

6 MAN MECHANICS

Unless noted otherwise below, positioning and mechanics will be the same as for a 7 Man Crew in the Officials Manual.

KEYS

- I. Back Judge and Side Judge will key the widest eligible receiver on their side of the field.
- II. Linesman and Line Judge will then key the next widest eligible receivers.

KICKOFF

- I. Before the kick, the Umpire will be on the receiving team's restraining line and the Side Judge will be on the kicking teams' restraining line on the Linesman side of the field.
- II. After the kick, the Back Judge and Side Judge will remain in the restricted area and cover the play following the 7 Man mechanics for a Field Judge/Side Judge.
- III. If an onside kick is anticipated, the Line Judge will move to the receiving team's restraining line in the restricted area.

RUNNING PLAY

- I. After the ball is spotted:
 - A. the Back Judge and Side Judge will be positioned 25-yards beyond defensive line of scrimmage and 3-5 yards behind deepest defensive back in their restricted areas.
 - B. the Back Judge and Side Judge will be positioned on their respective goal lines when the ball is snapped inside the 25-yard line and move 3-5 yards off the pylon when the ball is snapped inside the 14 yard line.
 - C. the Back Judge and Side Judge will be positioned on the end pylon when the ball is snapped on or inside the 5-yard line, unless Linesman instructs to stay on the goal line.
 - D. The Umpire will be positioned ~12 yards behind the defense and between the offensive tackles, keeping the snap in view.
- II. The Back Judge will move onto the field to the bottom of the numbers when counting down the play clock and will ensure this is communicated to both team quarterbacks when meeting pregame.
- III. After the snap, the Back Judge and Side Judge will remain in the restricted area and cover the play following the 7 Man mechanics for a Field Judge/Side Judge, with each having responsibility for their respective half of the field.

6 MAN MECHANICS (*continued*)

FORWARD PASS

- I. For passes into the endzone, the Back Judge will move to the end line and be ready to rule on passes near the end line. The Side Judge will stay on the goal line.
- II. The Umpire will help cover passes in the middle of the field in front and to his sides.

SCRIMMAGE KICK – PUNTS

- I. After the ball is spotted:
 - A. the Back Judge will be positioned 10-12 yards wider than and 5-yards behind the deepest receiver on the Line Judge side of the field.
 - B. the Back Judge will be positioned 10-12 yards wider than the deepest receiver on the Line Judge side of the field on the goal line when the ball is snapped inside the receiving team's 45-yard line.
 - C. The Side Judge will coordinate his position with the Back Judge and be on the sideline.
 - D. The Umpire will be positioned ~12 yards behind the defense and between the offensive tackles, keeping the snap in view.
- II. After the snap, the Back Judge will follow the 7 Man mechanics for a Back Judge until a receiver catches a kick and begins to advance. At this point, the Back Judge will move to the sideline on the Line Judge side of the field and cover the return following the 7 Man mechanics for a Field Judge.
- III. When the ball is kicked out of bounds in flight on the Line Judge side, the Back Judge will move to the sideline and determine the spot following the 5 Man mechanics for a Back Judge.

FIELD GOAL ATTEMPT OR TRY

- I. After the ball is spotted:
 - A. the Side Judge will be positioned beyond the end zone and behind his upright where he feels most comfortable and has the best coverage of the upright. The Side Judge will then follow the 7 Man mechanics for a Field Judge.
 - B. the Umpire will follow the 5 Man mechanics for an Umpire.

AFTER A TRY OR SUCCESSFUL FIELD GOAL

- I. The Back Judge will go to the end zone pylon on the press box side and give a signal to the Side Judge on the opposite pylon, so they jog down the field together.
- II. The Umpire will give the Side Judge a 10-yard cushion so they arrive at their free kick lines at the same time.

6 MAN MECHANICS (*continued*)

MEASURING FOR A FIRST DOWN

- I. The Line Judge will:
 - A. secure a new ball.
 - B. place a bean bag just behind the yard line where the clip is to be placed to align the Linesman so the chains are parallel to the sideline.
 - C. help clear players from the measurement area.

BETWEEN-PERIODS PROCEDURE

- I. The Back Judge will go to the new ball spot where the new period will begin.
- II. The Side Judge will go to the Linesman and confer about the down, distance and spot of clip. He will then jog to the new spot where the clip will be placed, marking the spot with his foot. The Linesman will bring the chains with the clip and place the clip where the Side Judge has marked.
- III. The Line Judge will assume the same responsibilities as Time-Out Procedures.