

Information Sheet for New and Transfer Officials into the WCOA

You will be dealing with two (2) associations:

1) Florida High School Activities Association (**FHSAA**)

website: www.fhsaa.org

2) West Coast Official's Association (**WCOA**)

website: www.wcoafila.org

All assignment booking is done by computer

website: www.thearbiter.net

1. You must register with the FHSAA for football.

- Registration must be done online on the FHSAA website listed above.
- Football registration starts in July.
- There is a deadline.** Late registration will result in a fine.
- Exact dates will be announced as information becomes available.
- When you register online, you must pay by credit or debit card.
- Registration entitles you to a rule & case book and mechanics manual for football & the FHSAA guide book.

2. You must attend the mandatory FHSAA rules clinic for football every year.

- You must attend or you will be fined \$50.00 by the state.
- Meeting dates and sites will be announced as information becomes available.

3. You must take the FHSAA State Rules Exam for football every year.

Passing = 75, Western Conference = 80

- When you register for football, they ask you for your exam site.
- There are 3 ways to take the FHSAA state football exam:
 - Online Closed Book Exam (00) – it is timed and submitted at the conclusion of the exam.
 - Written Exam (42) – given at a test site (Armwood = 42).
 - Online Open Book (01) – it is timed and submitted at the conclusion of the exam.
- You will be fined by the state, if you do not take the exam.
- Make up exam is available upon request, in writing, to the state in advance.

4. The FHSAA also sponsors field clinics for all football officials.

- You are required and encouraged to attend one of these at least once every 4 years.
- The WCOA encourages attendance to any state educational function to improve your skills as an official.
- Clinic dates and sites will be announced as information becomes available.
- It should be posted on the FHSAA website.

5. You must register with the WCOA for football.

Contact: Thom Powers: (813) 886-1935

- Football registration forms will be handed out in May and July by the treasurer (Thom Powers).
- Fill out the form in a timely manner and return them to Thom Powers.
- There is a deadline.** Late registration will result in a fine.
- Make checks for football registration payable to the WCOA and mail to the WCOA treasurer, **Thom Powers**, 7533 Armond Circle, Tampa, FL 33634, or turn them in at a scheduled sports meeting.
- Experienced officials for higher level games, Florida State Law and the Hillsborough School Board requires fingerprinting before taking the field. This is a no-brainer, you've got to do it.

6. You must register into Arbiter via the Internet.

Contact: Ken Calhoun: (813) 891-0638

- You must have an e-mail address and phone numbers (we have to be able to reach you).
- Computer does all game assignments. It is accessed thru Arbiter by your email address.
- You register once, and update it constantly as your availability changes.

7. The WCOA conducts a mandatory football clinic every year in early May.

Contact: Dr. Greg Kaiser (727) 257-3531

- If you are a new or transfer or returning official, plan to attend the clinic.
- This will be a one-day event on a selected Saturday in May. Don't miss it!

8. WCOA meetings will be held throughout the football season usually on Mondays.

Whenever possible, information will be posted on the website.

It is your responsibility to be knowledgeable of upcoming events and requirements.

Yearly Events:

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| March | High School Varsity girls flag football begins. |
| April | Middle School flag football begins. |
| May | WCOA clinic, meetings, scrimmages, and Spring Jamborees. |
| June | Football registration starts, FHSAA and WCOA. |
| August | Meetings, scrimmages, rules study groups and exam. Football season starts. |