



Game Management

Charlotte Football Officials

MFOA

2026



Begins with Pre-Game

- Know your Matchup
 - Is this a Rivalry? What are their records?
- Discuss where each official “draws the line”
- How do you act when you take the field?
 - Do you run on the field? Or do you already look LAZY?
- How do you handle Uniforms during Pre-Game?
- How do you speak to your Coaches?

Uniform Police – Drawing the Line

- Knee Pads – get them covered
- Shirts – Tuck them In. Do colors matter?
- Undershirts – Nobody should see them
- Stomachs – Nobody wants to see it
- Mouthpieces – Know the Rules. If they don't have one...it's a safety concern
- Towels – Must be legal. No More skinny towels. Period
- Anything else?

Uniform Police – How to Handle

- If a player is not correctly in uniform, follow this pathway
 - Ask the player to correct the issue
 - Give the player the chance to correct the issue
 - If the issue continues to exist after the subsequent play, send the player out during the dead ball period & always announce to your crewmates the details of the removal
- Note: Players should not be removed from formation, unless a safety issue exists
- Note: We do not stop the clock when a player is sent off, unless a safety issue exists

Dead Ball Officiating – Sideline Behavior

- Navigating Coach Behavior
 - For Coaches – let your wings handle the Coaches until they can't
 - Back Judges & Umpires throwing Sideline Behavior fouls is a Red Flag
- Sideline Warning vs Unsportsmanlike Fouls
 - Sideline Warnings are for Box Interference.....not Attitudes
- Managing the Team Box
 - IF Ball is Dead, ok for Coach to "leak" onto the field IF he's coaching
 - Once the snap is imminent, all Coaches need to be in the Team Box
- Assistant coaches contesting calls – Automatic Unsportsmanlike Penalty (15-yard)
 - Unsporting foul on the team bench – charged to the Head Coach
 - 1 of 2 unsporting fouls charged to the Head Coach
 - <https://www.nchsaa.org/officials/>
- Parent Behavior
 - Ignore when possible
 - We do not have authority to directly remove fans as an official
 - Let this live with Gameday Administrators. Can we avoid impacting the game?

Dead Ball Officiating – DQ vs. Ejection

- Disqualification only applies to a collection of 2 unsportsmanlike fouls (or the 2nd contact incident with a non-player in the restricted area) (***no report needed***)
- Ejection applies to the following items (***reporting required***):
 - Fighting
 - Leaving the bench area
 - Flagrant contact
 - Biting
 - Taunting, baiting, spitting
 - Obscene Gestures
 - Disrespectfully addressing an official
 - Profanity
 - Tobacco Use

Dead Ball Officiating – Ball Boys

- Ball Boys on the Field
 - Know your personnel
 - Nobody on the field during sequence of downs
 - Ok to run the ball in after change of possessions ONLY
 - If a new ball is desired prior to punt or FG attempt, snapper or kicker needs to bring it directly to the Umpire. If previous ball is already placed and Umpire is in position....too late
 - New Position of the Umpire makes this tricky on scoring kicks. Low likelihood of a new ball on a last-minute scoring kick when the clock is running
 - For the TRY.....you kick the ball you score with (however, be willing to consider weather)

Dead Ball Officiating – Celebrations

- These actions should lead to Unsportsmanlike Fouls
 - Spinning the Ball
 - Spiking the Ball to draw attention to one's self
 - Pointing or Gesturing towards the opponent's sideline
 - Excessive Pointing or Gesturing in the face of the opponent
 - Excessive time standing over an opponent (can we verbally move them first)
 - Excessive Celebrations