

GBSOA Meeting (2025-02-03 19:03 GMT-6) - Transcript

Attendees

Abdul D, Aiden Cornutt, Alabama Soccer Association, Brandon Willis, Brock Miles, Brody Mitchell, Carter Lyles, Chris H, Chris Kovacs, Coy Weege, Dan Smolenski, Daniel Mojica, Daniel Williams, daryl thomas, Douglas Archer, Drew Duncan, Ethan Beisher, Eusebio Eusebio, Frank Matte, Frankie Urueta, Hal Youngblood, Hamm Fam, Harrison Newell, Jake Blackstone, James Teissere, James Troxell, Joe Kovacs, John Phillips, Joshua Moore, Joshua Vogel, Juan Carlos Ibanez, Kelli Muncher, Kris Rose, Lucas Joiner, Luis Mendez, Luis Sariñana, Madeline Sharer, Matt Jensen, Michael Bissell, Michael Rhodes, Mogufu Gicadi, Nery Segundo Agustin, Nick McMinn, oVictor Del Orbe, Patrick Byington, Preston Beverly, PVO Alvarez _Official, Ron Stromeyer II, Saeed Shiri, sam bierster, Sam Haynes, Santiago Velásquez, T Garrett Neill, Tom Bowen, Tyler Payne

Transcript

T Garrett Neill: Welcome to our I hope everybody can hear me. Last meeting before the season starts. Thank you, Santiago. I see a few folks on here that have done some late registration and a few names of folks that still need some stuff left to do. So, we've been shooting out emails hard and fast. we want to try to get everybody qualified as quickly as possible and so that there aren't any surprises. if you already have games assigned to you then that we need you to be qualified otherwise we'll have to pull out of those games. So that's the basics.

T Garrett Neill: So, I'm going to let Daniel cover a little bit about some of that housekeeping. let's talk about a few things. Tonight's the last meeting for the Season officially starts on Thursday. There is a smattering of games on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. And as we talked about in our board meeting a little while ago, it falls off the cliff and it is fast and furious for 10 weeks after that. so it Daniel's going to cover a few things in terms of acce accepting assignments, setting blocks, and just general housekeeping as it relates to the first thing happens before we ever get out to the field. so let me cover a couple of things. I've had a number of people contact me this week about trying to get their stuff done.

T Garrett Neill: And so I'm thrilled to death we've got officials coming in fast and furiously. So if you don't know our booking agent, Jimmy Troxel, then you need to know him and he needs to know who you are. so there's a number of you that we know, everybody knows, been doing it for a while, but if you're relatively new either to the game or to officiating or officiating in Birmingham, Jimmy needs to know who you are and what your experience level is.

T Garrett Neill: So that between the GBSO8 board, between Jimmy separately, and then between our assessment and training program training committee, we can get you where you need to be to do the games that are appropriate for your experience and skill level. so that's the deal. I sent out earlier this week, separate subject then sent out earlier this week that our new district director Dorian Del Toro is having his first district camp. this is a little different than what district camps have been in the past because he had a little bit of a short runup but it is a training opportunity. It is a question and answer opportunity.

T Garrett Neill: It's an opportunity to meet rian. through the season he is tasked he's really the liaison between our director of soccer officials Cedric Thomas and where you are on the ground. when it comes to playoffs at the end of the season, he's looking at officials to see who makes sense in those roles. And the GBSOA board is a great I mean, we're there for you so that we can say, "Hey, here's who's doing the games. who's succeeding. and here's who doesn't really care about making a playoffs."

T Garrett Neill: they want to do games in the season and then they want to set off in the sunset and everybody's got their reason for officiating. So that's okay. There's nothing wrong with that at all. but it's a chance to meet him and to see what he has to say. Very experienced official. and we're fortunate to have him working with us this season and he's really interested in furthering the officiating task as we go along for high school so that is Wednesday night at the Vestavia Civic Center. You may have already seen the email from 6:30 to 8:30. We built in a little bit of time so we're not pressed and if you have any questions about that, you can contact me directly and we'll get that covered. secondly, we have our district director of officials, Cedric Thomas.

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T Garrett Neill: And I'm going to pop over here to my email. He sent this out this week, that he is having training throughout the season. and the first one is this Wednesday night as well. And for whatever reason I can't find the email but he sent out an email today. it is a training session via I don't know if it's Zoom or what format it's on, but you want to make note of that.

Daniel Mojica: It is Zoom.

T Garrett Neill: And if you're not is Thank you,...

Hal Youngblood: Yep.

