

# San Diego County Football Officials Association

## Mechanics Summer Study Exam 2009

For the following questions please mark the answer true or false.

1. **5 Man** - Field goals and PAT's – The flank (HL or LJ) that is facing the back of R will go under the goal post with the BJ, and the R will widen out.
2. **5 Man** – On measurements, the BJ will no longer be at the box but will provide the foot at the appropriate yardline and perpendicular to the ball so the HL knows where to place the clip.
3. **Youth Level Only!** – We now provide more than one option for sunglasses.
4. During coin toss, HL and LJ stay at numbers and keep teams from advancing past there. This will keep teams further apart during pregame.
5. Dead-ball officiate out of bounds vs. staring at the progress spot.
6. Only after a change of possession, or following a free kick, may a spot be adjusted to a yard line. All other spots are what they are! Be accurate!
7. A flag for a spot foul may also be adjusted to a yard line.
8. R must verify that all officials are ready before giving hack.
9. R must stay in view of press box when giving hack.
10. Verify legal ball for all free kicks.
11. HL will verify that there is white tape at the 5-yard/mid-span mark of chains during pregame. HL will also assist referee when 5-yard penalty will be close to first down by signaling the referee whether the ball at the previous spot is behind or beyond the white tape. The down box can help determine this.
12. BJ basic position is 20 yards deep, but can be 21-25 yards depending on the situation.
13. All officials must be using the approved SDCFOA mechanics as detailed in the mechanics manual. Any other mechanics must be approved by the Board BEFORE being used on the field,
14. Blue or white beanbags are OK but will be the same color for all members of the crew. Determined by R.
15. Flanks must move onto the field after the play as all officials “close” on the play then back out when the teams separate.
16. All officials must “work their position” when teams are going thru their pre-game drills.
17. Officials should remain outside the sidelines before the game unless they are “working”; watching passers, kickers, receivers, keeping teams separated at the 50-yard line, etc. It looks unprofessional to see officials standing around on the field, especially when teams are not in the area.
18. No use of sunglasses above the pop warner/youth level.
19. Adornment is prohibited by rule.
20. Following the referee's signaling the HL the next down, and the spotting of the ball by the umpire (or the umpire's signal that he has the spot, the HL will pivot facing downfield indicating the down with both hands (one to the referee and one to the box man). The HL will then have the box man move and change the down marker. Once he sees this is done, he will pivot so his back is to the sideline and move back to his position at the sideline.
21. Proper penalty enforcement includes cross-checking the “march off”. HL marching with the U and the LJ waiting and then confirming the walk-off.
22. Officials will signal more than 11 players by using the “squirrel cage” motion to indicate the need to recount.
23. If both flank officials punch their respective wide outs back, then both flank officials shall check the backfield for a single back set and signal with one finger if they are in a one back set and a legal formation.
24. All officials should be ready to daisy chain the ball back to the spot of the next snap. Officials should also be proficient in their throwing and catching of the ball within a daisy chain.
25. Flank officials give forward progress using their downfield foot.

26. When a play is a sweep to the other sideline, the opposite flank official may choose to close to the hash marks, in a gradual manner, to better officiate with the wide view of all players and their conduct.
27. At the lower levels of pop warner, flank officials may take their initial position in from the sideline if the play starts from the other hash, or the players are too small to see from the sideline!!!!
28. The beanbag is used to mark the spot of a fumble, the spot where a scrimmage kick ends, the spot of first touching by K on a scrimmage kick, the spot of touching by K on a free kick before it has gone the required 10 yards, and to hold a progress or out-of-bounds spot as a last resort.
29. If sunglasses are no longer needed, they are to be removed, not placed on top of the hat or backwards on the head.
30. Umpires are to turn and move toward the ball immediately after a pass has been thrown. This way we have one more official looking for catch/no catch or touching of a pass in flight.
31. There will not be a second half "meeting of the captains" ceremony at mid-field.
32. As the flank officials go to get their teams with 5 minutes to go in halftime, the flank official of the team that will be kicking off to start the 2<sup>nd</sup> half will ask that head coach which direction he wishes to kick.
33. On penalty step offs, the Line judge is responsible for holding the previous spot in case the penalty yardage is mis-measured.
34. At the toss, if the winning team takes the 2<sup>nd</sup> half option the R shall immediately face the press box and give the penalty declined signal.
35. If flank official read pass, they may slide downfield observing action on the receivers and checking the action of the QB, always staying underneath the shortest route.
36. If flank officials read pass, they may slide downfield in anticipation of a long pass to their sideline. If there are no shallow receivers, they may continue to move downfield more aggressively and break to cover a long pass once the ball is thrown.
37. If the runner is downed inbounds beyond the line to gain and then slides out of bounds, the covering official will signal down inbounds by winding the clock two times before stopping the clock for the first down..
38. Officials will signal less than 11 players by a pushing down signal with both hands from waist high.
39. Officials may wear shorts to pop warner football games if the senior assigned official approves and all wear them. (And it better not be raining!)

### **2-Man Mechanics**

40. On the free kick, sets the kicking team and then takes a position on the chains side of the field at K restraining line
41. On free kick, is on sideline on press box side of the field even with the deepest receiver
42. On scrimmage plays, is on the line of scrimmage opposite the chains.
43. On scrimmage plays, is either on the line of scrimmage (for games above flag level) or 10-15 yards downfield (for flag football) on chains side of the field.
44. On punt plays, moves downfield to rule on catch/muff/fumble by deep receiver.

