

# INTRODUCTION TO MTFOA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL OFFICIATING



You'll learn a lot about yourself officiating football. Officiating high school football involves a number of skills. Some of these skills you might not have used before or haven't used in a long time. First, you must digest a rule book. Then you must learn a plethora of mechanics ("mechanics" refers to how officials administer a game).

Then you must apply those rules and mechanics with impartiality and common sense knowing how to balance rules knowledge vs. rules understanding.

You must deal with coaches and players. You must deal with other officials. You must resolve conflicts.

You must be decisive and confident.

You must accept constructive feedback from your trainer and mentors.

You must deal with criticism from everyone.

All this and more provides you with the opportunity to learn who you are, how you deal with pressure, and how you learn new things.

You'll also discover how you handle mistakes. While being a high school football official, you will make mistakes and some of them will be very big mistakes.

After making one, will you go into the tank (as we like to say), or will you forget about it and continue officiating like nothing happened?