T Garrett Neill: you've got that. And he's got a number of topic. He's got a schedule throughout the season and then the first one is this Wednesday night. So, if you're not participating in anything else, not coming to district camp, it would be a great opportunity to drill in. Cedric is also a very experienced, ucc, he's always got a great perspective on what's going on. so, finally, my part of the meeting is get your stuff done.

T Garrett Neill: That's prior to the season. We got to pay the GBSOA dues if you're not a first year official. get the test taken. a number of you I think everybody who wants to take the test has. but what I've told a number of people is try to take the test. If you make an 80 or above, You're good to go. if you have difficulties, then help is available. I've one of the few times that I can actually say I've got all the answers. at least in this particular place. So we can get you passed on the test. But get all your stuff get the money paid. if you know somebody who wants to officiate, it is not too late. We can make it happen. It gets a little harder the longer you wait. but we can make it happen. We'll bend over backwards to make it happen.

T Garrett Neill: So, with that said, I'm going to stop talking and I know y'all are all happy about that. Daniel Williams, our secretary, is going to cover a few things.

Daniel Williams: Frankie, do you have a question? Your hand is raised.

Hal Youngblood: I can know he dropped it.

Daniel Williams: All Just going to make sure. so after I sent that email the other night, we've done a really good job to get our numbers to where we have a lot more people 100% ready to go. just like Garrett just said, first three, four days are slow and then once Lakeshore hits, it picks up and we're going. so I want to talk to you a little bit about blocks because Jimmy does a fantastic job and to make it easier on him, you've got to be able to set your blocks correctly. whether it's just for the whole day that you can't work, whether it's a school that you might have, you maybe a kid goes there or you just can't work that school. you can even go in and block your partner.

Daniel Williams: once you do that, I'd be very wary of that because that just draws your referee pull down. but you have several different options where you can block. if you don't get off work until 5 5:30, you need to block it off and to where you can only work the 6 7:00 games. It's very important that we get to the schools 30 to 45 minutes ahead of time to have a pregame with your partners. If you've never worked with them, we got a lot of new referees. If you've never worked with them before to get to know them a little bit personalitywise, how they're going to call on the field, we've got to be able to get together and get together quick before the match starts. So, we really need you there on time.

Daniel Williams: when you accept games, the majority of the tournament games are going to be linked together. So once Jimmy sends you games, you'll either get two, three, however many. And you should be able to accept and it'll accept all of them. But for some regular season games, they're not linked. Whether it's a JV boys, varsity boys, or girls program, boys program, they're not going to be linked together. If we send you two games, you need to be able to accept both games. We don't need you accepting one and declining the other because then once we get to a heavy Tuesday or a heavy Friday night or Thursday night, we can't just send one official out there and then have to send another one when we need to use that official elsewhere. so hope that makes sense. We're doing a good job of getting registered.

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Daniel Williams: That's really all I have to say. if you have any questions, send me an email, send me a text, and we'll get it straightened out. Thanks, guys.

T Garrett Neill: And Jimmy, if you had anything you wanted to cover. now

James Troxell: Yeah. ...

James Troxell: right. Listen, assigning I mean, I'll get to know some and I got to the computer this morning around 8:00 and contacted several people, significant amount of people. So, we're getting our register cleaned up pretty well. I'm going to be at the computer tomorrow at 8 o'clock and I'll probably be there until about, three or four. So, tomorrow is a good day to text me, especially if you're not 100%. And I can handhold you and get us through the obstacles that we have. And so, tomorrow is a good day to contact me.

James Troxell: If you don't want to contact me and you don't think I know you can just send me an email or a text with your level of experience and kind of what your highest level of game that you would feel comfortable on. And I emphasize if I've put you on a center of a game by mistake or some knowledge that I don't have about you and you'd feel uncomfortable doing a center of that game, do not do a game that you do that you feel uncomfortable on. and like Daniel said, just to reiterate, if you get two games, try to accept both of them. There are some situations where there's a middle school game or a JV game at some of the lower level schools that I will want to duel on. So I do not mind if you give me a call and say,

"Hey, Jimmy, I can make the 7 o'clock game, but I won't be able to get there until game time or a little bit before the five o'clock game, and I'll see if I can make an exception.

James Troxell: I might have to take you off both of them or I might be able to run a duel on the early game. But, that's an exception, not the rule. So, the people I talked to today were fantastic. As time goes on, I'll get to know the referees better, and...

