

# STARS IN STRIPES

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July 2009

## The Presidents' Podium:

**Dennis DiFabio**

2009 EBFOA President

Just a couple more days until our first official summer study session. And before you know it, we'll be having our annual clinic. As a reminder, the summer study sessions are scheduled for Tuesdays, July 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> with the Clinic scheduled for Saturday August 29<sup>th</sup>. See Page 4 of this newsletter for time and locations of the summer study sessions.

I wanted to take this time to ensure that everyone in the Association is aware of our requirements for annual training. The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) requires that each official attends 18 hours of training annually. You get credit for 7 hours for attending the Clinic, 2 hours for each scrimmage worked and 2 hours for each meeting attended. If you do the math you will see that it is necessary that you attend the Clinic to achieve the required number of hours.

In addition to the CIF requirements, the EBFOA policies for playoff assignments are very clear. In order to be playoff eligible you must 1) be a "2009 varsity official", 2) pass the proficiency test (80% or greater), 3) meet the 18 hour training requirement and 4) be recommended by the Evaluation Committee.

Every year we say attendance to the Clinic is mandatory and yet many of you don't attend. Beginning this year we will be strictly enforcing the EBFOA policies for members to be playoff eligible. Do yourself a favor and be sure to attend the Clinic on Saturday August 29.

I am looking forward to a great 2009 season. I'm excited to work with each of you as we continue to move the EBFOA upward and onward. If you have any questions, concerns or comments you can let any Board member know. They will let you know the procedure for addressing your concerns. My door is wide open. I can be reached anytime on my cell phone 510-333-8018.

Don't forget that we are still looking for new officials. Bring a friend to the summer study sessions and let them see what we are all about. I'll see you all at the Clinic if not before.

(reprinted/edited from the "Newsletter - 2009 Application/Availability Form")

## EBFOA

## Recruitment Round-Up

**Conrad Bassett and James Long**

2009 Recruitment Committee Co-Chairs

Now is the time for each of us to invite our friends and colleagues to come and join the EBFOA. Not only is it a great way to earn some extra income, it also provides you with exercise, fresh air, a competitive atmosphere, a fraternal belonging, and a chance to develop a long-term and rewarding avocation.

Whether you played organized football or not in the past is immaterial. All you need to have is a willingness to learn, study, hustle, and do the best you can. Remember, the game of football is not about us as officials. It's much bigger than that. It's about the fact that football must be played fairly where no competitor gets an unfair advantage. The sport of football cannot be played without the officials. It's our job to be sure the game is played fairly and within the Rules.

The EBFOA is constantly looking for potential new officials to work high-school football games. The EBFOA will provide the training (on-field and class-room) and game assignments. The official needs to provide the uniform, transportation, insurance, and commitment to attend training sessions, clinics, and scrimmages. There are plenty of veteran officials to help the new members along. It is the goal of the EBFOA that new officials will grow and soon become varsity- and playoff-ready officials.

Our Summer Study Sessions are the perfect venue for inviting prospective officials. Bring them with you to the meetings. Rich Robeson promises an informative training session, just for the newer officials. We are hoping that the new officials will attend these summer meetings so they will be "ahead of the curve" once the season starts in September. Introducing a recruit to the Association after the Clinic is a disservice to the official and to the recruit.

We are looking forward to seeing you and your recruits at the upcoming Summer Study Sessions. In the meantime, if you have a recruit in mind, please get the contact information over to Sam Moriana so he can get them on the distribution list. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either one of us. Our email addresses are located on Page 4 of this newsletter.

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# Agenda for Newer Officials at Summer Study Sessions

As you can see, the Summer Study Sessions will incorporate a new element of training and discussions. The "newer" officials will meet in a separate room from 6:30 – 7pm to cover the following topics (**veteran officials – KEEP OUT!!!**). Everyone will then meet from 7pm until 8:30pm to go over rules interpretations, mechanics, etc. The Agendas are **PACKED** with information, so please be on time!! See page 4 of this newsletter for more details.

