

STARS IN STRIPES

Volume 2, Issue 2

www.EBFOA.org

July 2008

The Presidents' Podium:

Jerry Maher

2008 EBFOA President

Just 6 weeks to go until the August 23 clinic! It's time to start getting ready for the start of the season. Get your availability forms to Sam, so he can mail out your rules books.

Now is also the time to recruit a friend or co-worker to become a part of our organization. We all know how much fun we have working the games. We also know the frustration of game day when we wait to see if there were enough officials for Sam to assign a fourth for our JV contest at 4:45.

Many of you work for youth associations on the weekends. The members of these associations would be a great group to find officials for our organization. For any of you who are active in church groups or social organizations these are also great places to find someone who would enjoy "watching" the game in a whole new way. Family, friends, or even parents of your children's friends. Think back to the person who was interested when they heard you are an official. These are potential recruits for our association.

All recruits need to be made aware of the importance of availability prior to joining our organization. Over the past couple of years I have spoken to many excited potentials, who would be great assets to our organization, but they are not available weekday afternoons. A great place to give a potential new member an introduction to what officiating is all about are the summer study sessions which start in July. So invite them to join us for these sessions. (See "Presidents Podium", continued on Page 4)

Inside This Issue

- 1 **The Presidents' Podium**
- 1 **So You Wanna' Move Up?**
- 2 **The Assignment Corner**
- 3 **2008 NFHS Rule Changes**
- 4 **Summer Study Sessions!!**
- 4 **MARK YOUR Calendars, Contacts**

SO YOU WANNA' TO MOVE UP?QUICKLY!

Many of the newer officials I talk to are asking what they can do to quickly learn to be a varsity official. It seems to them that the few hours spent at meetings are just not enough to capture the combination of rules and the actual application of those rules on the field. They are impatient and don't want to spend the 10 years or more that it takes to become a top flight official. An official needs to study hard and work as many games as you can, and still it is a long process.

One good way to do this is to have a plan each week. A plan of things you want to work on. One week it could be to try hard to not watch the ball, but watch the action near the ball so you can truly call fouls that make a difference in a play's success or failure. We like to use the term, "point of attack". The next game, pay close attention to all of the timing issues. Make sure the clock is stopping at all the right times, pay attention to how long a timeout is taking, or pay attention to the official who is responsible for the twenty five second clock. See how he "lets it breath" or when he calls it strictly.

If you go into a game with a clear plan on something to work on, you will be amazed how quickly these parts of the game will come into focus for you and help accelerate you to the varsity ranks much quicker than others.

Another sure fire way to get on the fast track is to attend off season clinics. Last month USA Football held a clinic at the 49ers headquarters in Santa Clara. This clinic featured top officials from the NFL, Big 10, and many other conferences who talked about some of the finer points of officiating football. To be able to spend the day picking the minds of guys that have spent decades learning to be the very best of their profession will definitely put you on the fast track for moving up the ladder. Whether it be improving within your Association, or moving to college or professional officiating, this is a "must" way to go. Check with Jim McGeough for any upcoming clinics in our area. I was proud to see many of our young officials attending this clinic. In attendance were Michael Fowler, Charles Burleigh, Damon Jones, Lane Baker, Scott Tate, and myself. This was an excellent turnout from EBFOA. I know these officials learned a lot of information that would have taken years to gather by just doing meetings and weekly games and it will show in the upcoming season. Way to go guys!

So fellows, whether it is attending all clinics and meetings, working your own weekly plan, or going to clinics with seasoned, veteran officials, there are many things you can do to accelerate your learning curve and improve your officiating skills to reach the highest level you want to achieve.

I don't know about you, but I am looking forward to the upcoming season and working with the finest, hard working officials in the area, the EBFOA.
- Jon Robertson, Board Member



The Assignment Corner

- Sam Moriana

Assignment Coordinator

The pinnacle of working an entire season of High School Football is getting the much anticipated reward of a Playoff Assignment. Many of our EBFOA Officials know what it's like to achieve that stature and they work harder every year to accomplish the tasks again. It's an honor to be assigned to a playoff game at the end of every season. It shows that you worked hard all year. It also indicates to you how well you are doing as you have been selected to work a playoff among hundreds of other High School Officials. And, if you are selected to work the California State Championships, you were selected over thousands of other viable candidates!!