James Troxell: when I was kind of a high count guy in the association, don't worry about the first couple of weeks. The games will come, I mean, I would always be worried about the first couple of weeks because I wasn't getting a lot of games. referees go down. we have rain outs, we get, busy days. So, just, text me, make sure you're in contact with me, and we'll get your game count, up as the season goes along. So, I appreciate all that you guys do, and it's going to be a good season. We always have really good time. Thank you.

T Garrett Neill: Yes. Hey Jimmy,...

T Garrett Neill: just also if you would just cover quickly something that if you've been doing games for a while you realize this but you've blocked out for a night and then you block whatever happened the reason that you blocked out did fell through. you're supposed to be going for a dinner or whatever and it just fell through and you're like, I really don't want to sit around. Text Jimmy and say, "Hey,..."

T Garrett Neill: I'm available tonight." the worst he can say is, "We got everything covered." Okay. Right.

James Troxell: Absolutely.

James Troxell: And you'll also be getting 911s, but I know G and Dave Nicholson, there's been several referees that have been really good about, hey, just to let know, Victor Del Obro is very good at it, too. Hey, if you have anything fall through, because we always have fall through. I mean, almost every single day of the week, somebody drops off for some reason. cy situation, injury, unexpected emergency, whatever it might be. So, if you're excited about working games that day and don't drop a line in the morning. Hey, Jim, if you have any availability, I'm able to work. So, we do have several referees that do that. And if you want to be on that list, certainly, I think Victor, every night he's not working, he contacts me. Hey, Jimmy, I'm available tonight if you need me. Garrett has been on that list. Dave Nicholson has been on that list.

James Troxell: So, it is a good way to increase your game count because at that point, the day of, I got to go with the least path of resistance. I'm not going to look at game counts and try to beg somebody to come out there. If somebody's volunteering and somebody just dropped off, boom, they get slotted in.

T Garrett Neill: ification set if you want to receive these. And this is done in Dragonfly so that you get a notification when you get an email or you can even get a notification when he sends out what he calls a 911. In other words, hey, I had a referee drop off at Springville games tonight at two of them at 5 and seven. It becomes a first serve, right, Jimmy?

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James Troxell: is on there can't do a center and you can't do a center also then we would have to move off of you but just to let you know and Daniel kind of touched it the persons that have the most opportunities to work game are people that haven't been blocked by the people that haven't blocked anybody and people that are available all the time I mean so the more anytime you go in there and you think you have a

personality conflict or don't like somebody it seems to me I mean it's life you're dealing with a hundred people there's always going to be

James Troxell: I've always been able to get along with somebody for 80 minutes. just put on a happy face, do your job, walk. You don't have to socialize with them. The more people you block, the less opportunities you're going to have because if they're on a game, you don't even come up on the list. you've excluded yourself from all the games that person works.

T Garrett Neill: So, that's good information, Jimmy. And it's in kind of an insight as to the workings of what happens day in and day out. so that's good.

James Troxell: Thank you.

T Garrett Neill: So then our treasurer, who I don't think is going to talk about anything money, has some training thoughts and...

Hal Youngblood: Yeah. ...

T Garrett Neill: how Blood, if you don't know him, high school club, college official. And, I think he played at one time when he was, significantly younger. Yeah.

Hal Youngblood: blew my knee out. so guys, hey, really quick, I will give y'all a little financial update. We got about 130k 130,000 in from schools. I've got about 120 still to go. Those are rough estimates. minus a couple thousand here or there. So I've already submitted money into Dragonfly for 130. So we can start paying immediately. it takes about five. They're slow as crap to get money into their system. I did it. I just checked. It's still pending, but it'll be in there by the time we start. we're not going to pay for two weeks in. I don't count that Thursday and Friday.

Hal Youngblood: So, I try to pay on Sundays, guys, because that's my downtime, just like you guys. I got a nineto-5 and, I'll do a little bit at night, whatever there. So, like I said, two weeks is still I try to get as close as I can. Maybe maybe a little later. Maybe I do some ahead of time, whatever. I'm trying to get in front of all the payments this year because I know the system better. Last year was really our first time to use Dragonfly and I've been working with Dragonfly on a lot of things. So, right now, most of the games are set properly as far as payment and travel fee already set, but don't get out of watt. I've not go back and done the duels. They're not So, their pay is not correct. So, don't email me or text me anytime soon, guys. not until I do a double check and I try to catch everything before I make the payments. So, don't worry about what the pay says right now when you accept your games. All right?

