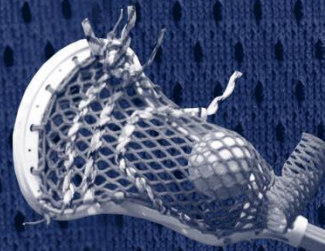


RAISE YOUR GAME



Working With New Officials



New Officials

- New to Lacrosse and Officiating
- Players or Coaches Becoming Officials
- Officials from other sports
- Officials moving up
- Youth vs. Adults

RAISE YOUR GAME



Pregame with the Official

- Don't just lecture, ask questions
- Determine partner's skill and confidence level
- For the newest officials practice K.I.S.S.
 - Review 1 or 2 important rules/situations
 - Review basic mechanics

RAISE YOUR GAME



Pregame with the Official

- For new officials, be clear that you don't expect them to get all the calls right
- Identify the things your partner **HAS** to call
- Talk about how you handled mistakes you've made particularly early in your career.
- Set up a way for your partner to ask for help if needed during the game.

RAISE YOUR GAME



Pregame With Coaches

- In some situations it may be appropriate to let coaches know your partner is a newer official
- Make sure your partner looks the part when certifying coaches.
 - First impressions are important and help your partner make a good one.

RAISE YOUR GAME



During the Game

- Talk to your partner as often as possible (timeouts, quarters, etc...)
- Get new officials to make a call early to get comfortable. The longer it takes, the harder it gets.
- Positive reinforcement is best during the game, you need your partner to keep working!
- If they are struggling, don't try to correct too many things

RAISE YOUR GAME



Common Game Situations

1. No whistle/weak whistle when ball is out of bounds/goal
2. Awards ball incorrectly in an obvious situation
3. Blows play in early during regular substitutions
4. No call on obvious loose ball technical
5. Misses a technical foul with possession
6. Misses a personal foul



Common Game Situations

7. Misidentifies a foul

- Reports time served for a loose ball technical
- Calls a technical a personal or vice versa
- Reports 30 seconds for a personal

8. Blows whistle early in a slow whistle situation



Time to Intervene

- Official appears confused or disengaged
- Too many whistles or too few
- Frequently out of position
- Multiple incorrect calls



Coaches and Players

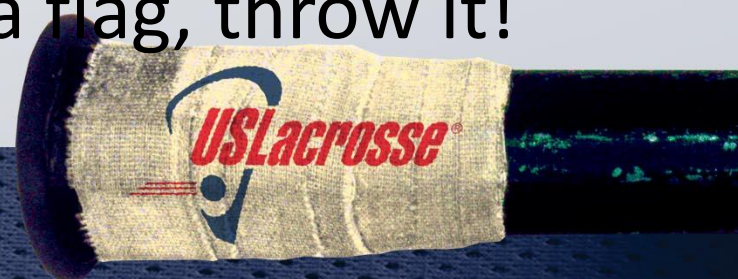
- Often good to work the bench side for the whole game (2-man mechanics)
 - Allows you to handle the sideline and bench areas
 - May not be a good idea if the fans are difficult and close to the field
 - You can correct some calls (e.g. report a slash as a 1 minute even if your partner called for 30 seconds)
 - You are closer to the coaches and can deal with them if needed

Coaches and Players

- Talk to coaches early and often if needed
- Keep your partner away from the benches if needed
 - Conference at midfield during breaks rather than at the table
 - Rotate the new official to single side if there are issues
- Be quick to get/join your partner if players are questioning a call
- Take time to conference and explain calls

If Things Go Bad

- Don't let things go bad!
- Usually it takes sometime to stay aware
 - Address the issue sooner rather than later whether it is with your partner, a coach or a player
 - Give more direction to your partner
 - You may need to make more calls for your partner
- If a coach or player deserves a flag, throw it!



Post Game

- Perhaps the most important part for a new official
- Great to get away from the game site if possible
- Should be done right away while information is still fresh

RAISE YOUR GAME



Post Game

- Start by critiquing something you thought you could have done better
 - Don't make it all about the mistakes they made
- Ask your partner what went well and what did not. Self awareness is very important
- Pick a few situations and ask about your partner's thought process
- Identify strengths and growth areas
- Set goals for next game/next game together
- Where appropriate suggest reviewing specific rules or mechanics
 - Offer to answer questions via email or phone call



Discussion

- Most experienced officials are called on to help develop new officials
- What do you do on and off the field to mentor new officials?
- What situations have you been in with new officials?