### **3-Man Mechanics**

45. Gets game information from the coaches starting with the home team.
46. Instructs the timer.
47. Has responsibility for instructing the chain crew.
48. On kick off, is on sideline opposite the chains on K's restraining line.
49. On kickoffs, is back with R's deepest receiver in middle of field.
50. Is on the restraining line of the receiving team on the kickoff.
51. On scrimmage running plays follows the runner into the side zones and has action on/around the runner.
52. On scrimmage play is on the line opposite the Head linesman.
53. Has roughing the passer.
54. Has the 25.
55. On punt, has sideline opposite chains.
56. On deep punt has call involving ball and the R goal line for possible touch back.
57. Rules whether the ball has gone over or under on PATs.

58. Rules whether the ball has gone between the uprights on PATs.
59. Takes initial position 9-10 yards in from the sideline (at the numbers). Has roughing kicker/holder on PATs.
60. On PAT from the R-3 is just behind the upright on the side of the field away from the chains.
61. On timeouts is at the ball.

#### **4-Man Mechanics**

62. Assists the Referee in getting game information from the head coaches.
63. Instructs chain crew.
64. Instructs the timer
65. Rules on legal balls.
66. Rules on legal/illegal tape, pads, casts, knee braces, etc.
67. Introduces visiting captains to the Referee at the toss.
68. On kickoff is at ball with the kicker.
69. Is on the restraining line of the receiving team on the kickoff.
70. On kickoff is with deep receiver(s) in middle of field.
71. On kickoff is on K-40 opposite the chains.
72. On scrimmage running plays follows the runner into the side zones and has action on/around the runner.
73. Has the 25 on all plays.
74. Generally has holding by interior linemen during running plays.
75. Rules whether the quarterback has thrown the pass from a spot beyond the line of scrimmage.
76. On pass plays moves forward to position on line of scrimmage.
77. Waits for signal from Referee before moving chains.
78. Generally rules on ineligibles down field.
79. On punt plays, is slightly wider and deeper, about 7 yards behind the receivers line of scrimmage on the Line Judge's side of the field, looking for action on the snapper, and then turning to observe blocking by the receivers from a position inside the hash marks.
80. On punts, slightly behind the kicker on Line judge's side of the field.
81. Determines if blocked scrimmage kick goes beyond the line.
82. On punts is deep and toward the center of the field but to the side of the field away from the chains, slightly behind R's deep receiver.
83. On punts, is slightly behind the kicker on Line Judge's side of the field.
84. On punt, has sideline coverage opposite the chains.
85. On PAT-Field goal, lines up 9-10 yards in from sidelines (at the numbers). After kick moves to position closer and slightly behind the R line and assists with the line action.
86. On PAT's/field goal is on line of scrimmage, 9-10 yards in from sideline (at the numbers) with the chains.
87. On PAT's/field goal moves to the goalpost on their side of the field opposite the Back Judge. This person determines if the kick has crossed the goal line on a field goal attempt.
88. Has roughing kicker/ holder on PATs and field goals.
89. Has roughing snapper.
90. On measurements, marks the yard line for the clip, the rules on whether it is a first down or not.
91. On measurements, stretches the forward stake.
92. On measurements, holds the ball steady in a crouched position with back to the defense.
93. On measurements, places the clip on the yard line and holds the spot as the forward stake is stretched.
94. Signals time out, points to team taking time out, and confirms all time out information with other officials.
95. Covers the ball on timeouts.

#### **5-Man Mechanics**

96. Instructs the timer.
97. Instructs the ball boys.
98. On kickoff is at K's 40 at the sideline.
99. On kickoff, is at R's 50.
100. On kickoff, is deep with receivers on chains side of field.

101. On kickoff, is deep with R opposite the chains.
102. On kickoff, is at ball with the kicker.
103. On anticipated short free kick, moves up to R's 50 on sideline opposite chains.
104. On anticipated short free kick, moves to middle of field with R's deepest receiver(s).
105. Has the 25.
106. Has the B End line all the way.
107. Counts A with umpire.
108. Counts B with Back judge.
109. On punts, rules on whether ball has crossed the line of scrimmage.
110. On punts, is deep with receivers on chains side of field and has receivers and the ball.
111. On punts, is approximately 7 yards behind R linemen shading to Line judge side of the field.
112. On punts, is even with the deep receiver on the sideline opposite the chains.
113. On PAT's/field goal moves to position under the goal post, and is responsible for determining if the kick clears the crossbar.
114. On PAT's/field goal, if facing the back of the R, moves to a position under the goal post with BJ. (two answers for this question).
115. On PAT's/field goal has roughing the kicker holder.
116. On PAT's/field goal is in normal position behind B linemen and rules on roughing center.
117. On measurements, makes the determination if it is a first down or not.
118. On measurements, marks the location on the yard line where the clip should be placed.
119. On measurements, holds the ball steady in a crouched position with back to the defense.
120. On measurements, pulls the forward stake for the measurement.
121. During timeouts, moves to chains and monitors the chain crew.
122. During timeouts, covers team on chains side of field.
123. During timeouts, covers the ball.

**Pregame Speech:**

- Home team first
- Referee and Umpire
- Introductions – My name is (*your name*) and I'll be your referee tonight.
- Everyone legally equipped?
- Any unusual plays or formations?
- My watch/the game clock has the correct time; we will come for the captains in 15 minutes.
- *Is this a homecoming?*
- Will you be going in before kickoff?
- Where will you go at halftime?
- As you know we will expect good sportsmanship tonight.
- Can we see your game ball, please?
- Good luck, coach