Hal Youngblood: It's good chance it's accurately, but I haven't done everything right. So, don't worry about it. I will go back and double check it before I issue payments. After you get paid, if you have problems, let me know at that point, Or if I tell you I'm ready to check these dates. You can let me know ahead of time, but I'm not there yet. Just want to give you a heads up on that. If some of you are seeing your payment and it's not right, don't sweat it. I'll get there. So, Jamberee, great turnout, guys. I really appreciate everybody that showed up. I don't know if we haven't talked about that yet, but like I said, I've visited a couple sites and I didn't get to tell them. but I thank all the people that ran them. Paul, Joe, Ryan, whoever I'm leaving off, Drew, Pat, Scott, all those people. Luis, Garrett showed up, Jimmy and Daniel making some rounds. So, really appreciate the turnout and the effort. I know you guys, the ones I was at, everybody was working really hard and think we're going to have a good season.

Hal Youngblood: But I noticed a couple things and some things we talked about. So I just want to run through them really quick, right? It'll be really quick. So it's really just about professionalism, guys, and selling yourself. This is really more for new referees, but as you're newer things you can work on is basically your whistle. Be sure it's loud. It's got to be loud, right? It can't be soft. It needs to be quick. You can practice at home and you can work on it. Okay? That's something just comes with practice. some whistles are kind of Have a good whistle, too. if it's a crap whistle. we've talked about, good whistles out there. Those little pee whistles the basketball people use Daniel when he's refing basketball, they're no good. but get a good whistle, but practice on your whistle. basically just be confident when you make your call. So, one thing is when you are blowing your whi use a Signal direction, f whatever you've got, use your signal. Indirect, I saw some people out there, and I know there's a lot going on in your head, right?

Hal Youngblood: you're just worried about blowing your whistle, but Give a direction because a lot of times it's not clear. You may know it, but everybody else may not know it. So, when you blow your whistle and you walk in or you're not making a signal for PK or whatever it is, everybody's like, "All right, what have you called?" So, blow, don't forget to signal direction or whatever you got going on. flag mechanics, don't run with your flag up in the air. When you come to a stop, raise your flag. It goes straight up. When you're signaling direction, It's not down low. It's not straight up. One thing you can practice at home, look in the mirror. Corner kicks, run to the flag and then Don't point at it 20 yards away. Don't point at it while you're running to it. Those are just things that just look kind of sloppy. All right? and get a good nice 45 down to it. So, those are just simple things to work on. just to help you look more professional because if you look like you're professional, what you're doing, you're going to sell your call better.

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Hal Youngblood: and it just saves you from just a lot of noise and flack from everything around you and players and all that. So, it's really about just sell it, good confident straight arms and all standing up straight, all those things. Be confident in your signal. had some of this come up when you're ing Do your signal for subs. you're, butt straight up over your head. You got your flag. As soon as the referee acknowledges you and you call it, go to where you're supposed to be. You don't have to stand there with your flag up until the substitution is done. All right. Once they see you and the subs are happening, go to where you're next to be because they're going to have a quick throw in often. If you stand there waiting for the subs and you're not going to be where you need to be. All right. That's just a simple thing. You don't need to stand there and wait for it. You and your official can make eye contact. if you got a lot of subs going on, you can hold your hand up, whatever. Y'all can make eye contact as far as when the substitutions are done. speaking of make sure the sub rules. All right.

Hal Youngblood: I'm not going to go over has some notes, but I'm not going to run to it. You guys can read them again know But know when you can substitute, right? It's unlimited from the bench on goals and injuries, both teams. If there's an injury and everybody can sub and you can do it from the bench. there is no entry in high school during run of play. That's one thing that, came up and I was just going through the rules and something, you may be used to that and other things. There is no entry during run of play ever in high school.

Hal Youngblood: So, the sub rules are something that can bite us, in a game and get everybody all worked up. So, just review your sub rules. It's a lot to take in if you're not used to it. So, just get yourself familiar with all your sub rules, for duels, we had an instance where, one referee was in the process of carding a player. we're all through practice, right? So, was in the practice of carding a coach, I think, but then the

other referee blew the whistle to restart play. So, let's make sure when we have us, and we try not to have too many duels, but when we do, just make sure you guys are making eye contact and when you're ready for the restart that you're both in position where you need to be. Okay. that was something about it. there's generally no subs on free kicks in high school except there's an injury, that's about it. that's, like I said, go through your rules. high school when players they exit through the bench side of the field.

