-4-1); **Rationale:** Editorial correction for consistency
13-2-2	Indirect free kicks are awarded and taken from the point of the infraction (except as in 13-1-3 and 13-1-4): **Rationale:** Editorial correction for consistency
13-2-2	i. If the goalkeeper touches the ball again with his/her hands before it has been touched or played by another player (12-7-1)

	j. If the goalkeeper touches the ball with his/her hands after it is deliberately kicked by a player to his/her own goalkeeper (12-7-3) k. If the goalkeeper touches the ball with his/her hands when receiving it directly from a throw-in by a teammate (12-7-4) **Rationale:** Editorial correction to include all situations
13-3-1	Players opposing the kicker shall be at least 10 yards from the ball until it is kicked, unless they are standing on their own goal line between the goal posts. If the free kick is awarded to the defending team in its penalty area, players opposing the kicker shall be outside the penalty area at least 10 yards from the ball ~~in addition to being 10 yards from the ball~~ and must remain there until the ball clears the penalty area. **Rationale:** Editorial correction for grammar
14-1-2,3 Penalty	Encroachment by the defending team is not penalized if the goal is scored. If a goal is not scored on the penalty kick, it is retaken. If there is an infringement by the attacking team and the ball enters the goal, the goal does not count and the kick shall be retaken. If there is an infringement by the attacking team and the ball does not go into the goal, there is no re-kick. If the ball rebounds into play or is deflected out of bounds by the goalkeeper, the game shall be stopped and restarted with an indirect free kick for the defending team at the spot of the foul. If the ball is saved and held by the goalkeeper, play shall continue. In cases where players from both teams are guilty of infringements, the kick shall be retaken regardless of the outcome of the kick. **Rationale:** Editorial correction for consistency
Sample Tournament Progression, B-2-a	a. Any player, including the goalkeeper, who is disqualified may not participate any further. If his/her kick is not already completed, an eligible substitute is permitted. **Rationale:** Editorial correction for clarification
Dual-Officiating System, Pregame Conference, Paragraph 2, Last Sentence	The head referee will speak with both ~~teams~~ team captains and coaches prior to the game about good sportsmanship. **Rationale** Editorial correction for consistency

Diagonal-Officiating System, Paragraph 2, Last Sentence	Referee ~~shall meet~~ will speak with both ~~teams~~ team captains and ~~their~~ coaches ~~to discuss unsporting conduct and penalties for failure to act in a sporting manner~~ prior to the game about good sportsmanship. **Rationale:** Editorial correction for consistency
Points of Emphasis:	
Unconscious Player	If the player is determined to be unconscious or apparently unconscious by game officials, the player cannot return to the game until written authorization by a physician is presented.
Ankle Braces	Technological advances in "joint" braces have made them safer over the past decade. A player may wear an ankle brace over the sock providing there is no exposed metal or unyielding material.
Shinguard Placement	Shinguards need to be placed no higher than 2 inches above the ankle for safety purposes.
NFHS Code of Ethics	Coaches and officials should read the NFHS Code of Ethics and incorporate them into their game preparations. (See page: __)
NFHS Soccer Signals	Officials in the course of enforcing the rules of play need to properly and consistently use the NFHS Official Soccer Signals. (See page: __)
Ball Holders	At least 2 ball holders should be provided by the home team to prevent delays. Ball holders are under the direct supervision of the official(s).
Team Areas	The team areas shall be at least 10 feet from the touchline and extend 10 yards on each side of the halfway line, for a distance of 20 yards. When placed on opposite sides, each team area shall be placed diagonally across from each other.