

**Dallas Football Officials Association  
New Members Training  
Chain Crew**

**Responsibilities:**

1. Contact HL on the crew either working at the stadium or on your crew if you are the 6<sup>th</sup> Man by TUESDAY NIGHT. If you plan on attending pre-game be sure and ask what time it will start and BE SURE to BE ON TIME. (don't be disruptive coming late)
2. Dress: Full uniform, Except wear a white polo type shirt instead of STRIPES. (ALWAYS pack stripe shirt...you never know when you might use it)
3. **CLEAN UNIFORM...SHINED SHOES....CLEAN HAT....**(no sweat stains)
4. Have couple of Clips to use vs taking from HL
5. Remember you are a part of the CREW working the game...You will go onto and leave the field with the other Officials working the game.

**Mechanics:**

1. There will be at least 3 Chain Crew Members/Officials assigned.
  - a.) Two will work the chains...Line to Gain(LTG)
  - b.) One will work the Down Box...
  - c.) If a fourth official is assigned – they will work the CLIP.
  - d.) Prior to the game the chain crew will assist the **HL** to make sure there are no problems with the chains
2. **Working the Chains on 1<sup>st</sup> down plays:**
  - a.) **NEVER MOVE** until you have been instructed by the **HL**.
  - b.) **HUSTLE** when you move...But **DO NOT** run over anybody
  - c.) HL will first set the Down Box and then chains set-up on the Down Box.
  - d.) Make sure chains are pulled tight.
  - e.) The clip will be put on the chain at the back of the nearest 5 yrd. Line; If only 1-2 yard are between nearest five yard line and back stake then go to next 5 yard line
  - f.) Always communicate with the **HL** what yard line you have clipped (ie..20, 25, 30, etc..)
3. **Working the Chains on non 1<sup>st</sup> down plays:**
  - a.) Down Box will move to forward point of the Ball after HL signals to you next down. Move to the forward progress spot **BEFORE** changing down box
  - b.) The LTG Crew will not move until a 1<sup>st</sup> down is gained.
  - c.) If HL has instructed you to move...but you see a penalty flag then get their attention by pointing to the flag

(Cont. pg. 2 6<sup>th</sup> Man/Chain Crew)

#### 4. Measurements

- a.) HL will move the Down Box Man to forward stake(LTG)
- b.) HL will confirm with the DBM yrd line clipped...The two LTG will go with HL to football
- c.) The Front LTG crew will give the Umpire their stake...while the Back LTG will continue to hold Back stake
- d.) If 1<sup>st</sup> down is gained then chain crew will hustle back to sideline and set up for a new 1<sup>st</sup> down
- e.) If **NOT** a 1<sup>st</sup> down Chain Crew will remain on the field until the football is placed inside the Hash Marks... U and R will assist replacing the football back to the in-bound line (Hash Mark)

#### 5. Penalty Enforcement

HL will instruct you when to move...usually the HL will walk-off penalty first

- **Communication MOST IMPORTANT:**
- NEVER Comment to any coaches regarding the calls made or NOT made by the officials working the game.
- Always ask the **HL** to help you get either coaches or players back...DO NOT tell a player or coach to get out of your way...
  - Know Down & Distance EVERY PLAY
  - Down Box should repeat down and line to gain/yard line to HL every play.
  - Line to gain/Front Stake should let HL know if it is a first down by forward progress spot.

**REMEMBER TO ACT PROFESSIONAL AND YOU WILL BE TREATED PROFESSIONALLY....AND MOST IMPORTANT ENJOY WHAT YOU ARE DOING.....**