

STARS *IN* STRIPES

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August 2010

The Presidents' Podium:

Jon Robertson

2010 EBFOA President

The days are getting shorter, soon the leaves will be changing color, and fields are already starting to fill up with players training and conditioning for another season. That's right fellow officials, the 2010 football season is upon us. For those of us who love spending our falls on a high school football field officiating the great game of football, our time of year has finally arrived.

The EBFOA welcomes back our valued veteran officials and enthusiastically welcomes our new officials. We hope you find your time with us rewarding and educational.

For the board of directors of EBFOA this off season has been probably the busiest in many years. We have made many changes and although some will be difficult to adjust to initially, in the end it will bring our association up to date with the latest tools, and ultimately provide us with an efficient way of assigning and maintaining our schedules. We have finally entered THE ARBITER era, a wonderful computerized system of assigning games to our officials. After a few growing pains, you will come to love THE ARBITER. I have used this system for many years now and can't wait to get the EBFOA up and running with it.

Perhaps the most dramatic change has been the change in the assignor position. After 28 years as the EBFOA assignment coordinator, Sam Moriana stepped down after the 2009 season and left the board with the monumental task of filling his shoes. The board interviewed some very qualified candidates and had to make a very tough decision, ultimately selecting long time EBFOA official Fred McDonald and his trusty assistant (and ARBITER wizard) Chris Hack as our new assignors for the 2010 season. Fred and Chris have been the assignors for the NEBUA baseball group for over 10 years and bring a wealth of knowledge about assigning as well as many years of experience working with THE ARBITER. We welcome them aboard.

So now it is time to start getting in shape (no early hamstring pulls), studying your rules books, and preparing to commit to becoming the best official you can be so we can maintain the EBFOA position as the finest officiating association in Northern California. I look forward to seeing all of you at our clinic on Aug. 28th and working on the field with you in the 2010 season. - Thank you, Jon.

Notes from the Editor

Jim McGeough

So tell me.....where has all the time gone? Do you realize that we haven't had a new issue of the coveted **STARS IN STRIPES** newsletter for almost a year? A lot has happened since the last issue. Here is just a sampling of the events that have occurred since the last issue:

- The EBFOA was represented in 70 NCS and OAL playoff assignments in the 2009 playoff season.
- Sam Moriana retired from his 55+ years of football officiating by refereeing a California Interscholastic Federation State Championship Game at Home Depot Center in December 2009
- Piedmont's A11 offense was basically deemed illegal by the NFHS in an unprecedented and quick rule change prior to the 2009 season.
- The EBFOA presented "Kevin Reed Scholarships" to four well deserving High School Football seniors at the November 2009 Banquet.
- The EBFOA has brought on a new method of assigning for 2010, by utilizing the online tool: THE ARBITER
- The EBFOA has hired a new assigner for the 2010 season.
- Sam Moriana will be our Senior Administrator, Treasurer, and New Member Training Committee Co-Chairperson for 2010.
- The EBFOA recruited 10 new members in 2009. We hope you all come back for another exciting season.
- The EBFOA has held 2 summer study meetings that entailed new rules discussions, quiz question discussions, new-member orientation, and Arbiter introductions. Over 30 members attended each session!!! 2 sessions remain (see page 4)!!

Our annual clinic is on Saturday, August 28 at Salesian High School, Richmond, CA. We will start at 8:30am, have a noon-time lunch break, reconvene at 1:00pm and finish up with pizza and refreshments around 4:30pm. We will NOT be on the football field at this year's clinic. More details will come your way with the next issue of **STARS IN STRIPES**.

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THE Dance

Rich Robeson participated in the 2010 Fresno Officiating Camp this summer. Here are his observations of this great officiating experience and resource

I was pretty jazzed when I came home from the four day High School Football Officials camp at Fresno State this year. So much so that I felt a strong need to tell my wife about some of the stuff I learned. What you have to understand is that my wife hates football. Loathes football. Wants nothing to do with football. But, for a few minutes, out of the kindness of her heart, and maybe because she was happy to see me after a few days apart, she listened.

When I started talking, what I said actually kind of surprised me. I told her about the way the instructors (22 of them, including many Division I officials and 2 NFL officials) stood beside us during the scrimmages and coached us on the very finest of details of our mechanics. If you were not comfortable in a position, they would get you comfortable. If you already had the basics down for position, they would take you to the next level. Each of the 53 campers was on the field for about 240 snaps of full contact, full-throttle football.



I told her that on the second day of scrimmages, they continued the instruction, but perhaps not to the degree of the first day. On the third day of scrimmages, they stood back and watched, and only stepped in if you were doing something egregiously wrong. I told her, they were almost like dance instructors, teaching you how to act and react to your partner, which in this case was two football teams doing battle in front of you.