Speaking of the State Championship Game: Congratulations to Jerry Luzar – Referee, and Reggie Watkins – HL!!

It is no small feat for one Official's Association to have 2 representatives at the State Championships. You will hear more from Jerry and Reggie at the August 23 Clinic.

Congratulations also go out to the following EBFOA Officials that worked a Championship Game:

2A EB RE Final	Sam Moriana	Referee	Santa Rosa High
3A EB RE Final	Don Toomer	Umpire	Coliseum
4A EB Regional Championship	Gary Ingram Dennis Binion	Linesman Alternate	Coliseum Coliseum
3A EB Regional Championship	Leon Monroe Dennis DiFabio Dennis Binion	Referee Linesman Alternate	
2A EB Regional Championship	Jim McGeough Russ Hutchinson	Referee Umpire	
B Championship	Major Patterson	Umpire	
OAL Silver Bowl Championship	James Long Russ Hutchinson Reggie Watkins Dan Hughey Craig Norvell		

In addition to the Championship games, Congratulations to all the EBFOA members that worked a Playoff game last season!!

Mike Young	Dave Long	Jon Robertson	Steven Niccolls	Conrad Bassett
Alan Goldenberg	Scott Wells	Bruce Bunting	Mike Fowler	Damon Jones
Mike Reynolds	Aaron Jacobs	Rick Solis	Marc Linnell	Carlos Perales
Jason Hutchings	Gary Reed	Charles Burleigh	Gary Hayes	

Is your name on this list? If not, work to be sure your name is on the Playoff List for 2008!!

2008 NFHS Football Rules Changes

2008 was a very active year for making changes to the NFHS Football Rules. It's time for you to jump in with both feet and start tackling the Rule Book. Why not get together with another football official and work on them together? Hey, here's an idea!!! The EBFOA is hosting 4 summer meetings just to talk about the rules! Why not join us? Details on the meetings are on Page 4.

1-2-3a: White is the recommended color for all field markings. The rule continues to allow the use of other colors for field markings, when appropriate.

1-2-3d (NEW 2-26-8): The restraining line can now be either solid or broken. It is recommended that a broken line be used and marked by placing 12-inch-long lines separated at 24-inch intervals. Only game officials are allowed in the area marked by the restraining line.

1-5-1b, d, h: Hip pads, tailbone protector, knee pads and thigh guards must not be altered from the manufacturer's original design/production. Shinguards, if worn, must meet NOCSAE specifications.

1-5-2b, NOTE: A hand pad is now defined as a covering for the hand which may have separate openings for each finger and thumb, is absent of any web-like material between the fingers and/or thumb, and not covering each finger and thumb. The implementation date for a mandatory securely attached label or stamp has been changed from 2008 to 2012.

2-16-2e, 3-3-4b, 8-2-2, 8-2-3, 10-2-4: Four changes in the playing rules were refined regarding the penalty options for teams that score but were fouled during the play. Rule 2-16-2e was clarified (along with Rule 10-2-4) to revise the definition of a multiple foul to stipulate that a team must foul twice during the same down to commit multiple fouls. Rule 3-3-4b was amended to clarify issues at the end of the half, and along with amendments to Rules 8-2-2 and 8-2-3, clearly stipulate that fouls by the opponent of the scoring team on the last timed down of the first half can carry over to the second-half kickoff, however fouls by the opponent of the scoring team on the last timed down of the second half cannot carry over to overtime.

3-5-1: The option to carry over unused second-half time-outs into overtime has been removed. The NFHS-recommended Resolving Tied Games procedure continues to provide for one time-out per overtime period with the revisions stipulating that unused time-outs do not carry to subsequent overtime periods.

3-5-2a, NOTE: The head coach can now designate another coach for the purpose of requesting time-outs. The designee shall remain in place for the entire game except in case of emergency.

4-2-3: The inadvertent whistle rule has been clarified. The new wording indicates the options available in a simpler form and makes the choosing of an option an easier process to understand.

9-9 PENALTY: Hiding the ball under the jersey will now be enforced as a basic spot foul using the all-but-one principle.

New 9-9-4, 9-9 PENALTY: No player shall use a kicking tee in violation of Rule 1-3-4. The use of an illegal kicking tee will now be penalized as an unfair act committed by the player. Acceptance of this foul on a try or field goal will nullify any points scored, with the penalty enforced as a basic spot foul using the all-but-one principle.

