

Ohio Water Polo Referee Association Rules Committee Meeting Notes:

Members involved in electronic discussion: Greg Sanchez, Scott Allen, Pete Pappas, Gary Tameris.

Discussion Point: Rule 5.5.2. Note #2 pertaining to association adoptions of a player with grease, and oil.

The Rules Committee of the Ohio Water Polo Referee Association (OWPRA) met via electronic communication in accordance with Bylaw 8.3.3. Supervisor Greg Sanchez brought forward the following proposal (proposal #1):

5-5-2 Foreign substances on body (Rule 5-5-2, p. 91) If the presence of an article likely to cause injury, such as sharp nails, or the presence of oil or grease is detected after play has started, the player is removed from play and must trim the nails or remove the oil and/or grease before returning later in the game as a substitute.

Note: Players needing to wear sun screen should use a product that is not oily or greasy in its final form when applied to the body.

Note: By individual association adoption, a player detected wearing oil or grease after play has started shall be excluded from the remainder of the game with immediate substitution.

I would propose that we go with excluding players from the remainder of the game when found with long nails as well as oil and/or grease after play has started. This would bring us in line with USAWP rules in the instance of oil and/or grease. It also seems to make sense to apply the same standard to long finger nails as well since officials check nails before the game. It would be a form of disrespect to the referee to continue to have long nails

The Rules Committee voted 2-2 to approve the proposal (proposal #1).

The members then discussed electronically pro's and con's of the proposal. Items included in the pro's were that it would require the officials and captains to make sure that players have cut finger nails. Negatives included the position that nail length is subjective and the rule book deals with this matter.

After discussion on the topic a vote was taken. The Committee voted 1-3 to approve the proposal (proposal #1).

Proposal #1 Outcome: Rejected

Upon further discussion with a vote of 4-0 approval of proposal #2:

Note: By individual association adoption, a player detected wearing oil or grease after play has started shall be excluded from the remainder of the game with immediate substitution.

Rule 5-5-2 has been changed to a game ejection with immediate substitution for those found with oil and/or grease after play has started.

Proposal #2 Outcome: Approved

July 21, 2008

Written by: Scott Allen