
Pre-Game

— An Open Discussion —

The Week of the Game (White Hat)

Tuesday: Email the Home School AD

- Introduce yourself.
- Give him your arrival time and ask where to meet them
- Locker rooms
- Parking

Thursday (Email the Crew)

Friday (Meeting AD before crew arrives)

The Week of the Game (White Hat: this is my routine)

Tuesday: Email the Home School AD

Thursday: Email the Crew

- Relay information provided from AD
- Arrival time
- Radios
- Weather report for the game and what to wear

Friday (Meering AD before crew arrives)

The Week of the Game (White Hat: this is my routine)

Tuesday: Email the Home School AD

Thursday (Email the Crew)

Friday (Meeting AD before crew arrives)

- Pre-Game Activities?
 - Half Time (15 minutes)
 - If bad weather expected does he have a lightning strike meter?
 - Copy of MPA guidelines for lightning and thunder disturbances
 - Where should we send the athletes and officials in a storm
 - Reminder that Timer has a radio
 - Paper work for the Crew
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Pregame Conference with Crew (per the Officials Manual)

1. Rule Changes and Points of Emphasis
 2. Special Coverage
 3. Making the Call
 4. Reporting Fouls to the Referee
 5. Time-out Responsibilities
 6. Bench Decorum
 7. Injured Game Official
 8. Halftime Intermission
 9. Leaving the Field
 10. Game Expectations
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Pregame Conference with Crew

1. Rule Changes and Points of Emphasis
 - No major rule changes in 2024
 - Sportsmanship and Altercation Prevention and Protocol
 - Player Equipment and Enforcement
 - Formations
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Pregame Conference with Crew

2. Special Coverage

- Discuss what to do in the event of a hurry-up offense
 - Discuss what to do in the event of an obvious onside kick
 - Discuss what to do in the event of threatening weather
 - Discuss what to do in the event of a fight of similar altercations
 - Kick-off
 - Punt
 - Goal line
 - Fake kick on PAT
 - Alignment for taking a knee
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Pregame Conference with Crew

3. Making the Call

- Go over signals between game officials
 - Receivers off the line
 - Double stakes
 - Counting the players
 - **Five in the backfield**
 - Practice good dead ball officiating
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Pregame Conference with Crew

4. Reporting Fouls to the Referee

- How Referee wants fouls reported (shirt color, offense or defense, etc.)
 - Status of the ball when foul occurred (live ball, loose ball, dead ball, etc)
 - Result of the play (incomplete pass, scoring play, etc)
 - Communicate with coaches who committed the foul
 - Communicate with coaches special enforcement (loss of down, untimed down, etc)
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Pregame Conference with Crew

5. Time-out Responsibilities

- Who's timing the time out
 - Game officials positions
 - Coaches told how many time out each team has left after each time-out
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Pregame Conference with Crew

6. Bench Decorum

- Be consistent on both sides of the field
 - What conduct is out of line and what isn't
 - Get back coach
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Pregame Conference with Crew

7. Injured Game Official

- Not going to happen
 - 5 man work without a back judge
 - 4 man work without a line judge
 - 3 man work with referee and line judge
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Pregame Conference with Crew

8, Halftime Intermission

- Meet at designated place on the field
 - Allow the teams to leave & signal timer to start the clock
 - Someone to note time so you can return on time
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Pregame Conference with Crew

9. Leaving the Field
 - Always leave the field together
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Pregame Conference with Crew

10. Game Expectations

- Discuss team history that may affect the game
 - Has any crew member seen the teams this year
 - Who are the coaches and what are their attitudes
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Meeting with Coaches (per the Officials Manual)

- Meeting should begin with the game officials introducing themselves and giving the coach a card listing names of crew members.
 - Recommended the game officials obtain the name of the get-back coach.
 - Get the captain number and some crews ask for their names
 - Designated ball boys and your expectations.
 - Special plays
 - Do you have a trainer on site
 - If you win the toss? (some officials ask captains before leaving side line)
 - Game Balls
 - Inform coach when the coin toss will take place
 - Player introduction
 - National anthem
 - Coin toss
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Meeting with Coaches (per the Official's Manual)

The coach must:

- Verbally verify all his players are legally equipped.
 - Acknowledge everyone is expected to exhibit good sportsmanship.
 - Identify if there are players with protective guards, casts, braces, etc. that need to be inspected.
 - Name the designated person who will request time-outs.
 - Name the designated person who will make decisions regarding penalty acceptance or declination.
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Pregame Duties

Linesman: Inspect the down indicator and chains. Make sure the chain is securely attached to the poles and is free of kinks. Make sure there is tape at the midway point of the chain. Check in with the line-to-gain crew.

All Officials:

- Inspect the field
 - If field is marked for other sports make sure the crew knows which lines are being used.
 - Check the pylons to ensure they are properly placed
 - Check goal post padding, and yard line markers in proper position
 - Spot check players for proper equipment.
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