Hal Youngblood: They cannot just exit anywhere. high school, they want you to exit on the bench, preferably in front of your bench. They don't want people walking in front of the benches. high school, these kids they get agitated. There's rivalries. I mean, you got fights breaking out after basketball games and other things after games. So, we don't need any of that. So, just make sure the players exit on the bench side of the field. make sure if you got substitutes leaving the field, make sure you're watching them. Make sure there's nothing crazy happens. sub leaving the field, they commit a foul. Just keep your eye on all that stuff, right? Don't turn your back thinking everything's good because you may not, things crazy things happen when you least expect it, head injuries, stop the play immediately. All right? It's high school. we're not We're not going through anything. It's not, but they want you to stop it immediately. You got a potential head injury, just stop it and just notice where the ball was. last touch in the area, drop it to the keeper.

Hal Youngblood: Nobody's going to care later. But like I said, you got somebody grabbing their head and they're going down, just stop play immediately. Save yourself a lot of headache, I can testify to myself. I've let something go and it just nothing good Letting something go to see what's going to happen. Unless somebody's getting ready, just kick it right in the goal immediately. Just stop the play. That's right. Signal. You see Garrett up there, blow your whistle and give the signal to stop play and just you can go check on them. You don't have to wave somebody on really quick, but stop Go check on them. And right away, you'll know if you need to wave a trainer on them. Don't waste time for that either. y should all know this. It's in the rules, but hair beads, that's allowed now. A couple years ago, it was not. They can have beads in their hair as long as it's their hair is attached. All right? You It's got to be tied up with a band or whatever. If it comes loose, just have them fix it. It's not a big deal. Don't get into all that crap with hair beads. uniforms, everybody's got to have numbers on the front and the back. You're going to get into inner city school guys, they may not have numbers.

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Hal Youngblood: They may have the same number. Just let them play. Okay? It's inner city schools. they may not have a lot to do with their jerseys. Most of them are pretty good now. All right? They've been doing it for a while and they got a lot more stuff. But hey, if you got two ones, put a tape 11 on there and if it falls off, nobody cares. All who the players are if you have to card them. All right? They're doing their best. Tell the coach and they'll make their best assessment. But the kids need to play. Same things if their socks aren't exactly the same. They're supposed to be the same. You got to have All right. But for these inner city schools, they're lucky even have kids out there playing. All right. Oak Mountain and Spain Park, they don't get that leeway and they know better, but these other schools, they might not. All right. So, just use some common sense here. Do the best you can. All right. But we want the kids to do it. Carrot, you're in agreement with that. I think we're all in agreement. Pennies are recommended for everybody on the bench. Some schools have them always.

Hal Youngblood: Oak Mountain, Spain Park, those guys. That's who they're going to have pennies. Right now, the reason you want pennies is not just so your AR doesn't get confused because that happens. But

also, when you have fights, exactly who's leaving the bench. So, that's another reason to have pennies. But basically, if they have them put the pennies on. If they don't have them, they don't have them. But if they have them, we want the pennies. It helps your AR and definitely for any altercations, exactly who's leaving the bench. All right. That's just an easy thing to do for there. It's going to be cold, guys. It's not cold right now, but we're going to have cold. Let these kids wear whatever they want. All right. Underneath their s. All As long as their jerseys showing, they can wear long pants. They can wear, whatever. Just let them be warm and stay and stay warm. It's going to be some freezing cold nights and they're going to play. And we're all wishing we're going to be home. All right. And same thing for us. If it's rainy and crappy and cold, we can wear all black. So, you can wear your thicker jacket on the line or whatever. It just needs to be all black.

Hal Youngblood: Try not to wear pants, guys, with The Adidas white stripes, long sleeve. It needs to be all black pants. All right? What you're wearing, we need to be an all black. So, you can wear long sleeve jackets and all those things. just try to be all black. All right? We want to stay warm. It's going to be some freezing cold, rainy, crappy nights out there. And we want y'all to survive. And it's a long season. games do what? Yeah, players too. Players can have hoodies, but they got to be underneath their Good call. Thanks, Garrett. Yeah, appreciate that. Yeah, hoodies got to be tucked into their shirt. It's dangerous. People can grab it. That It's just a dangerous thing. And we don't want referees hoodies hanging out either. It's just a tacky look. that just goes back. Tuck your shirt in. We had some guys at the Jambury shirts untucked. Everybody's getting used to it. But show up at the field, shirts tucked in, all that good stuff. We've talked about that. some of these games may want to play a shorter half.

