

# New York State Association of Certified Football Officials, Inc.

July 27, 2016

To: NY Football Coaches

Subject: New York State Interpretation Concerning Targeting and Defenseless Player

Gentlemen,

The two areas that can cause the most difference of opinions are plays that involve a possible targeting issue or one that include a defenseless player. In an attempt to continue to educate coaches and players concerning "Targeting" and the "Defenseless Player", we thought it would be beneficial for you to see what we are instructing our member Officials that are working your games. We receive certain guidelines from the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) that pertain to the rules and parameters to use when judging whether or not to call an infraction. These guidelines are then further enhanced in a statewide meeting conducted by the New York State Association of Certified Football Officials (NYSACFO). All of these points are then communicated to each one of our Chapter's members in weekly meetings that start in mid-August. As you can see, a lot of planning and preparation takes place before the first weekend's kickoff.

There is a link below to a training video that is produced using high school interpretations. This video was shared at the recent NYSACFO interpreters meeting on July 30th. The video centers on Targeting, Illegal Helmet Contact, and the Defenseless Player. The narrative uses terminology that we have been using the last several years and references NFHS rules. These are similar to the examples that we have been using to instruct our members.

We encourage each of you to set aside some time to view this 22 minute video. We would also like to hear any comments – positive or negative – that you might have on this topic.

Video Link -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n4t3Vklj1kQ&index=1&list=PL89iax2RvwDiWAXHFzFfCMI4bxTAmEzRN>

Thank you.