WEEK 1 LOS Coaching Points

Ed Camp

\* On FSTs and dead ball DOFs, H/L should kill the clock and move with a purpose toward the R with the preliminary signal.

\* When Head Coaches approach you to call a timeout as the play clock winds down or they are attempting to “freeze” the kicker, we should blow a strong whistle, and move with a purpose to get this play shutdown. We know that the timeout will be granted but our sense of urgency helps eliminate the opposing coach’s doubt as to whether the timeout request beat the expiration of the play clock.

\* All of our officials need to get comfortable to go to their crew mate with additional information when they have something to contribute, we need team officiating.

\* When it’s first and goal, get all the extraneous personnel (chain crew, ball boys, photographers) behind the LOS. Leave yourself room to move. Allow TV/Replay a clear shot at sideline and goal line.

\* LOS goal for every season is to be 100% accurate on pre-snap fouls.

\* Be aware of your opposite wing’s body position. Anticipate their need for cross field help when you see them pushed back. Match up with them after every play.

\* Mirror spots. This gives U/CJ a chance to put the ball down and get out. Therefore, giving them a comfortable pre-snap period to locate keys and get in position. We also can “accommodate” any sudden hurry up or no huddle offenses.

\* Sideline control…get them back. Show them where your “office” is and that you work in that “office”.

\* Let’s own penalty enforcement. Work with U by using O2O to correctly enforce all fouls.

\* If there’s a question or conference on a rule enforcement by the crew, assume the coaches will be equally in doubt. Talk them through tricky enforcement. Provide good customer service.

\* If you see a quizzical look on a coach’s face, ask him, “Do you have a question, Coach?”

\* We should strive, as a crew, to have the coaches, commend us on communication with the sideline. They may not agree with our judgment but, should be happy with the way we communicate with them.

\* Accept post game evaluations/grades for what they are…feedback to make us better. Don’t fight them. Learn from them and get better.

\* HL/LJ are the TRUE clock operators. Whoever is facing the chains really runs the game clock. The official facing the chains should do one of three things on every play: 1) Go up with the next down if the play is clearly short of the LTG. 2) Kill the clock when the play ends beyond the LTG, or, 3) Start the “pinch”when the dead ball spot threatens the LTG and a measurement may be necessary.

\* Take pride in getting good spots on all plays. Don’t wait until there’s a dive play into the line on 3rd and short. Have “SPOT PRIDE”.

\* On punts, read and judge the penetration or resistance by the 2nd wave of blocker or kick coverage personnel. Adjust your movement accordingly.

\* Be ready to help on ING aspects: eligible receivers in the area and location of pass. Communicate via pointing at eligibles in the area or by using O2O.

\* Use O2O appropriately and efficiently. Let the Referee dictate how much or how little chatter they want.

\* Pinch in on FGs and XPs. Help the U/CJs with unpiling players.

\* When a TO is requested, locate the clock. Adjust it if time leaks away.

\* Be aware of opponents who end up in the bench area. Walk them out. Make a presence of yourself.

\* Be great dead ball officials. Strive to keep the game safe by calling safety fouls.

\* On crossing patterns coming your way…get your head on a swivel quickly and think, “HANDS, HEAD”. You can officiate the catch/hits to head with more accuracy this way.

\* When the ball is snapped on the B7, “drift” to the GL. Start with your feet off the sideline and take a 45 degree angle to a comfortable position on the goal line. Get a comfortable cushion to rule on goal line plays at the pylon.

\* Make good eye contact with your sideline crew mate when you share the sideline.

\* Write up LOS warnings for ILF and DOF. Work with players on the edge.

\* KOs (2019); Look for wedge blocks first, then progress to blocks. Teams will adjust to the new rule, but we must be aware of the newness of the rule and be ready to enforce these fouls.

\* Use O2O when there are subs to your sideline, also give “iron cross”.

\* Instruct your chain crew to tell you when it’s a “long 5 vs short 5”. Tell Referee in the pre-snap.

\* Keep a diary and make an honest appraisal of your performance each week.