10-4-6, 10-4-7: The change to Rule 10-4-6 allows the same enforcement for either team by defining the basic spot as the 20-yard line for this type of foul. A change to Rule 10-4-7 helps clarify the basic spot on running plays for fouls by the opponent of the team in possession when the team in possession puts the ball in the end zone and, subsequently, possession is lost.

These are just the major rule changes for 2008. Be sure to review your Rule Books for "Editorial and Other Changes". Sometimes these minor changes can drastically affect an interpretation. Hope to see you at the summer meetings!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2008 NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

TIME: NOW THRU AUGUST, 2008

SUMMER STUDY SESSIONS

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30PM

DATE: TUESDAYS, JULY 15 & 22, AND AUGUST 5 & 19

WHERE: METROPOLITAN GOLF LINKS MAINTENANCE BARN CONFERENCE ROOM

2008 CLINIC (MANDATORY)

DATE: AUGUST 23, 8AM – 5PM

WHERE: SALESIAN HIGH SCHOOL

IN-SEASON MEETINGS (MANDATORY ATTENDANCE)

TIME: 7:00PM – 9:00PM

DATES: SEPTEMBER 2, 9, 30

OCTOBER 7, 14, 28

NOVEMBER 4

2007 BANQUET

DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2007

The Presidents' Podium: (continued from Page 1):

A great place to give a potential new member an introduction to what officiating is all about are the summer study sessions which start in July. So invite them to join us for these sessions. Please get a hold of me if you have a potential recruit who you would like someone to contact. Or give them the following phone number to contact me. (510) 219-1647

Meet Me At The Met! ----- METropolitan Golf Course, that is!!

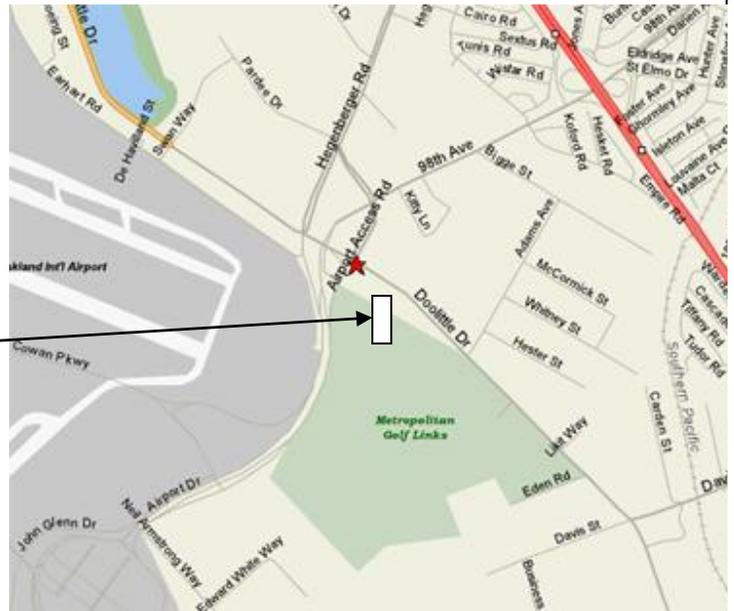
Summer Study Meetings July 15 & 22, August 5 & 19.

6:30 – 8:30pm

10051 Doolittle Drive (just south of the Oakland Airport)

Maintenance Building (northern-most building adjacent to Doolittle Drive)

In case you get lost, call 510-719-6337 for directions.



Board of Directors:

Jerry Maher – President
gmar502@sbcglobal.net

Dennis Difabio
d.difabio@comcast.net

Russ Hutchinson – Past Pres.
rhutchinson@acgov.org

Leon Monroe
phenix5@aol.com

Jim McGeough
jamcgeough@aol.com cbassett@outsourcerelocation.com

Conrad Bassett

Jon Robertson
Rawbo@aol.com

Lane Baker – Non-Var Rep.
LB46561@hotmail.com

Sam Moriana – Assignment Secretary
smoriana@comcast.net

Craig Norvell – Webmaster
www.ebfoa.org
craignorvell@yahoo.com

Jim McGeough – Newsletter Editor
16759 Stanfield Court
Castro Valley, CA 94552
925-454-3780 (work/cell)
EBFOA@aol.com