**SAN DIEGO COUNTY FOOTBALL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION**, **INC.**

**THE WEEKLY BULL - JULY 20, 2016**

**Wednesday’s Agenda** –

1. Sign In Sheets and Attendance
2. Review the Weekly Bull
3. Any Questions On New Rules And New Mechanics
4. Review Mechanics Summer Study Exam (Test during Aug. 3rd Meeting)
5. CFOA Video Part I – Spearing & Targeting (YouTube)
6. Coover Instructional Videos (HUDL) July 13 & July 20 (As time permits)

**Classrooms** – Thank you for your patience with changing classrooms as the school does their summer cleaning. We are now good to move into our regularly scheduled classrooms.

* Crew Chief – Instructors Meeting 6:15 – Room 804
* 1st Year Officials - Room S5
* 2nd Year Officials - Room S6
* Mike Downing & John Odom - Room S4
* Ed Zapolski & Mark Lindsay - Room S3
* Kevin Rathbun & Charlton Lynch - Room S2
* Dave Garza & Robin House - Room S1
* David Sibbet & John Downing - Room S8
* Bob Duggan & Mike Duggan Room S7

**Thank you Don Carey** - for meeting with our youth football referees last Wednesday. Over 60 officials attended and were reminded of the importance of their work on Saturdays. Don did an outstanding job of reminding us of the specific mechanics, rules and philosophies that lead us to proper judgement. He also graciously thanked the referees for their great efforts to be patient, supportive yet instructive while concurrently working a football game. Pre-game and post-game meetings with the crew must take place no matter what the time restraints are. In addition, the responsibility for accurately rating the officials will lie solely on the referee. Don’s power point presentation is now posted on our website under Mechanics.

**Pre-snap and Dead Ball Routines** – Our pre-snap and dead ball routine must be as complex and thorough as the coaches’ and players’ play-calling and pre-snap adjustments. Are we as prepared for the snap as they are? A good way to develop your pre-snap and dead ball routines in three separate sequences:

* Pre-Snap
* At the Snap
* Dead Ball

Base your routine on the SDCFOA Pre-Snap Routine – Scrimmage Plays which is located in the mechanics section of our website. Also include items specific to the position you work by thoroughly reviewing the SDCFOA 5-Man Mechanics Manual for your position. Write it out…Memorized it…use it every play!

**Make it Big!!!** - There are four and only four reasons to throw a flag:

* 1. Safety
  2. Sportsmanship
  3. Administration (LOS fouls, procedure, delay of game, etc.)
  4. Effect on the play (at point of attack with definite, material restriction and advantage gained)

Accuracy in judgement comes from strong, consistent mechanics, mastery of the rules, and a deep understanding and appreciation for the SDCFOA Philosophies and Common Sense documents located in the mechanics section of our website. Accuracy comes from a strong foundation – it is the rock of our association!

**Blocks Below the Waist** - Please note that the restrictions for a legal BBW applies exactly the same for the defense as it does for the offense.  No difference.  3 or 4 point stance - immediate - against a ""heads up" lineman.

**Do you have any conflicts of interest?** Here are some possible conflicts of interest which may cause you to block yourself from working a particular school:

* 1. Your alma mater – Don’t work games at your high school if you’ve graduated within the last five years. If you still have ties to the school, were a noted athlete, or still good friends with members of the coaching staff, 10 years or longer would apply.
  2. Family connections – Don’t work games at a school if you have a family connection.
  3. Business ties – If you are employed by a school, don’t officiate that school. Also be careful of bosses whose kids play for a particular school.

**Blocks in Arbiter** – Assignments will be coming out in thirds this year. Don’t forget to block the dates you cannot work. If a game comes up on a Thursday and you’re not blocked, Tom will assign assuming you are available. A phone call or email saying you’re not available doesn’t do well for you the next time a game comes up and it’s your turn. Conversely, if you block a Saturday and a big game comes up, you will not show up as available for that “big assignment” if you’re blocked. So keep your blocks honest and up-to-date!

**Gently Used Equipment and Uniforms** – Every year we get a chance to update our equipment and uniform. If you have some extra equipment or uniform pieces that are still in good shape our 1st year officials would LOVE it if you’d donate to Room S5.

**Coach’s Cards -** Coach’s Cards can be filled out and downloaded at [www.sdcfoa.org](http://www.sdcfoa.org) under Educational Resources and Football Mechanics. These cards are to be presented to the head coach at the Pregame Meeting or at the sideline meeting between the flank official and his head coach at EVERY high school VARSITY game.

**Referee and Umpire Pregame Conference -** Confer with coaches and check game balls. Be businesslike and cordial but not overly friendly with the coaches. During the Pre-Game meeting with the coaches, the REFEREE shall confirm (but not be limited to) the following information starting with the HOME TEAM:

* 1. Introductions – My name is (your name) and I’ll be your referee tonight. (Coach’s Card)
  2. Everyone legally equipped?
  3. Any unusual plays or formations?
  4. Will you be going in before kickoff?
  5. Where will you go at halftime?
  6. As you know we will expect good sportsmanship tonight.
  7. Let’s agree on how we’re going to communicate tonight….
  8. Who is your “Get Back Coach”? In order to hear and see a signal from the sideline for a Time Out, you may enter the field so as to alert any/all officials to stop the clock.
  9. Can we see your game ball, please?
  10. My watch/the game clock has the correct time; we will come for the captains in 15minutes.
  11. Good luck, coach

**Umpire Clinic With Garth DeFelice - Wednesday July 27th at 7:00 pm in Room 804**– All are invited to attend this presentation on our new Run/Pass Zone Mechanics. This will be especially critical for Umpires and Referees. Garth is an Area Supervisor of Officials for the NFL and he has worked with us to develop and adopt these now mechanics. You won’t want to miss out on this one. See you there!

**Next Regular Meeting Wednesday August 3rd – Two Locations** – All certified officials will take the Mechanics Qualification Test August 3rd but **certified officials can choose to meet either at** **Santana or Cathedral HS.** The agenda will be identical at both sites: The Bull, Video Study, and the Mechanics Qualification Test. All 1st and 2nd year officials will continue to meet at Santana in their regular classrooms **and will not take this exam**.