

# National Referee Conference 2018 Agenda (Final)

**Hotel: Marriott DFW North**  
**8440 Freeport Parkway**  
**Irving, TX 75063**  
**(972) 929-8800**

**Room Costs: \$109 single or double**

**Start: Friday, April 27 at 10:00 AM**  
**Ends: Saturday, April 28 at 3:00 PM**

**10:00 AM Conference Opening General Session**  
**Commissioner Jon Steinbrecher, Mid-American Conference**

**Rogers Redding, CFO National Coordinator**  
**Steve Shaw, Secretary/Editor NCAA Rules Committee**

The state of college football and important issues related to CFP, collaboration, etc.  
Update on governance issues, rules structure, and other topics relevant to officiating.  
Discussion and video of 2018 Rules and Mechanics Changes

## **11:45 AM Break for Lunch**

The Conference will be organized into general sessions as well as individual breakout sessions structured similar to continuing education courses in other professional conferences, where attendees will sign up for various topics or sessions. All individual sessions will be conducted at least twice, with the same presentation being made at each time. This allows attendees to register for various sessions at times that do not conflict with certain other topics or sessions they wish to attend. Also, this will allow for smaller breakouts designed to facilitate as much interaction and dialogue among attendees as possible.

Among the topics we would like to offer are the following: (Instructors are listed after each description)

**Breakout #1: "Starting out as a Referee":** Breakout designed for the new or fairly new Referee to cover topics such as designing an effective pregame meeting, communication with crew during the season, and dealing with the different personalities of individual officials. This session will also cover the basic topics of the coaches meeting, TV meeting, coin toss, sideline conversations with coaches, how to conduct a measurement, etc.. **Brandon Cruse, TBD**

**Breakout #2: "Using the Mic":** Breakout designed to cover the art of public speaking on the mic in our football environment, to include penalty announcements, explanation of special situations, replay decisions including disqualifications, and overtime explanation which is usually always televised. **Matt Austin, Dan Capron**

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**Breakout #3:** “Situational Awareness”: Covering game impact situations and learning to recognize special opportunities or circumstances in a game that create a heightened state of potential significance. Managing the last few minutes of a close game, critical penalties and awareness by Referee to know what exactly was called, and clock and substitution management are the type of situations that will be covered in this session. **Jeff Flanagan, John O’Neill**

**Breakout #4:** “Painting a Picasso”: Striving for the perfect game. Last year there was an emphasis on length of game. What can the crew do to be efficient in managing the game? How can we better manage clock situations? What can officials do and not do to avoid being part of the game? This session will be an interactive discussion including video examples how to manage the game and avoid pitfalls which bring attention to the crew. **Jeff Heaser, Matt Austin**

**Breakout #5:** “Offensive Holding”: Second only to False Starts, this is the most common foul called and Referees call a great number of these if not a majority of OH called in many games. Special emphasis is placed on the four categories of OH and how to train the official to process these actions in determining if action rises to the level of a foul. Extensive use of video of actual plays, called and not called, are used to illustrate this foul category. **Land Clark, TBD.**

**Breakout #6:** “Chop Blocks and Leg Whips/Tripping”: Special emphasis placed on recognizing these fouls as they develop, which is always easier than trying to see the actual moment of contact. **Mike Defee, Hubert Owens**

**Breakout #7:** “ING, RPS, RNK, RRK”: These fouls are unique to the Referee (with assistance in 8 man mechanics from the Center Judge) and some require other information communicated by officials to determine if a foul has occurred. Use of extensive video examples will be used to cover both the actions of these fouls as well as the mechanics. Special tips will be discussed to help Referees recognize the pocket area on pass and kick plays. **Mike Cannon, Don Willard**

**Breakout #8:** “Mechanics”: It is important for Referees to have a good, general working knowledge of the mechanics of all positions on his/her crew, not just the Referee position. We will provide a session that summarizes through video examples the basic mechanics of the Line of Scrimmage positions (HL and LJ) and the Deep positions (FJ, SJ, BJ) and how these mechanics are designed to facilitate effective coverage of players in various play situations. **Byron Boston, Greg Burks**

**Breakout #9:** “Pre-Game Meeting and Crew Evaluation”: Preparation of the crew for their next game is the Referee’s responsibility, and part of that process is evaluating the previous game(s) to identify areas of success as well as opportunities for improvement. This session will include not only the development of an agenda for this effort, but how video is used both in meetings and during the week leading up to the game and what the crew’s expectations should be by the Referee. **Jerry McGinn, John O’Neill.**

**Breakout #10:** “Leadership 101”: One definition of leadership revolves around having influence, and nobody on an officiating crew has more influence, good and bad, than the Referee. This session will center on the qualities needed to be an effective leader, both on and off the field. The past two

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Referees working the FCP National Championship games will jointly present this session. **Dan Capron, Mike Defee.**

