

Referee/Back Judge Relationship

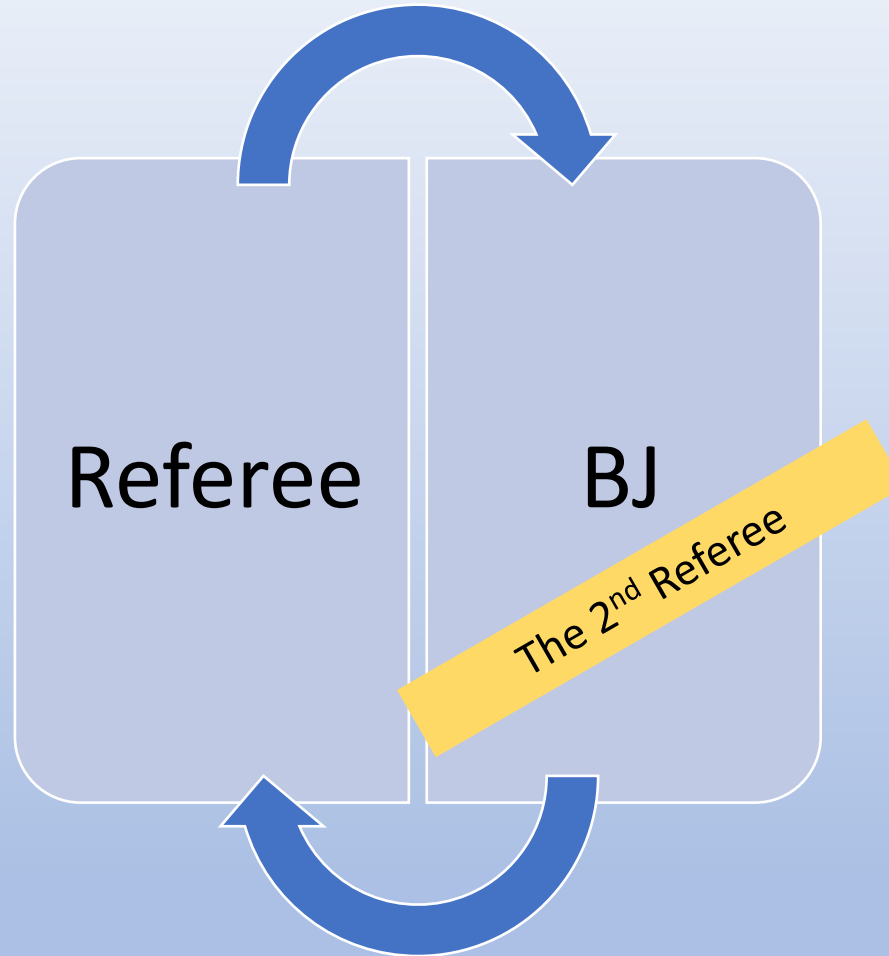
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San Diego County Football Officials Association

Relationship Between R and BJ



Its about WE not ME!

2022 Stats – 30 Crews

- Only 5 crews with veteran R and BJ
- 22 of 30 crews with BJ < 5Y position experience
- 11 of 30 crews with R < 5Y position experience
- 8 crews with both R and BJ < 5Y experience
- 10 crews with a new R or BJ
- ~50% of current R used to be BJ

Experience New: 1-2Y Newer: 3-4Y Vet: > 5Y		Referee			Total
		New	Newer	Veteran	
BJ	New	2	1	3	6
	Newer	2	3	11	16
	Veteran	2	1	5	8
Total		6	5	19	

What Does R Need/Expect from BJ?

- Be the 2nd Referee – back half of the field is your office
- Own the kicking game – FK and SK
 - Onside readiness, rules, judgement
 - Result of every scrimmage kick
- Downfield coverage of passing and running game
- Ball Mechanics/Tempo (Help the U Drive the Engine)
- Sideline to sideline coverage – must be athletic, willing to hustle, no hash restraints
- Clock status and awareness – EVERY play
 - Game Clock - Eyes behind R
 - Play Clock - Loose but strict when needed
- Foul Recorder (at minimum for R, U and BJ)
- Verify penalty enforcement
- Sounding board (tricky plays, R has flag)
- Accompany to sideline at qtr break

How Can the BJ Help the R?

- Overall Awareness - the eyes and ears of what happening
- Be the BEST dead ball official on the field
- Side Zone coverage and presence
- Ball Mechanics/Tempo/Spotting
- Game Clock status – ALWAYS
 - Under 2:00 fouls
- Sideline assistance
 - Help young flanks
 - Explain fouls or get decisions from coaches
 - Get kicking team on field
- Veteran BJ as mentor to younger R
 - Slow the pace, calming influence
 - Ensure correct penalty enforcement
 - Crew safety net
- Communication with coaches
- Pregame Voice in locker room and field
- Picking up timeouts from sideline

BJ - The 2nd Referee

What does it mean?

- Are you ready to step up and be that 2nd leader in the locker room and field?
- Apprentice or dress rehearsal to be the next Referee
- R and B split the field in half
 - R owns front half
 - B owns the back half of the field - 2nd level behind U to end line
- Own the kicking game rules - muff, touch, recovery, block
- Command the box in anticipated onside kick mechanics
- Passing game – can you step up on those questionable PI calls?
- Ready to step in anywhere on the field
 - Do you know the R mechanics?
 - Do you know all other position mechanics?
- Think like a referee
 - Are you processing more inputs than just your presnap?
- Alleviate administrative duties from R
 - Delegation and added responsibility
- In charge of training crew for signaling under the goal post

How Does a Referee Train a New BJ?

- Clear expectations of your wants and needs
- Can't teach hustle but can insist on it
- Starts w/Mechanics
 - BJ must independently immerse into the mechanics
 - Must know initial keys in passing game and positioning on field
- Rules 6 and 7 + Case Plays
 - Categories for DPI/OPI
 - KCI, 1st touching, blocks, bags or flags
- Rule 3 - Game Clock Status
- Play clock timing philosophy – when to start the 40/25
- Review the pre-snap checklist(s)
- Anticipation and Awareness
 - Down and Distance
 - Formations – trips, pressed, isolated star athlete
 - How to read and react at the snap. Read Pass – back pedal; Read Run – stop
 - Watch initial action on key, then zone – don't officiate air
- Film Review Sessions – positive and constructive feedback
- Reinforce communication to the crew
- Progressive delegation – start small and keep building

The little
things....
(nuggets not
found in
Mechanics
Manual)

- BJ always covers and gets R's flag (also U on dead ball LOS fouls)
- BJ records R and U fouls
- R can get BJ bean bag after punt
- BJ gets bad ball off the field
- R can get the ball from offensive team to start series
- BJ always relays ball so R can signal first down
- BJ - After a score, go up scoring team's sideline to get kicking team on field. NMT 1 min between PAT/FG and KO
- R and BJ - With under a minute left in halftime warmup, clear the field and have kicking team on the field and ready as clock reaches 0:00
- R and BJ pregame inspection of the field
- BJ lines up in sight of R to give clock status
- BJ/R awareness when team isnt going to snap or use a timeout until the 5 sec signal
- Sideline buffer – BJ takes the heat so R can get game started
- BJ can setup/retrieve stadium mic
- BJ - never leave your R alone with a coach

Questions?

Thanks for you attention,
dedication and commitment to
get better!

...and in the words of Don Carey
– Now Get Better!! 😊

Have a Great 2022 season!!