SAN DIEGO COUNTY FOOTBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION, INC.

*A Federal Non Profit Tax Exempt Corporation – www.sdcfoa.org*

THE WEEKLY BULL - August 1, 2018

**All 1st Year and 2nd Year/Transfer Officials** - must meet in their regular classrooms at Mira Mesa HS every meeting. Do not attend the Referee Clinic.

**Referee Clinic** – This Wednesday 7:00 pm at Mira Mesa Theater, Michael Mothershed (PAC 12 referee) will discuss preparation and professionalism. This is a great opportunity for all officials to hear from one of our nation’s best NCAA referees! The PowerPoint presentation is attached to this Bull so you can review in advance and take notes.

**Fitness** - Scrimmages are one week away! You want to look good out there so update your uniform, tailor those pants, and keep up your fitness routine. Don’t forget to hydrate in this heat starting the day before the scrimmage and provide time for your stretching routine to prevent injury.

**Keep your availability current!** The number of “turnbacks” reflects on your professionalism! Update your availability, NOW! Don’t forget to block conflicts: family connections, professional connections, alma mater for recent graduates!

**Equipment/Uniform Suppliers –** This list is also provided on the SDCFOA.org website.

* Cliff Keen, 800-992-0799 or [www.cliffkeenofficials.com](http://www.cliffkeenofficials.com)
* [Honig’s](https://honigs.com/sport/football.html), 800-468-3284
* [Hood Promotions](http://gear.hoodpromotions.com/), 858-279-8600
* Smitty’s, 800-767-2233 or [www.smittyusadyesub.com](http://www.smittyusadyesub.com)
* [Berry’s Athletic Supply](http://berrysathleticsupply.com/), 7946 Broadway, Lemon Grove, CA 919945, 619-466-6121
* [U.S. Official’s Supplies](http://www.usofficialssupplies.com/)

Don’t forget to donate gently used equipment and uniforms to the 1st year class in room B-2!

**Tim Podraza to be Inducted into the San Diego County Sports Officials Hall of Fame** – The Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place Tuesday, September 25th at 6:00 pm where our own, **Tim Podraza** will be inducted into this prestigious group!  Please join us in celebrating Tim’s contributions to football officiating.  You may purchase tickets on the website at [www.sandiegosportsofficialshof.com/2018-induction-dinner](http://www.sandiegosportsofficialshof.com/2018-induction-dinner). Credit cards will be accepted on the website. Let’s fill up the room with football officials and have the kind of celebration Tim deserves!

**San Diego CIF 25-Yardline Overtime Procedures** - is mandatory for all varsity games in San Diego County CIF (varsity level only!). There are no options. Any varsity game for any sized division (D1 – D5) must use the 25-yardline tiebreaker when the game ends in a tie score at the end of regulation. The result will be a win or a loss. The procedure can be found on our website under RULES.

**Out-of-Town Teams** – When a team from out-of-town comes to San Diego to play, they are playing by the CIDSDS rules. That includes mandatory overtime. If a team were to refuse to play overtime it would simply be reported to me and I would inform CIF who would award a “win” to the SD team (I assume). Teams from out of CA may also be surprised that we have a Mercy Rule in CA and that a player who exhibits signs or symptoms consistent with a concussion is disqualified for the remainder of the game. Those are the 1- SD and 2 - CA possible differences. They may be included into your pre-game meeting with the coach.

**Calibration – Upon Further Review?** – When we calibrate, it is based upon the view provided by Hudl film. We should not confuse our results by inserting “new video of the play”. It is obvious that additional views of the play, beyond what is provided, may be extremely valuable in judging the play. But Hudl views do not detract from our efforts to develop our eye and judgment. Do not get “hung up” on being right, but I’m glad we are working hard to improve our consistency!

**Spotting the Ball Following Touchbacks** – When a ball goes out of bounds across a sideline, or when a free kick goes out of bounds across a sideline and R chooses not to have K re-kick, the ball will be place at the nearest hashmark. But what if the ball is dead in the endzone? We must inform the head coach during the pre-game coach’s conference that we will assume he wants the ball placed in the center of the field, BUT, flank officials must be cognizant that the coach may want the ball placed anywhere between the hashmarks. He has that right by rule. Please use the numbering system in our mechanics manual (positions 1-5 starting at the hash closest to the pressbox) to communicate the position selected by the coach. Use of O2O for this communication is encouraged.

**Quick Tips for Communicating with Head Coaches**:

* 1. Never, never, never ignore a coach’s request. You may have to inform the coach that you will have to wait a play or two to get the information to the other officials, but never ignore!
  2. Make eye contact. A coach wants to be assured that he has you attention.
  3. Avoid “squaring off with the coach” rather, turn your body slightly at an angle.
  4. Refer to the coach as “Coach” or “Coach Jones”.
  5. Keep your communication brief and formal.
  6. Avoid joking and sarcasm.
  7. Adopt a neutral tone and avoiding any personal remarks.
  8. Stick to the issue at hand in a straightforward way.
  9. Ask them to help with problem players. Be sure to identify the problem in explicit terms, without making the player to be an evil person. Sometimes it’s hard to do, but it can be accomplished with a careful choice of language.
  10. Remember: get used to the coach having the last say. This will most likely end the conversation.
  11. Remain calm under all circumstances. Let coaches have their say. When a coach approaches to protest or argue, adopt an instant “listening mode” and let the aggrieved individual finish his remarks. Don’t interrupt.
  12. Use non-confrontational body language. To be aware of body posture, facial expression, head tilt and arm position, one must say, “I am going to appear receptive and contemplative. I can think best and measure my words that way. I am determined to not escalate the problem.”
  13. If you make a mistake, admit it. A simple apology is sufficient; do not elaborate or rationalize (i.e. make excuses)
  14. When a coach raises their voice, lower yours. A soft voice has a way of triggering a reciprocal soft reply.
  15. Support fellow officials. Never betray partners by showing that you doubt their judgment. Instead indicate faith in someone else’s decision by saying the partner had a better view of a more favorable angle than the responding official or partner.
  16. Give praises to promote sportsmanship. When a coach makes a gesture of consideration for the opponents or towards the official, be sure to acknowledge it. Sometimes a smile and nod of the head are enough.
  17. Keep your ego under control. Often a mere glance will carry a significant message, whether it’s negative or positive, whether it is meant to curtail dialogue or to encourage it. A quizzical expression can signal a desire for additional input, whereas a frown may denote closure.
  18. Don’t use your hands when talking to a coach. Your gestures will reveal more than you’ll want to convey.

**“Our primary job is to be the integrity of the game. It is a player’s game, it is a coach’s game, it is a fan’s game and we are there to support the sense of fair play!” Tony Corrente, NFL Referee**