

## Football Update Email

### NCAA Football Rule Changes –

The NCAA Football Rule Changes and UIL Exceptions for the 2015 season have been released and the UIL Football Rules Committee has evaluated those and determined what, if any, exceptions we would make to those rules. This information is available on the Rules and Guidelines section of the UIL Football page: <http://www.uiltexas.org/football>

Also included on that page is information providing clarification on ‘overbuilt’ face masks, which are now prohibited by NCAA Football playing rules.

### Update on Pre Season Practice Regulations –

The UIL Medical Advisory Committee, acting upon concerns from medical professionals and athletic trainers, recommended and the UIL Legislative Council approved, moving water and rest breaks to the ‘What Counts’ toward practice time column from items that ‘Do Not Count’ toward practice time. This change is effective August 1, 2015 and the updated regulations can be found on the Rules and Guidelines page of the UIL Football page as noted above.

### Use of Sideline Electronics / Video –

Just a reminder.... UIL plays football following NCAA playing rules, with exceptions as noted on the UIL web site and in the Football Coaches Manual.

NCAA playing rules prohibit the use of electronic items, such as computers, tablets, photos, videos etc.... at any time during the game or between periods for coaching purposes. The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) now allows this in the playing rules for football and several other sports, but this has not been approved by the NCAA Football Rules Committee as of yet.

### 6A First Round Playoff Site Rule Change –

For the 2015 season, as a pilot program, the UIL Legislative Council has approved a rule change, **for 6A only and only for the first round of the football playoffs**, that the team who is the higher seed in the first round match up has the option to require the game be played at their home field. This would apply to the actual home field of any team that is the higher seed and would not apply to any other field at which a school may want to play. This rule change would also override the current rules pertaining to playoff sites for schools who have played a playoff game on a home field within the past two years.