**Breakout #11: “Breaking Down Video”:** While all officials rely on feedback from various sources, including the conference office, the Referee must be able to evaluate both his and his crew’s game performance through video assessment. This means he needs to know what to look for in evaluating his game, including how to be efficient in viewing the game video and recognizing areas in rules applications and mechanics that he can bring to the attention of others on the crew as well as him/herself. **Walt Anderson**

**Breakout #12: “7-Man Mechanics”:** While many of the standardized mechanics are the same for 7 and 8 man crews, there are some unique differences for 7 man mechanics that are relevant for many games at the collegiate level, since many are covered under 7-Man Mechanics even though there is a trend toward 8-Man. In reality, similar to our transition from 6 to 7, that evolution will take time, so we need to be sure that 7-Man Mechanics are thoroughly covered. This session will touch not only on the unique mechanics for the Referee position, but also address how this format affects other positions as well as how we transition to 6-Man mechanics when a vacancy on the crew occurs. **Karl Richins, Michael Vandervelde**

**Breakout #13: “Inside the Red Zone”:** Special situations occur once teams get inside the 20 yard line, both on offense and defense. As such, officials need to be prepared for these situations and learn to anticipate that certain schemes, coverages, or tendencies are going to occur on both sides of the ball. The session will highlight many of these situations and show video examples of how to deal with them. **Jeff Flanagan, Land Clark**

**Breakout #14: “New Rules for 2018”:** Discussion including video examples of the new rules changes for 2018 in this session, including the evolution and rationale of the change to help referees better understand why these changes were necessary or desired. In addition, this session will focus on some of the rules applications that the National Coordinator sees are problematic from both an officiating standpoint as well as a consistency perspective from his observations of games across the country. **Rogers Redding**

**Breakout #15: “DPI and OPI”:** Similar to the rationale used for Breakout #8 dealing with general knowledge of other position mechanics, knowledge of what is and is not pass interference is important for the Referee for many reasons, even though this is not a call we will make. Each of the categories in these foul codes will be discussed and video examples shown, as well as application of mechanics to help the crew in getting these calls right because they can be a source of considerable focus in a game. **Brad Van Vark, TBD**

**Breakout #16: “Outside the Lines”:** Coaches and Conflict Resolution and thinking outside the box to help you and your crew get better. Topics will include dealing with the stressful situations that come with the emotions of the game with coaches and players. **Matt Loeffler, Jerry McGinn**

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**General Session #2: “Instant Replay”:** While the Replay Official makes replay decisions, valuable input by the Referee can be critical in helping determine a correct decision. With the development of video devices that allow viewing of the play from the field, this becomes even more important. Also, knowledge of Rule 12 is critical for all officials to help in properly administering any replay situation. Because of the significance of Targeting, this session will include an extensive video review of this rule, including video examples of what is and is not a foul and what our direction from the Rules Committee and other bodies is for 2018. It will also include any changes to Rule 12 for 2018. **Steve Shaw, Bill Carollo**

Friday, April 27

10:00 AM	Welcome Remarks – Jon Steinbrecher, Commissioner of Mid-American Conference and Chair of the CFO Board of Managers
10:30 AM – 11:45 AM	General Session #1 – Rules and Mechanics Changes Rogers Redding, Steve Shaw
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM	Lunch - Salons E, A, B
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Breakout Sessions – <b>1A</b>
2:45 PM – 4:15 PM	Breakout Sessions – <b>1B</b>
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Breakout Sessions – <b>2A</b>
6:00 PM – 7:15 PM	Dinner – Salons E, A, B
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	General Session #2 – Instant Replay/Targeting/New Replay Rules Steve Shaw, Bill Carollo

Saturday, April 28

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Breakfast – Salon E, A, B
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Breakout Sessions – <b>2B</b>
10:15 AM – 11:45 AM	Breakout Sessions – <b>3A</b>
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM	Lunch – Salons E, A, B
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Breakout Sessions – <b>3B</b>
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	General Session – Closing Comments

Updated: **March 28, 2018**

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Rogers Redding

## Referee Instructors:

Matt Austin, SEC  
Mike Cannon, Big Ten  
Dan Capron, Big Ten  
Land Clark, Pac 12  
Brandon Cruse, Big 12  
Mike Defee, Big 12  
Jeff Flanagan, ACC  
Jeff Heaser, ACC  
Matt Loeffler, SEC  
Jerry McGinn, Big Ten  
John O'Neill, Big Ten  
Hubert Owens, SEC  
Michael Vandervelde, MW  
Brad Van Vark, Big 12  
Don Willard, Big Ten

Walt Anderson, Big 12  
Byron Boston, Southland  
Greg Burks, MW  
Bill Carollo, Big Ten  
Rogers Redding, National Coordinator  
Karl Richins, Big Sky  
Steve Shaw, SEC, Sec. Editor NCAA Rules

## Special Guests:

Red and Marie Cashion  
Jerry Markbreit

Atsuo Tanaka  
Atsunori Hamada

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