

# HOLDING

## Thoughts on Holding

1. Holding can sometimes be best determined by watching the disengagement.
2. Grasping an opponent's shirt doesn't necessarily mean holding. When the shirt is stretched because a defensive player is trying to get away, it does.
3. Did the hold restrict the movement the defender is trying to make?
4. Was the defender still able to make penetration up the field?
5. Was the defender still able to make or participate in the play?
6. Was the runner already past the point where the supposed hold took place?
7. Takedowns on defenders trying to get away are holding fouls.

## VERY IMPORTANT

**MAKE THE CALL THE SAME IN EVERY QUARTER**

## PONDER POINTS

PLAYER SAFETY – NUMBER ONE CONCERN

WHAT EFFECT DOES IT HAVE ON THE PLAY

JUDGEMENT – THROUGH GOOD MECHANICS

ENGAGEMENT &  
DISENGAGEMENT

GAME TEMPO & READ KEYS TO  
RECOGNIZE BLOCKING  
PATTERNS AND TECHNIQUES

### **PRIORITY 1 ALWAYS CALLED**

Takedowns

Tackle

Safety Fouls  
(Clips, Chops, Slugs  
Facemask, Head shots)

### **PRIORITY 2 SOMETIMES CALLED**

Stretched shirt

Out of Frame Grasp

Hands to Mask

### **PRIORITY 3 RARELY OR NEVER CALLED**

Face to Face Dancing  
(within frame work)

Double Team

Superior Legs

No Advantage

*(This material was originally prepared by Jim Blackwood, Supervisor of Football Officials, Western Athletic Conference for presentation at the CCA Supervisors Meeting February 23-25, 2005)*