

Suggestions To Help Games Run Smoother

Notes from State Meeting on 11/3/2004

Back Judge

- After cleaning up the play and relaying the ball, get into position swiftly and become visible to the Referee
- Proactively prevent a delay at the beginning of the second half by notifying both teams when halftime is about to expire
- Don't always need to be a part of the triangle in relaying ball in situations when it will be a short, quick relay directly from the wing into the Umpire

Line Judge

- Keep your Ball Boy(s) close by at all times
- Make sure that Ball Boy(s) places "Kicking Ball" behind goal posts on Kicks
- When holding spot in close first downs, don't immediately triangle ball into umpire. Hold ball and place on foot, or if other official has ball, ask for it to be placed on your foot.

Linesman

- Ensure Referees allow enough time to reset chains after a measurement
- Encourage Referee to be VISIBLE when awarding first down
- Suggest Umpire to use inside of foot for spot, especially on wet days when they may be holding/drying ball and it's hard to see the spot
- Suggest Umpire to relay penalty enforcement info (e.g. "I am marching 10 yards from the 36") before starting to enforce penalty. Easier to verify.

Referee

- Try to keep the Back Judge in the game through frequent communication (e.g. signals – when to start clock, eye contact, down, etc.)
- Suggest Linesman to be the "Down Leader" and confirm down on every play (very vocally). All officials can look to Linesman for down as central point.
- Suggest that Umpires stay over the ball until the ball is marked ready for play. Very important to prevent inadvertent ball movement, premature snaps, etc.

Umpire

- Referee should approach Umpire during penalties
- Umpire should stay over ball until center arrives (especially on wet days)
- Suggest wings to be very vocal (loud) when there is a need to adjust ball spot
- Suggest that Referee advise the Umpire of which wing has the spot
- Umpire can assist with getting the new ball during a change of possession in some situations when he is near the home sideline