

**2009
SCCFOA
Crew-of-Seven Position Outline
Umpire**

- 1) Pregame Duties and Responsibilities
 - a) Pregame Conference Responsibilities
 - i) Always participate. Participation is mandatory.
 - ii) Discuss team tendencies and how this may affect blocking patterns.
 - iii) Go with Referee to meet w/ Head Coaches.
 - (1) Ask Head Coach to verify player compliance w/ mandatory illegal equipment rules.
 - (2) Get numbers of interior lineman on scrimmage kick. Know exemption rules.
 - (3) See trainer regards bandages, wraps, and other possible equipment questions.
 - b) Pregame Duties on the Field
 - i) Spot-check equipment.
 - ii) Observe offensive linemen as they warm up.
 - iii) Stay mentally prepared.
- 2) Coin Toss Procedure and Responsibilities
 - a) Walk to midfield 3 minutes prior to kickoff.
 - b) Greet captains.
 - c) Observe and verify toss.
- 3) Kickoffs and other Free Kick Plays
 - a) Normal Free Kick
 - i) Basic Positioning
 - (1) Starting position is on the sideline opposite the pressbox on the kicking team's restraining line.
 - (2) You are responsible for your sideline to kicking team's endline.
 - ii) Pre-Kick Concentration Routine
 - (1) Count kickers and verify with BJ.
 - (2) Think 'short free kick' to avoid being surprised.
 - iii) Area of focus while ball is alive
 - (1) Kicked outside the hashmarks:
 - (a) Watch illegal action on the kicker.
 - (b) If kick is to your side of the field,
 - (i) Move to a spot between the numbers and the hashmark.
 - (ii) Move downfield no more than 10 to 15 yards.
 - (iii) Observe action mainly toward the center of the field, observing off-ball action.
 - (c) If kick is to opposite side,
 - (i) Move to the hashmark.
 - (ii) Move downfield no more than 10 to 15 yards.
 - (iii) Observe action mainly toward the center of the field, observing off-ball action.
 - (d) Observe dead ball action around pile.
 - (2) Kicked to the middle of the field:
 - (a) Watch illegal action on the kicker.
 - (b) Move to the hashmark on your side. Move downfield no more than 10 to 15 yards. Observe action mainly toward the center of the field, observing off-ball action.
 - (c) Observe dead ball action around pile

- b) Short Free Kick
 - i) Basic Positioning
 - (1) Starting position is on the sideline opposite the pressbox on kicking team's restraining line.
 - ii) Pre-Kick Concentration Routine
 - (1) Count kickers and confirm with Back Judge.
 - (2) Think kicking team restraining line, touching, and blocking.
 - (3) Lots of potential action up close. Be aware and alert.
 - iii) Area of focus while ball is alive
 - (1) Treat kicking team's restraining line as a plane.
 - (a) Any player (other than the kicker or holder) breaking the plane before the ball is kicked should be called for offside.
 - (2) If the kick is to your side, you are responsible for touching by either team.
 - (3) If the kick is to the opposite side, you are responsible for blocking.
 - (4) Be prepared to cover the play if a receiving team player recovers the kick and attempts to advance the ball.
- c) Free Kick after Safety
 - i) Basic Positioning
 - (1) Same for all free kicks, with kicker.
 - ii) Pre-Kick Concentration Routine
 - (1) Same for all free kicks.
 - iii) Area of focus while ball is alive
 - (1) Same for all free kicks.
- 4) Plays from Scrimmage
 - a) Basic Position, duties, and responsibilities before the snap
 - i) Basic Positioning
 - (1) The starting position is on the side opposite the tight end, generally five to seven yards, but not more than eight yards, off the ball.
 - ii) Pre-snap Concentration Routine
 - (1) Count offense. Signal to Referee (hand closed, extended toward offense) only when sure.
 - (2) Watch snapper for illegal movements. Be alert to possible illegal snaps, false start by offense, defense offside by contact.
 - (3) Key on guard-center-guard.
 - (4) Be alert to sound and cadence of defensive captain's signals.
 - b) Running Plays
 - i) Responsibilities on running plays:
 - (1) Up the middle
 - (a) Watch lead blocks. Get out of the way.
 - (b) Take progress from wing official.
 - (2) Into either side zone
 - (a) Read keys. Watch lead blocks.
 - (b) Watch dead ball and action behind play.
 - (c) Hustle to numbers to receive and spot new ball.
 - c) Passing Plays
 - i) Basic Keys and assignments
 - (1) Always key guards and center. Watch for potential chop blocks.
 - ii) Pre-snap Concentration Routine
 - (1) Be alert to possible illegal snaps, false start by offense, defense offside by contact.
 - iii) Responsibilities during a forward pass play
 - (1) Area of focus while ball is alive
 - (a) Move up to line when reading pass.

