

Good morning!

Hope you had safe travels last evening.

Let's stick with a 'communication' theme on a call. Take a look at the clip [here](#) and think about what the call was.

What did you think the official called when you saw it originally? Personally, I thought he gave the 'count the goal' signal. This is obviously NOT what he had. He actually had a PC.

THIS is a case where someone needs to tell the official that his signal looks confusing AND he needs to adjust it. Other similar confusing signals are a 'hit' foul when the official gets the call up in front of the face and it looks like an intentional foul signal.

For the play here, if he had used the correct NFHS player control mechanic (I know it was a college game so is different) and had a fist, hand behind his head then signal it going the other way, it would have been clear to his partners (and the players and coaches) what he had. Most officials have a clear signal to 'count the goal' on a foul.....and some of us (me) have revised what we do because someone has told us (me) that it isn't clear. Even if nobody tells you 'for years' and then all of a sudden someone says it, consider their comment! Just like a player saying 'I have been wearing these tights all year' and nobody has said anything doesn't mean it is ok! We should always be looking for little ways to improve our game.....mechanics is one area that EVERY official can work to get better!

Be a good communicator through your mechanics. If someone tells you something about your mechanics, keep an open mind....get some film and check it out! Remember, most coaches are willing to share film with us! Remember also that film doesn't lie!!!

Thursday Extra: Make sure the official scorer is wearing the striped shirt! THESE are little things that the powers that be get irritated with when they see games where it doesn't happen! Also remember that you never know who is in the gym.....and there is ALWAYS someone watching the officials!

Have a great game tonight and safe travels!

Tim