I started to think more about that. Officiating is like a dance, I decided.

It has occurred to me over the last couple years that there seem to be three distinct elements to football officiating: Learning the rules, knowing the mechanics and learning how to actually officiate the game. Much like learning to dance, you first have to understand the basic rules and guidelines. Are we doing a waltz or a tango? Then, you have to understand the moves and positioning for what you're doing so you look right doing it and know where, when and how to react. Finally, you have to be able to put it into practice. Like dance, you can't just study the mechanics and rules, you have to actually go out there and do it! With dancing and football officiating, you have to get to know your partner, the way she moves and reacts, so you can better anticipate the way *you* will need to move and react. You have to learn how to react to the subtle movements of your partner. And like dance, there is only one way to get better at officiating and that is by officiating.

When you're dancing with a girl, if you want to impress her, if you want to look good, you've got to be smooth, cool and collected. You've got to appear in control and confident, perhaps even if you're not. It's not fun to dance with someone who seems out of control. In officiating, no one—not the spectators, the players or the coaches—like to see an official who seems jerky and unsure of his movements.

So, I believe, if you have an opportunity to get instruction from a professional, you get a leg up; you get someone with a keen sense of observation who can help you understand what you're doing incorrectly and give you sage advice about how to get better. With good instruction you can always become a better dancer, no matter who your "partner" is.

Now if someone could just give me rhythm...

2010 NFHS Football Rules Changes

1-5-2c: New football glove/hand pad standard implemented for the 2012 season.

1-5-3a: Restrictions removed on penalty-marker colored pads or gloves.

1-5-3b1, 2, NOTE, 3: Illegal player equipment rule clarified

3-1-2; 1-7: Point differential rule modified for member state associations

3-2-2: Coin toss provisions revised.

3-5-10b: Concussion rule revised.

3-7-1: Replaced players – replacement timeframe clarified

8-2-2; 8-2-3; 8-2-4 (NEW); 8-2-5; 10-4-5; 10-5-1f; 2-41-10: Penalty options for fouls on scoring plays expanded to include scoring team fouls

9-4-3k: Horse-collar clarified

9-4-8 (NEW): Penalty declined for unintentional contact between a nonplayer and an official in the restricted area.

Editorial and Other Changes:

1-2-eb NOTES, 1-2-3e, NOTES 1, 2; 1-2-4; Table 1-3-1, Method of Measuring 1; 1-4-2, Figure; 1-5-1, 2, 3; Table 1-7; 2-6-2b; 2-9-3, 210-3; 2-11; 2-16-2b, e; 2-26-4; 2-30; 2-32-20; 2-41-4, 8; 3-3-2; 3-3-4b 2, 4; 3-7 PENALTY; 4-1-4; 4-2-2g; 4-3-2, 3, 4, 5, 6; 5-1-2b; 6-1-2, 4; 6-2-1, 2; 6-5-4, 5; 7-3-2, 7-5-7, 8, 9; 8-3-1, 8; 8-5-4; 9-6-1; 9-6-3; 9-6-4a, d; 9-8-3; FUNDAMENTALS – II-5; IV-2, X-4; Resolving Tied Games – 3.1.1; 5-1-1; OFFICIAL FOOTBALL SIGNALS – 45; PENALTY SUMMARY

Points of Emphasis:

1. Concussion Recognition and Management
2. Heat Illness and Hydration
3. Illegal Helmet Contact
4. Assisting the Runner
5. Sportsmanship and Public Address Announcers
6. NFHS Football Officials Manual



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2010 NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

TIME: NOW THRU AUGUST 2010

EBFOA SUMMER STUDY

DATES: TUESDAYS: AUGUST 10 & 17, 2010

WHEN: 6:30 – 8:30PM

WHERE: EL SOBRANTE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, 5070 APPIAN WAY, EL SOBRANTE

2010 EBFOA CLINIC

DATE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

WHEN: 8:30 AM – 5:00PM

WHERE: SALESIAN HIGH SCHOOL

2010 IN-SEASON MEETINGS

DATES: SEPT 7, 14, 28; OCT 12, 19, 26; NOV 9.

WHEN: 6:30PM – 8:30PM

WHERE: OAKLAND TECH HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Study Sessions – For NEW and Veteran Officials!!

El Sobrante Christian School

5070 Appian Way, El Sobrante, CA

Summer Study Meetings August 10 & 17, 6:30-8:30pm.

August 10 Agenda:

- Group discussions of Summer Study Session #3 Mechanics Quiz. Copies of quiz available on www.ebfoa.org
- Arbiter Presentation and registration for all officials

August 17 Agenda:

- Group discussions of Summer Study Session #4 Quiz
- NEW MEMBER Orientation presented by Sam Moriana and Rich Robeson



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