

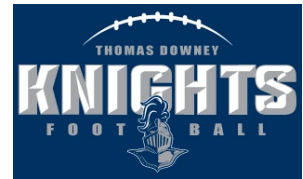
## The Shield Punt: Install, Drills, & Details

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### Clinic Talk: Why the Shield Punt?

- Everyone is moving forward on blocks.
- More guys in coverage versus no rush.
- Threat of fake.
- Defense must declare (similar to Spread Offense)
- Simplified technique, less expensive in practice time.
- Launch point protected by alignment (rather than retreat)

### Shield Punt Goals

- Zero blocked punts AND zero return touchdowns
- 35 yard NET average OR down the ball inside the 15
- Convert a 1<sup>st</sup> down (Shift or Fake)

### Personnel

- Guards need to be bigger and can be slower. D-Line or ILB types.
- Tackles need to be Linebacker types.
- Ends need to be fast, not as necessary to be big.
- Shield should be BIG.

### Pre-Snap Process

- Count begins from the A gaps out, only counting defenders within 5 yards of the LOS.
- Shield is responsible for blocking #1 on each side of the Center.
- Guards have #2, Tackles have #3.
- Ends have #4. Split 8 yards unless #4 is inside and rushing.

### Post-Snap Process

- Attack your man, using a FORK technique.
- If your man doesn't rush, immediately release into coverage.
- Shield: Protect inside first, then outside gap.

### Coverage Assignments

- Long Snapper & Guards: Mirror the return man when you get close, make him go horizontal.
- Tackles: Contain, get outside the Ends.
- Ends: Go straight to the ball with speed.
- Shield: Act as Safeties, along with the Punter.

### Drills

- Shimmy Drill: Players work on breaking down as they reach the returner, keeping him "inside and in front."
- 2 on 1 Drill: Similar to Shimmy drill except coverage runs 30 yards, and Punt Returners get work.
- Fork Drill: Teach the protection technique and how to read a soft defender and get into the coverage lane.
- Shield Drill: Works varies pressures and how to read defenders that aren't rushing.
- PBS: Reps for Long Snappers and Punters, while also using them to train the Punt Block specialists.
- Points Drill: Fun conditioning drill that reinforces coverage lanes and how to down the ball inside the 15 yd line.

### Drills

- Trouble Spots: Overload to one side, overload within each gap, backed up.
- Fake Punts: Vomit, Irish, Fake Irish, Markers, Taser (Screen)

