For Tips & Tools to create great youth competitive environments & experiences and to find practical, early-step mental health services resources, visit the BMS project.org.

# TOP 10 TIPS

# **Football Officiating**

by Brian Hyatt

## **#1 Every Lion Knows That Even the Best Zebra Occasionally Makes a Mistake**

Be humble... a call will be missed. You have to move on to the next play. One bad call or missed call can easily turn into two – and that's not really a great thing to do on the savanna!

#### #2 Proverb - Commitment & Preparation Makes Jack a Wise & Respected Lad

Jack can then relax and enjoy the game -- when the clock starts running you will be confident, focused & then can simply run & work the game.

# #3 Don't Flat Line It... Bring "Officiating" Exuberance to the Gridiron

Officiating involve a different type of passion than playing or coaching; but officials play an essential role in setting a positive tone and striving to keep the action moving & lively... No Stiffs Allowed!

#### **#4 No Curtains Here, Dorothy!**

Be a good communicator... committed to enforce rules of conduct, but also open to professionally interact with peers, administrators, coaches, and players.

#### #5 The Tablets Were Handed Down from a Source of Irrefutable Integrity

As officials, we are there to adjudicate the rules. Fairness and equity are a priority... Not likeability or popularity. Moses might have been likeable, but he had an important job to do too.

# **#6 Together We Stand**

Surround yourself with a good support system. Your family has to support your officiating; and you want to be associated with other officials that share similar goals... All for One and One for All!

#### **#7 The Dude Abides!**

Confidence and knowledge stemming from competency is not arrogance... know the rules, their application and mechanics.

#### #8 Hermes Wasn't Jack, But He Abided Too!

Gotta be fit to get up and down the field. Look the role, be the role and keep-up with the game... we are working athletic events and we want to do Herm proud!

### #9 Walk Like an Egyptian

We are professionals. Walk the walk, talk the talk and conduct yourself with civility & dignity From the time you enter the arena, until the time you depart... as the man said, "...stay cool honey bunny!" Calm, collected and in control at all times... And ALWAYS strive to get better!

#### **#10 Like a Duck's Back on a Rainy Day**

Criticism is not personal... its part of the avocation. Professionalism will always rise above the situation... remember what the man said above man or mam, "...stay cool honey bunny!"



In a life-threatening crisis, call 9-1-1.

To talk to a counselor, call 9-8-8 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

To report suspected child abuse, call/text 1-800-422-4453 Childhelp

Nat'l Child Abuse Hotline.

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