



## **NYSPHSAA and NYS Section 4 20 Yard Line Overtime Procedures**

1. An overtime period is untimed play after a regulation game has ended with the score tied. During an overtime period each team has an opportunity to be on offense. However, an overtime period may include only one offensive possession if the defensive team scores a safety or touchdown.
2. When the score is tied at the end of the fourth period, the referee will instruct both teams to return to their respective team boxes. There will be a three-minute intermission during which both teams may confer with their coaches. All officials will assemble at the 50-yard line, review the overtime procedure, and discuss how penalties (if any) will be assessed to start the overtime procedure. At the end of the intermission, the linesman will go to the team on the side of the field where the line to gain equipment is located and the line judge will go to the other team. They will inform the coaches of the number of time-outs each team has remaining and any special-penalty enforcements that apply.
3. At the coin toss in the center of the field the visiting-team's captain shall be given the privilege of calling the coin side (i.e., heads or tails) before the coin is tossed into the air. The winner of the toss shall be given his choice of defense or offense first, or of designating the end of the field at which the ball will be put in play for this overtime period. The loser will have his choice of the other options. The referee will indicate the winner of the toss by placing a hand on his shoulder. To indicate which team will go on offense, the referee will have that captain face the goal toward which his team will advance and indicate this with the first-down signal. The other team captain will face the offensive captain with his back toward the goal he will defend.
4. Each team shall be permitted one -time-out during each overtime period (A on offense, followed by B on offense). The team scoring the greater number of points in the overtime shall be declared the winner. The final score shall be determined by totaling all points scored by each team during both regulation time and overtime periods.
5. To start the overtime, the offensive team shall put the ball in play, first and 10, on the defensive team's 20-yard line anywhere between the inbounds lines. The first offensive team shall have a series of four downs to either score or gain enough yardage for a 1st down. If the offensive team gains a first down, the possession will continue, with the ball in play as either first and 10, or first and goal if the ball is snapped inside the defensive team's 10-yard line. The offensive possession shall be terminated by any score by the offensive team, or if the defensive team has gained possession of the ball.
6. If the team on offense scores a touchdown, it is entitled to the opportunity for a try unless the points would not affect the outcome of the game or playoff qualifying. A field-goal attempt is permitted during any down- If the defensive team gaining possession, the ball becomes dead immediately and the offensive team's possession is ended.
7. After the first team on offense has completed its possession, the first team on defense will become the offensive team with the ball snapped from the same 20-yard line anywhere between the inbounds lines. The same end of the field will be used for possessions by both teams during each overtime period to ensure equal game conditions and conserve time.
8. If the score remains tied after each team has been given one offensive possession in an overtime period, then the procedure shall be repeated with other overtime periods until a game winner is determined. In this case, there shall be an intermission of two minutes between periods. At the subsequent meeting of team captains, the loser of the overtime coin toss will be given first choice of the options. If additional overtime periods are required, then first options will be alternated with no coin toss.
9. If a safety is scored by the offensive team, the succeeding spot will be the 20-yard line in possession of the team that was on defense, provided the defensive team has not already had its offensive series during the period (the temporary overtime score is: Team A-2; Team B-0).
10. When the defensive team gains possession of the ball, the possession immediately ends for the offensive team.
11. The offensive team shall be awarded a new series of downs when any one of the following occurs:
  - a. Penalty for defensive pass interference is accepted.
  - b. Offensive team recovers a scrimmage kick (field-goal attempt) between the goal lines after it has been touched first by the defensive team beyond the neutral zone.
  - c. Defensive team is guilty of roughing the passer, or roughing the kicker, place-kick holder or snapper during a scrimmage kick (field-goal attempt).
12. If the defensive team scores a safety or touchdown, the game is ended