



## **COMMENTS ON THE 2016 FOOTBALL RULES CHANGES**

### **COLOR RESTRICTIONS REMOVED FROM TOOTH AND MOUTH PROTECTORS**

**(1-5-1d(5)a):** Completely clear or completely white tooth and mouth protectors are no longer prohibited. Tooth and mouth protectors shall include an occlusal (protecting and separating the biting surfaces) portion and include a labial (protecting the teeth and supporting structures) portion.

**NEW SFIA FOOTBALL GLOVE SPECIFICATION (1-5 NOTE; 1-5-2b):** Football gloves are now required to meet either the new SFIA specification or the existing NOCSAE test standard at the time of manufacture.

**LEGAL CLIPPING ELIMINATED WITHIN THE FREE-BLOCKING ZONE (2-17; 9-3-6; 9-3 PENALTY):** In a continued effort to minimize risk, the Committee made clipping in the free-blocking zone illegal.