Hal Youngblood: They can do it. If the coaches agree to it, they can play a shorter half. They probably won't, but they can. All right, remember the 10 goal rule. You got to at least make At halftime, if you're up by 10 or anytime after that, you get up by 10, game's over. All right, just a reminder about that. The wall, high school will not allow anybody to lay on the ground in a wall. All right, that that's high school rule. it's just kind of tucked away in there and you might have missed it going through the reading and stuff like that. just so we're all on the same page all season, nobody on the ground during the wall. High school considers it a dangerous play. They don't want it to happen. if we have any objections at the half, the team does not play short. It's not like other sports where who's on the field. They got unlimited subs all the time. So if you kick somebody out at halftime, the team doesn't play short. That player just doesn't play. And then the other thing was about something I just remember about second touch by the keeper. a lot of times the keeper touches it with his hand a second time.

Hal Youngblood: It used to be always just an indirect. if they do it to stop a promising to stack or to stop a goal, it's either going to be a caution or an ejection. So, just a little thing there. That's all I had. I'll try to put this in an email and send it out. But, just some things that I noticed on the Jamberee and some things that came up when I was taking the test. Try to just keep us all on the same page. That was a good But I appreciate coming out. Y'all did great. And looking I know everybody's ready to get the season started. I'll shut up now. Any questions for the treasure?

Hal Youngblood: Okay. Yeah.

T Garrett Neill: Doug Archer, Go ahead.

Douglas Archer: How Yeah. Can you repeat what you said about them not playing a man down if somebody gets ejected? What was that you mentioned?

Hal Youngblood: If you eject somebody at the half, the team does not play short because they can sub.

Douglas Archer: You mean during halftime?

T Garrett Neill: Yes. which is a critical difference between high school and...

Hal Youngblood:

Hal Youngblood: During halftime.

Douglas Archer: Okay.

Hal Youngblood: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. If it's during the game, At halftime, because This is high school, You have some crazy crap that comes up. If you eject somebody at the half, the team does not play short. That player just Does that make sense? College.

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T Garrett Neill: USSF. it also and it's part of the reason when you beckon an play the referee has to beckon a substitute.

T Garrett Neill: So as soon as you beckon that substitute, they become the player of note. so they're not standing on the sideline waiting and...

Hal Youngblood: Yeah, it's not simultaneous.

Hal Youngblood: They're the player and the other guys the sub. That's why. Yeah.

T Garrett Neill: as soon as they go in, they become the player. So if there's a ejection before or during that, it depends. So those are So two other things that I'll do. How Thank you very much. Great notes. I hadn't really thought about the pennies for the subs and not that Hadn't thought about it in a while. Pennies for the subs. So that we know somebody runs out on the field during active play during a fight and they're wearing a penny. They're probably not in fact, they're definitely not a player. Yeah, I haven't thought about that in a while.

Hal Youngblood: Just say, "Hey, you're done for the game." Yeah.

T Garrett Neill: So that's a great thing. last two things then, this season, and I think I've already mentioned it, but I'm going to mention it again. If you have a red card in your game, I need a phone call before you lay down in bed that night. Okay. I've got to have as quickly as possible. and I'm out doing games lots of nights, but I need a phone call. Here's the reason why. We want to make sure that you are aware of what the procedure is for filling out the report. I need to know so that when I get a call from the AHSA or from Dorian or from Cedric that I'm already aware, it's not a surprise. Okay.

T Garrett Neill: red cards, we got 12 hours to submit the report. So, it's got to happen that ing. Has to happen. And filling out a report so much easier than doing a USSF report. Honestly, it's much easier and it's electronic. So, it just takes a few minutes. We want to make sure we get the wording right. We want to make sure that we don't have a little storytelling colloialism. Hey, he really made me mad. So, I decided to give him a red card and we need to just the facts, So, I'll need a phone call. That's easy. and I want to make it easy for you to where if a red card is required or is necessary, we don't want to make it harder than it has to be. You can call me on the way home. And if you leave me a voicemail. I'll call you back. Okay.

T Garrett Neill: With that, that's the end of the regular stuff that we want to talk about. Basically, a question and answer. If you've had everything you need to hear, you've seen everything you need to hear, you can dive off. But if I've got anybody that has questions, everybody can open up their microphones or you can raise your hand and we will answer. Ham fam. I don't know who Ham Fam is.

Hal Youngblood: How about it?

Hamm Fam: What's up,...

T Garrett Neill: There you are.

Hamm Fam: guys? How are y'all? Hey, Ryan Hammock here. so I've been contemplating refing for many years. I've been coaching, being a dad for 15 years.

T Garrett Neill: Yeah. ...

