2009 CVFOA School Liaison Program

Congratulations, you have been selected to represent the CVFOA as a School Liaison Official. As such, you are responsible to contact the AD and/or Head Coach and offer your services to the school during the 2009 season.

Program Goals

Our goal is to offer coaches, players, school officials and supporters our assistance during the preseason and season with emphasis on rules changes and clarifications, player safety, and sportsmanship. This will generally include, at a minimum, a pre-season review with players and coaches and an optional mid-season contact with the coaching staff. In addition, our services can extend to training of school provided chain crews as well as assisting the school with issues or questions that may come up during the season excluding film/game reviews.

Pre-Season Review

The VHSL ***"requires"*** the preseason review between the schools and officials with emphasis on sportsmanship. It is recommended that the following items at a minimum be covered at a players and coaches meeting:

1) 2009 Federation Rules Changes (also quickly review important 2008 rules changes). Review VHSL clinic interpretations. Provide examples and demonstrations as necessary.
2) 2009 Federation Points of Emphasis. Review VHSL clinic interpretations. Provide examples and demonstrations as necessary.
3) Sideline Management - Review rules and procedures. Advise coaches that we will be enforcing the three coaches in the box rule.
4) Player Safety. Review the following key items:
- Illegal helmet contact, butt blocking, spearing, etc.
- Wearing proper equipment
- Injured player procedure (casts/doctor's notices, blood, unconscious players, etc)
- Late hits & hits out-of-bounds
- Special protection for the kicker, passer, holder, and snapper

5) Sportsmanship. Review the spirit of the game and the manner that players and coaches must conduct themselves (required as a point of emphasis by VHSL):
- Review rule where referee has pre-game meeting with coaches and team captains re: sportsmanship
- Promote sportsmanlike behavior during coin toss
- Baiting, taunting, celebrations and other unsportsmanlike acts
- Two unsportsmanlike penalties = disqualification
- Actions that result in disqualification (flagrant fouls, fighting, etc.)
- VHSL rule regarding disqualification (reporting & resulting game penalty)

6) Open Discussion. Answer questions of players and coaches regarding rules, their interpretations or other applicable matters. ***WARNING! Be absolutely sure of your answers to questions. If you are unsure, tell the coaching staff that you will review the question and get back to them with an answer by a specific date. Call the Commissioner or the appropriate party for help and respond in a timely manner.***

Optional Mid-Season Review

Contact the Head Coach by telephone and offer him assistance on questions or issues that he may have encountered through that point in the season. ***WARNING! Do not review game films or discuss specific issues related to specific game officials or their calls. Refer the coach to the Commissioner***.

Other Items

1) Encourage coaches to communicate with CVFOA Commissioner Meade Shore whenever necessary.