## AGENDA FOR NEWER OFFICIALS Summer Study Meeting #1 – July 14 2009

1. How to dress properly - demonstration (20 minutes)
  - a. Shiny black athletic shoes
  - b. Clean socks
  - c. Bottom of knickers turned under
  - d. Flag hidden as much as possible
  - e. Where to position bean bag(s) and flag(s)
  - f. What color of undershirt is appropriate...solid black
  - g. When to wear long sleeve shirts/short sleeves
  - h. Tucking your striped shirt inside your white underwear/compression shorts
  - i. Zip up your shirt reasonably high
  - j. Hat: fitted and clean
  - k. Timing watch
  - l. Down-counter wrist band
  - m. Chain clip (for Head Linesman)
  - n. pencil
2. How to show up at a game (10 minutes)
  - a. 45 minutes early for Varsity; 30 minutes early for JV/Fr
  - b. Check list before you leave home:
    - i. Cap
    - ii. Whistle
    - iii. Flags
    - iv. Bean bags
    - v. Timing watch
    - vi. Down-counter wrist band
    - vii. Chain clip (for Head Linesman)
    - viii. Cell phone
    - ix. Extra contact lens (if you wear them)
    - x. Pencil
    - xi. Uniform
    - xii. Know your keys, positioning and responsibilities for your position that day

## AGENDA FOR NEWER OFFICIALS Summer Study Meeting #2 – July 21, 2009

1. Where to be on the field (4 man mechanics for HL) (25 minutes)
  - a. Coin toss (with Umpire, opposite side of speaking captain)
  - b. Kickoffs (hand ball to Kicker; go to K line; watch for offside on K)
  - c. Before each snap (check box for down; check eligible receivers; watch for illegal formation; indicate wide-out off or on line)
  - d. Run plays (marking forward progress; 90° angles to mark spot; don't get run over—back away and upfield)
  - e. Pass plays (key on the Tackle; stay halfway between line and deepest receiver; watch for interference; illegal use of hands on B)
  - f. Punts (stay on the line; make sure punt passes neutral zone)
  - g. Field goals/ PATs (Stay on line; watch for roughing kicker/snapper)
  - h. Measuring for 1<sup>st</sup> downs (Grasp clip & chain and jog out with chain crew, making sure box guy stays where he is)
  - i. Covering the end zone (between 5-10 yards stay ahead of runner to goal line; within 5 yards, immediately release to goal line and officiate back to ball if short of goal line)
    - j. reverse goal line (offense coming out, within 5 yards, release to goal line and officiate downfield)
2. Mirroring the other wing to mark spot (who has the spot? discussion) (5 mins)
  - a. Don't blow the whistle at dead ball unless the play ends near you.

## AGENDA FOR NEWER OFFICIALS Summer Study Meeting #3 – August 4, 2009

1. Hand signals (10 minutes)
  - a. Indicating you've counted 11 before kick-off
  - b. Punching back for laterals
  - c. 1st down and out of bounds
  - d. 1st down and in bounds
  - e. End on/end off (wings tapping flags on illegal formation)
  - f. Double stakes
  - g. 5 will get you 1 (5 yard penalty on defense = 1<sup>st</sup> down)
  - h. How to signal and mark punt out of bounds
2. Use of the Bean Bag (10 minutes)
  - a. Fumble spot
  - b. End of PSK Enforcement (punt in R possession - scrimmage kick ends)
  - c. Illegal first touching by K
  - d. Where the ball is caught or recovered when momentum exception applies
  - e. Where the ball is located when in inadvertent whistle occurs.
  - f. Shagging the ball
3. Throwing the flag (10 minutes)
  - a. At spot of foul on live ball fouls (except illegal formation)
  - b. Up in the air for dead ball fouls
  - c. Stay with your flag for spot fouls – let ref come to you

## AGENDA FOR NEWER OFFICIALS Summer Study Meeting #4 – August 18, 2009

1. Avoiding inadvertent whistles (5 minutes)
  - a. Be positive the play is over and/or the runner is down—better to be a little late than a little early.
  - b. (Wings) Drop it out of your mouth at the snap
  - c. Make sure screen passes are FORWARD passes and incomplete before blowing whistle. (Or, give backward pass signal, keep officiating and drop bean bag)
2. What's the difference: (15 mins)
  - a. Holding & illegal use of hands
  - b. Block in the back & holding & clipping & chop block
  - c. Pass interference – offensive and defensive – live-ball fouls
3. What's it look like: (5 mins)
  - a. Illegal formation – live-ball foul
  - b. Encroachment (including on kick-off) – dead-ball foul
4. Dealing with coaches who are "in your ear" & too many players/coaches in sideline box. (5 minutes)

# 2009 NFHS Football Rules Changes

**1-2-3b (Note 2 NEW):** All required field markings must be clearly visible.

**1-3-1c:** Stripes located on the football must be adjacent to and perpendicular to the seam upon which the laces are stitched.

