

FWFO Bulletin 09/08/2022

Good morning all! We have two weeks under our belt and so far everything is going fairly smooth with the games that we are calling. A few things to touch on so please make sure you read this bulletin in its entirety.

Taking Care of Business

- Email traffic is heavy, but important. Please make sure you are reading a checking your emails. We will do everything we can to reduce email traffic, but it is not always going to be minimal. This bulletin is one way we are trying to do so.
- Eligibility
 - For those of you who are still ineligible and are wondering what needs to be done to become eligible, **reach out to Karl Wright directly.**
 - If you have done the items required and you are still not listed as eligible, **reach out to Karl Wright directly.**
 - This is not an automated process and has to manually be checked. Karl does not have the time to manually check each person's stuff on a daily basis.
- We are still getting some concerning reports that some veteran officials are either teaching our first and second year officials incorrect mechanics and/or leaving them out in the cold when dealing with coaches in challenging situations.
 - Please remember that our best recruiting and retention resource is our veteran officials. Take the time, give back, and take these young officials under your wing. Nurture and protect them.
- Incident reports
 - Please make sure you are filing incident reports in a timely fashion. If you are unsure about when and why an incident report should be filed, please reach out to a chapter officer for clarification.
- Everyone should have access to HUDL at this point.
 - Crews have one HUDL account and pool officials have their own account.
 - **Please note that to view training tapes, you need to have annotations on and it is best viewed in a web browser, not the app.**

Training

Mistakes will always be present in our line of work. Take the opportunity to learn, gain wisdom, and get better from them. The only way I know how to gain wisdom is by personally failing or being taught lessons that come from other peoples' failures.

- “Never let success get to your head; never let failure get to your heart.” –Anonymous
- “You always pass failure on your way to success.” -Mickey Rooney
- “The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won't. It's whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere.” -Barack Obama
- “Good people are good because they've come to wisdom through failure. We get very little wisdom from success, you know.” -William Saroyan
- The first training tape will be shared today via HUDL. **This is meant to be a useful tool for us all to get better.**

This is not to expose any official or crew.

- It would be a pretty good bet if a crew or official is making fun of or talking bad about a mistake on a training tape, one of their games will show up on the tape in the coming weeks.
- Offensive Holding
 - Every grab does not rise to the level of a foul for holding. Therefore, a philosophy has been developed to enable officials to apply the rule in a meaningful manner. To rise to the level of a foul for offensive holding, the restriction must have an effect on the play. The defender must have a clear opportunity to make a play at or near the point of attack. Or, the restriction is immediate o so flagrant, such as, an immediate take down depriving a defender who is not in the vicinity of the play of any opportunity to get near the point of attack.
 - Knowing a category for your foul and seeing the second act is crucial to getting these right and being consistent. Notice how there is always a second act in the offensive holding categories below.
 - **Grab & Restrict:** The blocker controls the defender with two hands outside* the defender's frame usually at the shoulders. The blocker controls the defenders movement preventing him from reaching for the runner to make a tackle or rushing the passer. The key to recognizing this as a foul will be the defenders unsuccessful attempts to tackle the runner or rush the quarterback. **Just because someone's hands are inside, does not mean that holding cannot occur. See training tape.*

- Hook & Turn: The blocker hooks the defender above the waist with one hand and controls or redirects defender's movement. This usually occurs when the blockers feet are beat and the defender is even with him or past him.
 - Take Down: The blocker grabs the defender with two hands or hooks him with one hand above the waste and takes him to the ground.
 - Reverse Take Down: The blocker, who appears to be getting overpowered or run over, grabs the defender inside the frame of his body and pulls the defender down on top of him as he is falling backward.
 - Tackle: This usually occurs when the blocker loses contact with the defender; or the defender beats the blockers feet and is even with him or beyond him, or the defender is running away from the blocker. The blocker grabs or hooks the defender around the waist or below, or dives and hooks the defender with one or both arms or hands at the lower legs or ankles causing the defender to go to the ground.
- Double Signals
 - We do not need to be giving double signals on a first down that ends in bounds. In other words, if the runner makes the line to gain near the sideline, we do not need to give a wind signal followed by stopping the clock. Just stop the clock, and let the referee know that we have a hot clock.
 - Blocks below the waist
 - There is no situation where a defender can block a pulling offensive lineman low. This is a foul and needs to be called.

Good luck to each of you this week and I hope this is helpful. If you have any questions or need additional clarification, please reach out to myself, Stacy, Chad or Rod.

Regards,

Ryan Vance

FWFO President 2022-2023

806-674-1045