



Date: 11/3/12

To: Secondary School & NCAA Football Athletic Trainers

From: Tim Kelly, ATC

Subject: NCAA Football Rules Committee

As the National Athletic Trainers' Association Liaison to the NCAA Football Rules Committee, I would like to solicit your assistance and input concerning the health and welfare of student-athletes participating in college and secondary school football. This committee is charged with monitoring and implementing "on-field" rule changes that can protect your athletes. This past year for example, the committee passed rules that forces players to leave the game if they lose their helmet. Other changes were noted in shifting the kick-off from the 30 to 35 yard line, blocking below the waist restrictions and rules prohibiting players from jumping over blockers during punting plays.

The NATA is particularly interested in crown of the helmet contact. We are all aware of the potential catastrophic consequences of this behavior and often feel it is not officiated with the frequency with which it occurs. The NATA would like to gather video examples where players use the crown of their helmets to tackle. These examples would be shared with coaches, referees, medical groups and athletic administrators to emphasize the need to educate officials, coaches and players alike of the dangers involved in tackling with the crown of the head.

If you are able to share video footage, please refer to attached document that provides additional information and instructions for submitting video.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectively,

Tim Kelly

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Video submission

Please submit your video in whatever format is easiest for you. You may burn video to a CD, utilize DropBox, or DragonFly. Most collegiate schools utilize DragonFly software to electronically share game video. Your team videographer can review and pullout specific plays from multiple angles for your review and use. This video file can be placed in DragonFly and sent directly to me using this system. When providing game video, please follow these easy instructions.

- Please call or send me a e-mail so our videographer can give your school permission to share video
- Please instruct your videographer to look for “D1 Independents”. Once there, look for the United States Military Academy and click on it. This will allow sharing between our institutions
- Provide a narrative of what we are looking at that includes:
 - Player number (s)
 - Color jersey of player (s) in question
 - Was a penalty called?
 - In your opinion, should a penalty been called?
 - Was there injury associated with video?
 - Specific recommendation for change
- If your school does not utilize Dragonfly, please contact me and I will provide you a guest account that will enable you to share your video.