

Three Man Positioning Points for New Officials.

- Before the game, as HL, find your stick crew.
- Even if they claim to have done it before, have a set speech/talk to go over with them.
- Downsbox has to be in front of sticks in order that officials and benches can see what down. On most first downs, downsbox and back stick have to be together not separated by a few inches or a few feet.
- Safety, drop the sticks as play approaches for your safety and players safety.
- Only move on direction of the referee (both numbers on downsbox and sticks)
- Know their names and get them involved in the game.
- Move on referees or your command only, and have them move (run not walk)

Kick-off.

- Place the ball in the middle of the field on the kick-off line and run back to your position on the side line. (recommend running backwards to assist in counting)
- Line up 10 yards in front of kick off line (55 or 45 normally).
- Make sure sideline is clear, stick crew can be pre-positioned at the correct end of the field (speculate on where the ball will end up)
- Count home team
- Raise arm into the air when you have 12, wipe out signal if number other than 12 (use voice to tell the bench to count their team)
- Lower arm after confirmation by referee.
- Once ball is kicked, ensure receiving team is onside, follow down field, look for illegal blocking, look after sideline, take ball carrier if handed off.
- If play goes to opposite side, move in, keep in front of ball carrier.
- If you blow the whistle to kill the play, stop the clock (why)

After kick-off.

- Go quickly to your sideline and help with getting the downs box and the sticks positioned correctly.
- Count home team, be ready to put up gates. (When and why?)
- Remember, you have sideline responsibility, dead ball line to dead ball line.
- One every scrimmage play, see the ball, no offensive player can be in front of it with the exception of center's hand and head (get clarification)
- Ensure defense gives one yard.
- Use voice to back them up, and normally give them a freebie. After the play, run in and tell the Umpire who is lining up offside. (run back to position)
- Referee will normally tell you when to stop warning. (Most level of ball with only three officials deserve warnings before flagging lining up offside)
- If offensive lineman in three point stance come up before ball is snapped, whistle play over and throw the flag, and kill the clock (in that order)
- If ball is snapped legally, read play.

- You have sideline coverage end to end as well as pass coverage for over half the field.
- Running plays, keep level with ball carrier and shuffle down field.
- Spot the ball where it goes dead. Remember, it is where the ball is when the knee goes down, foot goes of bounds, players progress is stopped.
- Go over hard and soft spot.
- Out of bounds responsibilities. Look put foot down, stop clock and turn head all at the same time.

After the Play

- After play, make sure downs box is moved, correct number is shown, then repeat procedure.
- If you call a penalty, once the play is dead, run into referee and report what you saw. Make sure he knows team, number and infraction. Then run back to sideline to assist.
- Back-up umpire with penalty yardage. Do not look at the umpire, move the downs box the required distance and then look at the ball. They should be lined up. If discrepancy, sort it out before the next play is ran.

Punts

- Punt plays start the same as scrimmage play, count, make sure legal snap.
- Once ball is snapped, stay on LOS until the ball crosses line of scrimmage. Your call whether it is blocked (does not cross the line of scrimmage) or is deflected (crosses line of scrimmage)
- If punted ball is deflected, you may have the best view for no yards. (5 yard halo), get the number of the offending players, and throw your flag, but keep officiating until the play is over.
- You have sideline responsibility so you will have to move down field once the ball is kicked, watching for blocking and then reverse direction as the ball carrier comes towards you.

Field goals and converts.

- If referee is calling the field goal and the convert, you have to watch LOS for legal snap and then focus on the kicker/holder to ensure to UR or RP (Protected like a punter as they are vulnerable)

- Long field goals, you have LOS responsibilities and stay on LOS until the kicked ball crosses the line of scrimmage. Then go down field looking after blocking. Remember side lines.

Measurements

- Stick Crew normally students or parents. If you have a clip and know how to use it, great. If not, grab the chain at the back of the back yard line and carry it in. May want to move the downs box to front end to help put the chains back.

End of quarter.

- Down, distance and yardage maker for back clip.