

Good morning!

Hope all is well and your week is going well. I got an email late last week that one of our fellow officials had passed away. In these crazy times we are living in these days, sometimes we tend to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of our daily lives and forget to reflect on the most important things in our lives.

I know many of us have lost family and friends since the season started. Take time to tell your family, friends and loved ones what they mean to you. Many of us think about those special to us before each game.

Jeff Levan was a mentor to many officials in the Lycoming Chapter of District 4. Jeff was 59 and went into the hospital last Tuesday and passed away 12 hours later. I 'met' Jeff via emails from the Tip of the Day, then we got together at the finals at Hershey and talked.....always enjoyed seeing him at the convention in August each year and catching up and talking officiating for sure!

Keith Cremer sent me the sad news about Jeff last Wednesday and I wanted to talk about Jeff and encouraging us all to make sure to be thankful for what we have each day, but wasn't sure what words to use.....then I got an email from a Lycoming Chapter member last evening. Kyle Daugherty sent me this:

Hi Tim,

I have some sad news to report from the Lycoming Chapter in Williamsport, PA. One of our members, Jeff Levan, was laid to rest today. I don't know if you ever met Jeff but I know he was active in sending you emails on certain plays and situations.

That's who he was - always a rules guy and someone you went to for answers on rules questions. He was a 23 year member of our chapter and most recently our treasurer.

Jeff went to the hospital last Tuesday evening with an infection in his stomach and passed about 12 hours later. He had beat cancer a couple years ago to come back and officiate but his immune system had been compromised ever since. He didn't work this year to avoid Covid and we will sure miss him.

I just wanted to let you know since Jeff was an active subscriber to your tip of the day.

One last thing I'll leave you with. I worked my first state playoff game with Jeff in 2012. In 2018, I was lucky enough to work a state championship game, something Jeff strived for. Instead of being jealous, Jeff was so proud and happy that my journey started with him. He was always eager to help younger officials and give to the next generation. He will surely be missed by our chapter members.

I'm sorry to send you this sad email but I can't help but to think of Jeff on the eve of the start of our District playoffs.

Thanks for listening.

Kyle Daugherty  
Vice President - Lycoming Chapter

I could not have summed up Jeff OR what we all should be as officials any better than Kyle did. Jeff was the epitome of what I think we should be as an official.....his attitude and joy in the successes of fellow officials were the best! RIP Jeff.

Have a great game tonight and please remember Jeff, his family and any other of your lost family/friends before you blow the whistle tonight. Remember to thank and tell those most important to you how you feel about them.

Tim