

2021 MHSAA Football Penalty Yardage

5 YARD PENALTIES	
Delay of game	Illegal substitution
Free-kick infraction	Encroachment
Free kick out of bounds	Invalid or illegal fair catch signal
Snap infraction	False start
Disconcerting act	Illegal formation
Less than 5 players on line of scrimmage (offense)/numbering violation	Incidental grasping of opponent's face mask
Illegal shift or illegal motion	Planned loose-ball infraction
Illegally handling ball forward (<i>also loss of down</i>)	Illegal forward pass by offense (<i>also loss of down</i>)
Illegal forward pass by defense	Intentional grounding (<i>also loss of down</i>)
Ineligible receiver illegally downfield	Illegal touching (<i>also loss of down</i>)
Helping runner	Running into kicker/holder
Sideline interference	Attendant illegally on field
Nonplayer outside of team box, but not on field	

10 YARD PENALTIES	
Illegal kicking or batting the ball	Illegal blocking technique
Interlocked blocking	Holding
Runner grasping a teammate	Illegal use of hands or arms
Illegal block in the back	Illegal block on free kicks

15 YARD PENALTIES	
Unsportsmanlike conduct by player or nonplayer	Illegal helmet contact against defenseless player
Illegal block after valid or invalid fair-catch signal	Kick-catching interference
Forward-pass interference (If intentional, additional 15 yards)	Butt block, face tackle or spear (Illegal Helmet contact)
Illegal block below the waist	Illegal block on free-kicker or holder
Clipping	Chop block
Tripping	Illegal personal contact outside restricted area
Charging into opponent obviously out of the play	Grasping an opponent's face mask
Hurdle an opponent	Horse-collar
Initiate contact with a helmet-less opponent	Targeting an opponent
Illegal blindside block	Roughing passer (<i>also first down</i>)
Roughing kicker or holder (<i>also first down</i>)	Roughing snapper (<i>also first down</i>)
Slapping blocker's head	Illegal personal contact in restricted area
Illegal participation	Participating without helmet beyond immediate action
Sideline interference (third and subsequent)	Nonplayer illegally on field
Unfair acts	

DISQUALIFICATION ASSOCIATED WITH CERTAIN 15-YARD PENALTIES	
Fighting by player or nonplayer	Intentionally contacting game official
Stroking, kicking, kneeling	Any act if unduly rough or flagrant
A second unsportsmanlike foul by player or nonplayer	A substitute leaving team box during fight