

FWFO Bulletin Week 9

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Sub Varsity Requirements

- The deadline for SV waivers has passed. Remember that if you did not purchase the waiver, you must have 20 sub-varsity games in order to be playoff eligible (2023) and crew eligible (2024).

Crew Chief Classes

- Rod McLain will be offering 4 sessions for those looking to complete their crew chief requirements for the '24 season. The dates are as follows:
 - Monday 10/23, 6:00- 7:30pm
 - Sunday 10/29, 6:00- 7:30pm
 - Monday 10/30, 6:00- 7:30pm
 - Monday 11/05, 6:00- 7:30pm
 - Each of these sessions will include both modules required to meet the eligibility requirements. Those who arrive on time and stay through the entire session will meet the requirement. We included a Sunday for those that are not able to attend on a Monday night. Eligibility requirement to be a Crew Chief for the 2024 season can be found in the FWFO Operating Procedures.
 - A list of currently eligible crew chiefs or said another way, those who do not have to take this class are posted here. <https://www.fwfo.org/Forms/Upload/282.pdf>

Banquet

- The banquet will be held this year at National Hall (3316 Roberts Cut Off Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76114) on **Monday November 6th**. More details to follow but I am told that the door prizes this year will be stellar, so you won't want to miss this one. Please RSVP under your main page on the FWFO website ASAP.

HUDL

- Training tape 9 has been published. Please go review and let us know if you have any questions.

TRAINING

Face Shields

- Until this is fixed, I am going to have to keep putting it in the bulletin. Must be clear and colorless. Yes, this means the **rose/pink colored** ones and the colorless ones that have a mirror effect. This is also at the sub varsity level! Clear is clear folks, by not enforcing this, you are cutting the legs out from your co-officials. **If you aren't sure it's clear and colorless, make them take it off.**

What Makes a Good Official?

I am going to repost this from the first bulletin of the year. As we get close towards the close of the regular season, we usually see one of two things happen with crews.

1. Clicking on all cylinders – The crew has applied the training they've received and continued to hone their skills. The crew is mechanically sound, they communicate well, and they are getting better each week. This really shows up in the film evaluation.
2. Stuck in a rut – The crew has gotten complacent and has dialed back preparation and effort. It is evident that their film study is lacking and they are not looking at or taking in the training material. This also really shows up in the film evaluation.

Let's avoid #2 at all costs and review what makes a good official.

- Mechanics- the official is in the appropriate spot at the appropriate time to officiate the play from his or her position
- Rules knowledge – the official is able to apply the rules correctly to the play in front of them
- Good judgment – Football officiating is not black and white. Which is why we have philosophies and when in question scenarios in the rule book.
- Being prepared – good officials are prepared mentally and physically to officiate each play. This preparation is continuous.
 - To have a good game, you must be prepared.
- If you don't bring your "A Game" for multiple games, you really don't have an "A Game"
- Good officials work in cruise control, but at a good pace throughout the game.
- Good officials don't do one thing 100% better than everyone, they do 100 things 1% better.

- Good officials have good verbal and non-verbal communication, and don't sound or look emotional.
- Most plays can be officiated by anyone, but there are 4-5 in a game that make or break you.

Constructive Criticism

Previously we have talked about confirmation bias and how we need to alter our tendencies to want to go confirm what we did was right when we look at film. We also need to make sure that we have a clear lens when we receive constructive criticism. It is designed for one thing and one thing only – for us to get better and help others get better as well. You all are doing a great job with this avocation, but each and every one of us can and MUST find ways to get better each week. The HUDL tape is meant to be a useful tool for all of us to get better each week. 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 coaches' comments/complaints again were the lightest they've been all year. Keep up the good work. **Next week is a very heavy schedule**, so thank you all for stepping up and if you can work on the field 10/27, please send Stacy an email or a text. Please make sure to include your name. Proud to be a part of the best chapter in the State of Texas! If you have any questions or need additional clarification, please reach out to myself, Stacy, Chad or Rod.

GOOD LUCK THIS WEEK!

Regards,

Ryan Vance

FWFO President 2022-2023