

# 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](http://www.fhsaa.org)

2) West Coast Official's Association (WCOA)

website: [www.wcoafila.org](http://www.wcoafila.org)

All assignment booking is done by computer

website: [www.thearbiter.net](http://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: Ken Calhoun (813) 891-0638

- 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.

Contact: Harold Greenfield (813-651-3351)

### **Yearly Events:**

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