Hamm Fam: So, talked to Jimmy today. He got me signed up, ready to go. What is there stuff that I need to really pay attention for, look out for just on my first few games, just try to get a heads up? What's some things y'all recommend?

T Garrett Neill: so a couple of things. Once you get all your stuff done, so to speak, okay, and you're working with Jimmy on that, and I think you're all there.

Hamm Fam: It's all done. we're all good.

T Garrett Neill: Then he will put you on. Have you ever refed at any level before at all?

Hamm Fam: So, I've done some, youth games. we grew up through Trussville Spring. So, we've a little bit of those. Haven't never done it at the high level of high school. done some club games,...

T Garrett Neill: ...

Hamm Fam:

Hamm Fam: but no, I've Not done at this level.

T Garrett Neill: that's fine. the workshop would have maybe helped, but that's come and gone. That's no problem. Plenty of games at the starting off level for anybody who is just at the very beginning. So, you've seen games. So, there we go. so Jimmy,...

Hamm Fam: seen a million of them.

T Garrett Neill: make sure he puts you on a game that's a game in a position that's appropriate.

00:35:00

T Garrett Neill: So, good example. Don't expect the center of the Oak Mountain Vestavia boys game anytime soon.

Hamm Fam: No.

Hal Youngblood: Yeah. ...

T Garrett Neill: Okay and...

Hal Youngblood: just ask your referees that you're working with for advice. just talk a lot when you get there.

Hal Youngblood: And if you have questions, you can call Garrett. That's a lot to go into on this call right now, but I'm happy to talk to you more. Afterwards, you can hit Garrett up. anybody you're working with will be able to give you advice, but other than that, just call FAS. Keep it simple and call FAS.

Hamm Fam: That's over. Absolutely.

T Garrett Neill: and any new official I mean so I have conversations so I club I do high school I always work with new officials and this will be something that I'll send out on a blast to everybody just as a reminder. We've got a great group of experienced officials, but my standard issue is certainly if I see somebody that I don't recognize or that I suspect and this club is a good example that all of a sudden I've got a 14-year-old AR.

Hal Youngblood: Yeah.

T Garrett Neill: Okay, I'm going to ask the question, how long have you been officiating? this is my second game. Okay, so here's what we're going to talk about. All I need you to do is stay with the second to last defender. All I need you to do is call the direction on throwins. You may not feel comfortable with fouls. Leave it alone. I'll deal with it. And so that if we put you in the right place or you proactively say, "Hey, I'm just telling you I know the game. I know what a soccer ball looks like. I've had one at my feet a time or two in my life."

T Garrett Neill: But this is or the second or the third or the fourth, whatever. What do you got for me? and fortun we don't always have a chance for that 30 minute pregame. sometimes it's not appropriate to have a 30-minute pregame on every game that's going on. But at least we can have that pregame between the place that you walk out from the center of the field to the middle before we have our kickoff. Here's what we expect. so that's what we want to do. We're not going to intentionally put you in a position where you're going to be way over your head.

Hamm Fam: Absolutely not.

Hal Youngblood: I'm sure Jimmy's just going to give you ARS for a while till we know where you're at. So, you'll be fine.

T Garrett Neill: Yeah. That sound reasonable?

Hal Youngblood: You'll be fine.

Hamm Fam: I appreciate y'all, guys. I'm good.

T Garrett Neill: Okay. Yeah.

Hal Youngblood: Like I said, if you ever have questions, you can just hit any of us up. We'll be happy to help.

T Garrett Neill: There's Anybody else? Anything? Yeah,...

Dan Smolenski: Yeah, I got a question.

T Garrett Neill: Go ahead.

Dan Smolenski: Again, this is me coming from Oklahoma versus Alabama. in Oklahoma when we had our varsity games back to back, it was typically the boys varsity centers they played last that center would send out a text message couple days in advance day off saying,...

Dan Smolenski: "Hey, Here's where we're parking." da. Kind of, take control of that part. who should be doing that here? Should it be the center?

T Garrett Neill: I Yeah,...

T Garrett Neill: it's usually the same.

Dan Smolenski: Should the center of tip be the last game?

T Garrett Neill: Yeah, I mean if I'm the center of the first game, I'm going to send it out regardless, honestly. just...

T Garrett Neill: because I'm like that be honest with me that just

James Troxell: Yeah, but I mean the center should contact the school or...

James Troxell: the coach of the school and make sure the game is still going on that's always kind of been our policy.

