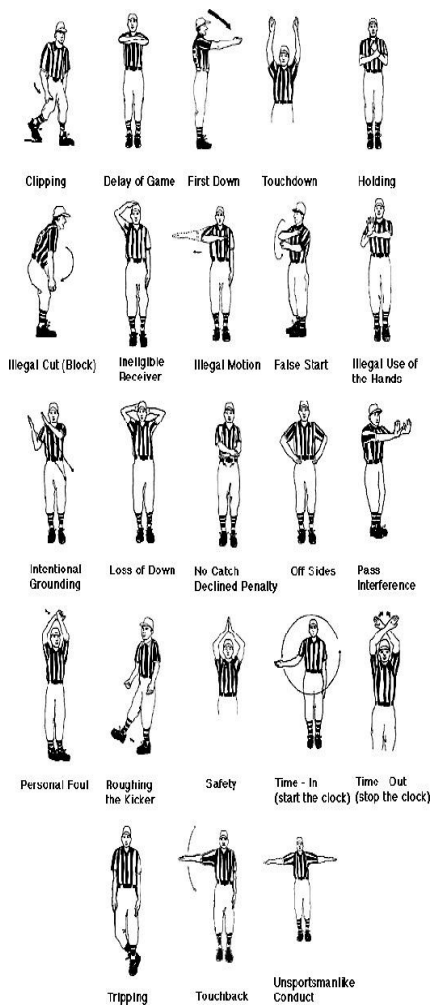


A note to coaches, parents, and fans of Pop Warner teams

The Pop Warner officials' organization strives to do their best job on the field, each and every game. This means they will make calls and assess penalties according to the NFHS and Pop Warner rules. Sometimes coaches and spectators will disagree with a call (or non-call), and begin showing their displeasure by yelling at the officials. If this behavior escalates or creates a difficult situation for our officials, a 15 yard penalty may be assessed to the **head coach** of the offending team. Two of these penalties will eject the coach for the remainder of that game, as well as the next one. So please keep your emotions in check, and be "true" fans.



Fans enjoying the game.



The CNY
Independent Pop
Warner Football
officials
present:

A Parent Guide to Football Officiating



CNYIPWFO...Over 25 years of serving CNY Pop Warner

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Website: WWW.CNYIPWFO.org

Our duties as officials

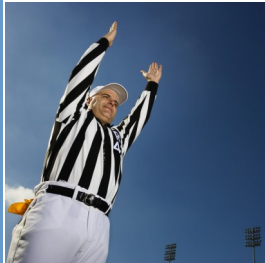
As members of the officiating crew for Pop Warner games, it is our responsibility to protect the well-being of players, as well as enforcing the rules of the game.

We follow the NFHS (National Federation of High Schools) rulebook, and also add in rules mandated to us by CNY Pop Warner.

Officials use their best judgment in making calls on the field, and are dedicated to “getting it right” each and every time.

CNYIPWFO officials undergo ongoing field training, as well as written testing to insure they have the best information necessary to perform their duties.

We also have our own evaluation and grading system for on-field performance, allowing officials to know how they are doing on the field.



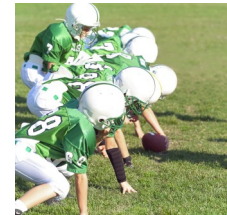
Touchdown!

Common penalties

- **Holding**– This is an act by an offensive (or defensive) player who illegally grasps an opponent in an effort to prevent him from making a block or tackle. **Some form of holding occurs on nearly every play in football.** It may be subtle, or obvious. The referee will call a penalty on a player if he believes the act of holding affected the result of the play. Thus, holding on the far side of the field may not be called if the play is going in the other direction. Holding is a 10 yard penalty.
- **Block in the back**– There are several types of blocking in the back. This foul can be committed by an offensive or defensive player. Blocking in the back, above the waist, is a 10 yard penalty. **Blocking in the back, below the waist, is a 15 yard penalty.** It is also known as “clipping.”
- **False start/Encroachment**– When players are in their stances, before a play begins, they are not allowed to cross the line of scrimmage. In addition, offensive players on the line (center, guards and tackles), cannot move after they place their hands on the ground, until the ball is snapped. If an offensive lineman moves, or any player crosses the line of scrimmage, the play is blown dead, and a 5 yard penalty is assessed. Defensive players (linemen

included), may move around after they line up. However, if they cross the line of scrimmage before the ball is snapped, they are given a 5 yard penalty for “encroachment.”

Please note.....Some movement on the line of scrimmage may be overlooked by the referees, especially at the lower levels (Tiny-Mite, Mitey-Mite). This is to prevent a game being constantly stopped for penalties.



The team lines up to begin their play.

CNYIPWFO...Over 25 years of serving CNY Pop Warner

Interested in becoming a Pop Warner official? E-Mail CNYIPWFO President Rob Santucci: Rsantucc@twcny.rr.com