**2-14-2, 7-2-5:** The definition of a scrimmage-kick formation was clarified to differentiate formations that have been used traditionally for attempting a field goal or kick try from those used for a punt. The circumstances under which the numbering exception can be used have been changed to clarify what can be done on first, second, third and fourth downs.

**Table 3-1, 9-8-1g:** The mandatory three-minute warm-up period begins immediately following the conclusion of the halftime intermission. The head coach of each team is responsible for his team being on the field for the warm-up period.

**3-3-4b5 NEW:** If a penalty resulting in a safety occurs on the last timed down of a period, the period is not extended.

**8-2-2, 8-2-3, 8-2-4 (NEW), 10-5-1f:** Three rules were refined and a new article created regarding penalty enforcement for dead-ball, non-player or unsportsmanlike fouls that occur during or after a touchdown scoring play. Now, the scoring team, in most situations, has the option of enforcing the penalty on the subsequent kickoff.

**9-4-3h:** It is now illegal to grasp the opponent's chin strap.

**9-4-3k:** The horse-collar tackle has been added to the list of illegal personal contact fouls, regardless of where it occurs on the field. It is illegal to grasp the inside back or side opening of the collar of the jersey or shoulder pads of the runner and subsequently pull the runner to the ground.

**9-7-2 EXCEPTION:** The kicking team cannot bat a scrimmage kick that has not yet been grounded unless it is toward its own goal line. Scrimmage kicks may only be batted by the kicking team toward its own goal line.

**1-2-3g, 9-8-3:** A restricted area has been defined where a maximum of three coaches may communicate with players and substitutes during dead-ball situations. The coaches must move into the team box before the ball becomes live. There will no longer be an allowance for three coaches to remain in an area adjacent to the sideline during play.

## Editorial and Other Changes:

1-2-1; 1-2-3d. 1-3-1f; 1-5-1c (5b, 6b); 1-5-1i; 1-5-3a, b, c; 1-5-3k, l, n, o (NEW); 2-11; 2-16-2h; 2-35; 2-41-1, 9; 3-3-4b; 3-3-4b NOTE; 3-4-3j (NEW); 3-5-10c; 6-2-1; 7-5-2; 7-5-6a; 8-2-2, 3; 8-5-2a EXCEPTION; 9-4 PENALTY; 9-8-1; 9-9 PENALTY NOTE; 10-2-2b; 10-2-3; 10-4-2c; 10-5-1f; 10-6; FUNDAMENTALS: II-5, II-6 (NEW), IV-6, IX-3, X-4; OFFICIAL FOOTBALL SIGNALS – 15, 25 (NEW).

## Points of Emphasis:

1. NFHS Guidelines on Handling Contests During Lightning Disturbances
2. Illegal Personal Contact
3. Blocking and Illegal
4. Helmet and Face Mask
5. Uniforms
6. Sportsmanship



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### USA FOOTBALL SEMINAR

### 2009 NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

TIME: NOW THRU AUGUST 2009

### EBFOA SUMMER STUDY

DATES: TUESDAYS: JULY 14 & 21 AND AUGUST 4 & 18, 2009

WHEN: 6:30 – 8:30PM

WHERE: METROPOLITAN GOLF LINKS MAINTENANCE CONFERENCE ROOM

### 2009 EBFOA CLINIC

DATE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

WHEN: 8:30 AM – 5:00PM

WHERE: SALESIAN HIGH SCHOOL

### 2009 IN-SEASON MEETINGS

DATES: SEPT 8, 15, 29; OCT 6, 13, 27; NOV 10.

WHEN: 6:30PM – 8:30PM (**NOTE NEW MEETING TIME!!**)

WHERE: OAKLAND HIGH SCHOOL

# Summer Study Sessions – For NEW and Veteran Officials!!

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

**Summer Study Meetings July 14 & 21, August 4 & 18.**

**6:30 – 8:30pm**

**10051 Doolittle Drive (just south of the Oakland Airport)**

**Maintenance Building (northernmost building adjacent to Doolittle Drive)**

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



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