

GREAT DEAD BALL OFFICIALS

- 1. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***know that three things ruin football games: fights, excessive penalties and injuries. They do whatever it takes to prevent these problems from occurring. They use their voice, whistle, and get between players if needed (Preventative officiating). They remember to make only quality calls.*
- 2. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***realize their primary responsibility is player safety (and their own). All fouls regarding player safety must be enforced; they'll always error on the side of safety.*
- 3. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***set standards early and are consistent. Active prevention starts the first play of the game.*
- 4. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***pinch in, but don't lose their field of vision. They hustle, but don't hurry. They make their presence felt when needed. They are disciplined to follow their keys (don't ball hawk), but see the big picture (soft eyes). They utilize the "rubber band / accordion effect" and never allow players to get behind them.*
- 5. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***maintain their poise at all times. They keep their cool when everyone around them is losing their poise.*
- 6. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***continue to officiate after they have thrown their flags.*
- 7. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***keep their eyes on the players – they don't look down at their progress spot (feet). They keep their heads up – continuing to observe the action around the ball carrier.*
- 8. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***are not in a hurry to get a new ball. They make sure the action clears first.*
- 9. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***continue to officiate until players separate and the potential for problems no longer exists.*
- 10. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***get into a flow and maintain a tempo. They follow a routine. They move the game along.*
- 11. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***are firm, but fair. They warn, but don't threaten.*
- 12. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***sense trouble and take the necessary steps to prevent it. They act, so they don't have to react. They expect the unexpected, anticipating problems. They have the courage to step up when necessary.*
- 13. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***clean up out of bounds. They get their quickly (usually straight down the sideline then out-of-bounds. They don't get obstructed by players in the bench area). They bring opponents out of the team bench area (visually, if not physically). After marking progress they are looking out-of-bounds and continue to observe the action.*
- 14. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***maintain their focus throughout the entire game (they never let up).*
- 15. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***will step back and take numbers when all else fails.*
- 16. Great Dead Ball Officials.....***take pride in being GREAT DEAD BALL OFFICIALS.*