Hal Youngblood: Usually the last game anyway around here, Dan, the boys use games last. Not always, usually. and that person usually should reach out to the coach and say, "Hey, coach, we still got this on." Because sometimes they change it and they don't let us know. So, that's a good point, Jimmy, because you guys want to be there. You don't want to get there and there's not a game or it's 30 minutes earlier because we've had that happen. So, it's a good idea to check in with the coach a couple days ahead of time or that morning and say, "Hey, coach, we still on for five o'clock, whatever." And that's a good point, Dan. And then, you should, if you can,...

Hal Youngblood: guys, text your crew and just make sure you're all on the same page.

T Garrett Neill: Yeah. ...

T Garrett Neill: texting the crews, a good example, if you go to the app that's on your phone, And for instance, there are some tab I click on the game that's there and I've got tabs, key So, it's going to list who the assigners were, who the officials are, and then it's going to also list coaches, athletic directors, just all sorts of people. On the second tab is details. So, it basically talks where is the Click on view and maps. So, it'll show you where the actual game is. So, Daniel, that you've not seen any of our fields. So, that's going to help you there. then documents.

00:40:00

Dan Smolenski: I've been to some with football,...

Dan Smolenski: but yeah,

T Garrett Neill: Yeah, so...

T Garrett Neill: but in some instances even they don't always play in the same place like at Hoover High School they have a soccer specific field as opposed to the Hoover Met where they play football. On the far right hand side is officials but under key people under officials there's a little box up in the right hand corner above officials where I hit that and it will text everybody in that crew with one click. Okay. So, it makes it real easy. having your phone with you up...

James Troxell: Everybody title.

T Garrett Neill: until a certain period of time. I have an Apple Watch. So, I'm trying to make a 5:30 game, which means we get there at what time?

Joe Kovacs: Five o'clock, sir.

T Garrett Neill: 5:30 game.

Chris H: I have a clock.

T Garrett Neill:

T Garrett Neill: Five o'clock. That is The minimum expectation. so if I'm going to Hoover, I live in Hoover. It's easy. If I'm going to Springville, put it in Google Maps and figure out how long is it going to take me and then I add some time. Joe, I'll get to you in just a second. it takes some time. the minimum amount of time, there's stuff to do pregame, checking out the field, but part of that's building in some time to make sure that if there's a wreck on the interstate, hey, you would print out a listing of everybody in the organization. Now, you've got it on your phone, the people that are in your crew, you can easily text them and say, "Hey, there's literally a wreck on the interstate." And say, "Hey, listen.

T Garrett Neill: I left late. I had a meeting. Life is what it is. None of us do this for their own living. So, that's the way it is. But you can communicate with your crew. Hey, I'm on the way. Maybe the crew says, "Listen, we're going to have to run a duel the first half of the first game." At least we know it. Or you get there 15 minutes in and the first stoppage. We convert the crew from two to three and here we go. but communication is important. I send it out on every game. contacting the JV or the freshman team, but if there's a varsity game in there, it doesn't hurt for somebody in that crew. Whoever is if you've got a center, then you're considered to be one of the senior parts of the crew, regardless of how long you've been around. Joe Kova, did that cover what you had, Dan?

T Garrett Neill: Daniel Smolinsky,...

Dan Smolenski: Yep. Perfect.

T Garrett Neill:

T Garrett Neill: did I cover everything? Okay, good. Joe Kovac, did you raise your hand?

Joe Kovacs: Yeah, I just want to add a couple points to that. There's 20 people listed on Dragonfly. You can go online to the school's website, find out who the head coaches, like you said, to the varsity. When I first came to this organization, I was taught that you email your crew and you email the varsity coach to

confirm everything. And if we were working together, you will always see an email from me coming out to confirm what the coach tells us. So, with 20 people on Dragonfly, I don't even know who all these coaches are. They change so often. But that's how it should be done. I believe to be professional.

Joe Kovacs: After this call,...

Joe Kovacs: if we can get five more people, then we're going in the right direction.

T Garrett Neill: Praise the Lord.

T Garrett Neill: Let's get them all under the fold. Any thoughts? I saw a bunch of people on here that I don't know if been to a meeting yet, so I appreciate that. any other thoughts or questions? Okay, so we're going to call it a night.

Joe Kovacs: Motion to adjurnn.

T Garrett Neill: Best of luck on this first week of the season. And if there's anything that I can do for you or to help you out, then I will definitely do it. Just give me a shout. Y'all have a good week. I see you, Ron Strowmire. You're in the closet as well. Apparently Jimmy's been in the closet all night.

Meeting ended after 01:27:06 🙌

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