



COLLEGE FOOTBALL OFFICIATING, LLC

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October 21, 2010

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TO: Game Officials and Conference Coordinators of Officials.

FROM: David Parry, national coordinator
Rogers Redding, secretary-rules editor.

SUBJECT: Continued emphasis on dangerous contact.

As you prepare for another weekend of football, we wanted to underscore the need for a continued emphasis on contact above the shoulders and dangerous hits in general. The enforcement of these fouls has generally been positive on a national level to date; however, a continued and heightened emphasis regarding potentially dangerous contact must continue.

On behalf of the College Football Officiating, LLC (CFO) Board of Managers, this communication serves as a reminder of the commitment we all must continue to protect student-athletes while playing the game. The numerous CFO/NCAA video productions, including one posted earlier this year specific to targeting defenseless player fouls, continue to be valid and we encourage you to review these presentations periodically.

Additionally, we remind all officials that our rules are in place to assist in making this call and when in doubt, a flag should be thrown for a foul. Fouls where players launch and lead with the helmet should receive strong consideration for an ejection. It is also important to remember that any targeting and contact initiated above the shoulders against a defenseless player must be penalized, regardless of how the contact occurs (e.g., shoulder, arm, helmet, etc.).

Also as a reminder, any foul for targeting a defenseless player automatically must include a conference review of the play. We have been designated by the CFO Board of Managers to assist conference commissioners and coordinators when reviewing these plays and are available to discuss situations at any time.

Finally, the Board of Managers remains fully committed to the protection of student-athletes. Overall, the job being done by officials has been outstanding in this area. This communication is meant to be a reminder and symbol of the CFO/NCAA commitment to supporting officials when difficult calls are made.

Keep up the good work for the second half of the season.

DP/RR:emh