

# PRE-GAME CONFERENCE

## A. PRIOR TO GAME: (Referee)

Correct Time (BJ)

Starting time of game and time for captains (U-L/BJ-LJ Get captains and teams)

To be on field 3 min prior to game

Balls: R get balls or verify NFHS stamp

Ball boy on LJ's side of field

On Field times..R/U visit coaches 1hr prior

BJ on field 30-45 min prior

Everyone else 20 min prior

BJ & R meet with Clock operator

BJ & R keep 25 sec clock. Less than 4 min in each half, use game clock, whoever is facing it.

Duties on field...

R inspect field

U inspect equipment

L inspect chains and crew

LJ/BJ check with ball boys

L & LJ introduce yourselves to the coaches on your side.

## NEW RULES: (Referee)

### 2004:

Head Coach can call time out. If he goes to pressbox, privilege is revoked.

PSK situation begins with snap.

If double foul during a kick and R's foul is PSK, R can keep the ball and decline K's foul.

On a foul by defense against a scoring team, with a change in possession, foul must be after change in possession to be accessed from succeeding spot.

New Kick off positions.

### 2003:

PSK Enforcement.

Penalty on opponent of scoring team (TD or Field Goal) can be enforced on succeeding spot while keeping the points.

Clip by offense only, all players involved with the clip must be on LOS and in the free zone at the snap.

Illegal kicking tee is an unsportsmanlike foul (over 2 inches off the ground)

## POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Use of head when tackling

Blocking below the waist (i.e. defense cutting tight ends as they come out). For blocking below the waist to be legal, the block, the blocker and the blockee must be in the free blocking zone before it evaporates.  
Communication with coaches...POSITIVE  
Communicate with players...talk to them  
Communication with each other

**B. COIN TOSS: (Referee)**

R/LJ to home side U/L/BJ to visitor side  
R/U to center of field with captains 3 min prior to game  
LJ/BJ stay at hash w/rest of team if nec.  
When toss is over all come to center of field and record info.  
Line up in line for Ntl. Anthem

**C. KICKOFF: (Umpire)**

Counting Players  
When R makes ball ready for play  
Sideline control  
Who winds clock ???  
What are dead ball situations ??  
Ball exchange ???  
Short kick mechanics...Discuss  
Kick out of bounds  
Coverage on long run backs  
Blocking below the waist

**D. AT THE SNAP: (Umpire)**

Counting players (5yd vs 15 yd penalty)  
Huddle lingering...substitution fouls  
Formation **Mechanics..signals** by LJ/L...Keys for L/LJ-FJ/BJ  
Motion  
Dead ball situations (illegal snap, false start, off encroachment...)  
Pay particular attention to covered eligibles  
Common sense when it comes to flagging for illegal formation, only 6 men on the line, be lenient

**E. RUN PLAYS: (Line Judge)**

Ball Coverage (R takes ball to line of scrimmage....)  
Out of bounds coverage. Wing guys hold spot??? Stop Clock signals.  
**R will get to sideline as will BJ, but offside official (L or LJ) MUST cover R's back**  
Spots...U w/ L/LJ...clock stop signal by LJ on 1st down.  
Fumbles...mechanics...bean bags...digging for ball...who gives signals  
Pitch plays...R has QB, wings have pitch man.....backward pass vs fumble....  
Direction of ball on pitch (R/wings)  
Ball movement on side zone plays.

Close first down situations...Wing guys call for and get ball.

**F. PASS PLAYS: (Back Judge)**

**Covered men...Eligibility**

Action on receiver as he goes out, i.e. holding on Defense

Completions...no signal, go to spot

Tips

Backward vs forward

Intentional grounding (R calls, with help from wings for catchable and reasonable opp.)

Sack coverage...who has spot???

Out of bounds coverage and End Line coverage (BJ w/ LJ/L)

Crossing the line.....Screens

R/U keys on Off line for holding...R on passing arm looking through QB

U please let R know what result of long pass is (incomplete or complete or TD)

because I am concentrating on QB

**G. GOAL LINE PLAYS: (Linesman)**

Goal line responsibility

    Going in   Coming out

Spot vs TD signal

After score mechanics

End Line Responsibility BJ.

Pylon is OOB behind Goal Line

**H. SCRIMMAGE KICKS: (Back Judge)**

Counting Players

ALL Fouls on kick play (during kick i.e. before it is recovered or caught are

    Previous spot enforcement

Eligibles...Be careful for fakes

kick crossing NZ

A can advance kick if it recovers behind NZ

Out of bounds. Mechanics on marking ball

muffed snap....backward pass...R with L/LJ coverage

action against snapper

bean bag marking first touching

    Recover their bean bag.

**I. OTHER ITEMS: (Referee)**

Hurry up offense

Measurements...positioning

Time outs...timing and positioning of officials...

    L & LJ stay at sideline w/teams...BJ stay back and oversee...R & U meet  
    at ball to record info.

Penalty enforcement

Give me color, number, foul and discuss penalty enforcement (spot & distance)

Positioning of other officials...COVER THE FLAG

Relaying offender number to coaches

Recording of fouls

Unsportsmanlikes (R/U also record)

End of periods.....End of Half start clock when field is cleared