

GETTING ALONG WITH OFFICIALS

By Duane Silver of Waco, Texas

1. Before the game get a piece of paper and write down the names of all three officials and keep it in your pocket and call the officials by their first name when you want to talk to them. (They love it!) Put your arm around them and joke with them. (Brown nosing works)
2. At your home games have something for them to eat and drink in their dressing room before the game and at halftime. My last few years, I always gave them socks before the game. It worked; we only lost one home game in two years.
3. Pray (I mean this) for them to be consistent. That is all you can ask for in officials.
4. One reason you should not go too nuts over a BAD CALL is that the good and bad calls work themselves out over the whole season. You will get some breaks and you will be ripped off sometime, but God will make it fair in the end. (I believe this)
5. Make your players keep their shirt tails in their shorts during the games. The officials get sick of telling them to put their shirt tails in their shorts.
6. Tell your players when an official calls a foul that he cannot handle the ball and they (players) must give the ball to one of the other officials, TEACH THIS (I actually taught my players this.) (Most players don't know this.)
7. If you the coach disrespect the officials, so will your fans and players.
8. Teach your players to run down all loose balls after the whistle has blown and give it to the nearest official. (They will remember it)
9. Never, I mean "Never" get a technical foul on the road. Coaches that get Technical Fouls on the road seldom win the game.
10. Talk to the referees after the game, Win or Lose.
11. Remember these men and women who officiate are HUMAN and they are going to make mistakes. If they were omnipotent they sure would be smart enough to not be officials in the first place. (Johanna Denson AD Waco High School)