



Raritan Valley Soccer Officials Association

THE USE OF ELBOWS

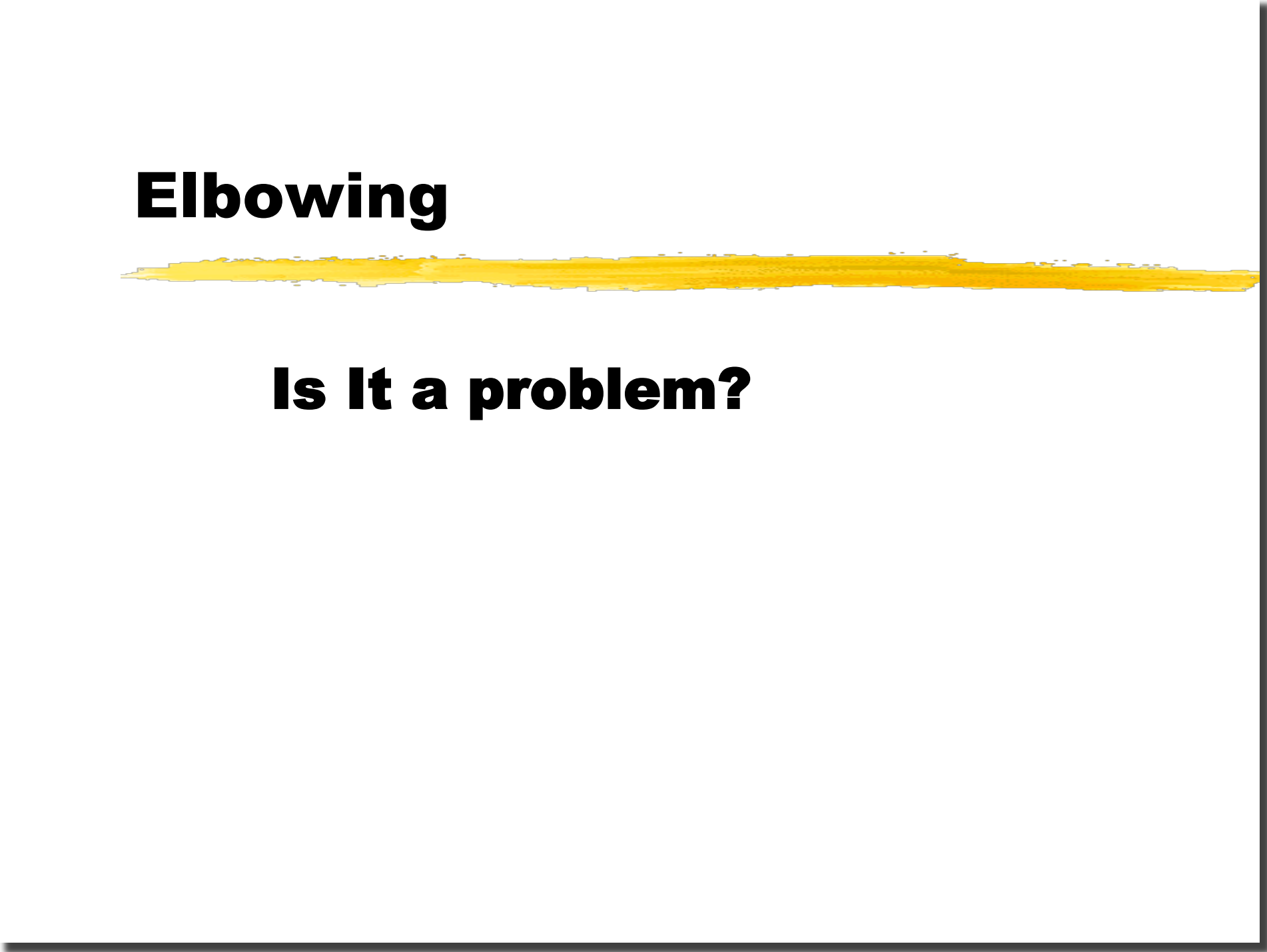
National Federation of State
High School Associations



Elbowing

A thick, horizontal yellow brushstroke with a textured, painterly appearance, spanning most of the width of the slide.

Is It a problem?

A thick black L-shaped border that frames the bottom and right sides of the slide.

Different View points

- Player
- Coach
- Referee

CAN WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

WHAT DO YOU LOOK FOR!

HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH IT?

Elbowing

Elbowing is a ``approach to fight for the ball" and is particularly dangerous because players on the receiving end aren't prepared for it.

When an elbow is used, the potential offense is **striking** and therefore the action must be assessed in the context of Rule 12.

Think about careless, reckless, or excessive force.



Elbows

Spitting, Kicking, Striking - Rule 12-1-1



Such misconduct can produce serious injuries and, if allowed, can threaten the integrity of the game.



Careless

- “Careless” means that the player shows a lack of attention or consideration when making his challenge. Without precaution.

Reckless

- “Reckless” means that the player has made the action with complete disregard for danger to, or consequences for, his opponent.

Excessive Force

- “Using excessive force” means that the player has far exceeded the necessary use of force and is in danger of injuring his opponent

WHY THE ELBOW?

- FRUSTRATION
- INTIMIDATION
- RETALIATION (PAY BACK)
- ESTABLISH TERRITORY

CLUES TO LOOK FOR

■ TOOL

Arm used for balance
Normal body movement
No swing of arm INTO the opponent
Opponent jumps into the arm/elbow
Arm/elbow out before contact
Not up and in

■ WEAPON

Excessive force used
Safety of player endangered
Hard surface contacts soft surface
Arm/elbow UP and IN to opponent
Arm/elbow/hand swing towards opponent's facial region
Injury results

WHEN DOES IT OCCUR?

- BASICALLY ANYTIME
- WHEN CHALLENGING FOR THE BALL
 - AERIAL CHALLENGES
 - CHARGING FROM THE REAR
 - CHALLENGING SIDE BY SIDE
- USUALLY AS GAME PROGRESSES

CONTACT ABOVE SHOULDERS

**WHAT DOES THE
PICTURE SAY TO YOU
AS A REFEREE?**



CAN PLAYERS USE ELBOWS FAIRLY?



**What is the
difference?**



This is a tool

This is a weapon

The angle of view is critical



DEAD BALL SITUATIONS FACE

- Deliberate
- Intended to intimidate
- Insulting
- Offensive
- Provocative
- Inciting manner

Summary



WHY THE ELBOW?

- FRUSTRATION
- INTIMIDATION
- RETALIATION (PAY BACK)
- ESTABLISH TERRITORY

Summary



CLUES TO LOOK FOR

- THROWING, SWINGING OR USING ELBOW
WITH FORCE
- RAISED TO SHOULDER LEVEL OR HIGHER?
- EYES OFF BALL?

Summary

CLUES TO LOOK FOR



■ **TOOL-** Nothing, Foul or
Foul and **Caution**

Arm used for balance

Normal body movement

No swing of arm INTO the
opponent

Opponent jumps into the
arm/elbow

Arm/elbow out before
contact

Not up and in

■ **WEAPON-** **Send Off**

Excessive force used

Safety of player endangered

Hard surface contacts soft
surface

Arm/elbow UP and IN to
opponent

Arm/elbow/hand swing
towards opponent's facial
region

Injury results

Summary



THINK ABOUT

- Careless
- Reckless
- Excessive Force