- (b) Focus attention on action involving the center and guards. Watch for potential chop blocks.
 - (c) Be aware of touching in or behind neutral zone.
 - (d) Pivot and turn on passes. Help out when possible on catch/no catch.
 - (e) On interceptions and all change of possession plays, be alert for low blocks.
- d) Punts
 - i) Basic Positioning
 - (1) A little deeper (7-9 yards) than normal position.
 - (2) Always able to see the snapper's hands.
 - ii) Pre-Kick Concentration Routine
 - (1) Stay over ball a little longer while teams change personnel.
 - (2) Count kickers.
 - (3) Remind defense to avoid the snapper.
 - iii) Area of focus while ball is alive
 - (1) Watch for illegal blocks and holding by both teams.
 - (2) Pay particular attention to the team B player over the snapper.
 - (3) Pivot once ball passes overhead and watch action ahead of runner.
 - (4) If kick is short or partially blocked, assist in determining if the ball crosses the neutral zone.
 - iv) Adjustments on fakes
 - (1) Read keys.
 - (2) Read play. Move up to line if pass is read.
- e) Field Goals and Trys
 - (1) Basic Positioning
 - (a) Behind defense.
 - (b) Always able to see the snapper's hands.
 - (2) Pre-Kick Concentration Routine
 - (a) Snapper. Count kickers. Defensive delays.
 - (3) Area of focus while ball is alive
 - (a) Watch for holding, pull-and-shoot, and personal fouls.
 - (b) Watch for defense using teammate or opponent to gain leverage to block kick.
 - (c) Close after ruling and clean up action.
 - (4) Adjustments on fakes
 - (a) Move to scrimmage.
 - (b) Play mechanics.
 - (c) Reverse fade on short kicks run back.
- f) Goal Line Plays
 - i) Use basic scrimmage play mechanics.
 - ii) May need to assist wings with forward progress.
 - (1) Discuss means of communication during pregame.
 - (2) Never signal touchdown.
- 5) General Game Duties
 - a) Substitutions and Counting Players
 - i) Always count offense or kickers.
 - b) Down, distance and clock status
 - i) Use wristbands.
 - ii) Spot ball on runs up the middle; and, on change of possessions, fourth downs, hurry up or no huddle offense.
 - iii) Referee will assist in spotting if you are involved in relaying the ball.
 - iv) Also, know ball location; and, be ready to tell Referee correct position on the field.
 - c) Penalty Enforcement
 - i) After option is accepted, step off penalty.
 - ii) Verify proper enforcement with Head Linesman and Line Judge.

- d) Measurements
 - i) Take forward stake from chain crew.
 - (1) Wait until clip is ready.
 - (2) Extend chain.
 - (3) Stay clear of press box.
- e) Timeouts
 - i) Record on card. Keep track. Stay over ball until R is ready to signal ready for play.
- f) End of Quarter
 - i) Record down, distance, yard line and ball location.
 - ii) Relocate ball at opposite end of field with Referee.
 - iii) Verify with Head Linesman.
- g) End of Half
 - i) Discuss any problems or concerns with crew.
 - ii) Stay mentally prepared.
- h) End of Game
 - i) Leave field as a group and retire to the dressing room without stopping for conversation.
 - ii) Have a post game conference. Listen to advice and critique from observers. Discuss game. Now you can relax. Start preparing for next week!!!