

Offensive Holding

Making Quality Calls

and

Having a Consistent Philosophy

Offensive Holding....what is it?

See your Rules Book

Can we officiate Offensive Holding “by the book?”

If we did, we would rarely complete a play
without a foul.

For this reason, we must have a
consistent philosophy -- official to
official, crew to crew and game to
game !!

Train Wrecks – Not Fender Benders !!

Thoughts on Holding

- Grasping an opponents' shirt does not always constitute a holding foul....
 - Was the defender controlled by this action?
 - Was the grasp inside or outside the frame?
 - Was it prolonged, or was it a quick grab and release?
 - Did it put the defender at a disadvantage?
 - Were they “dancing,” or was the defender trying to get away?

Thoughts on Holding (continued)

- How do we officiate “Take Downs?”
 - Take downs are rarely passed over.
 - A defender who is taken down from the back side is still placed at a disadvantage
 - An exception would be the “take down” that occurs “just as” or “just after” the ball carrier is tackled...away from the “take down action”
 - Take downs often lead to retaliations, or rough play later in the game.

Thoughts on Holding (continued)

- When might you pass on holding action?
 - The grasp was quick and defender was let go.
 - The action never restricted the defender's penetration up field.
 - The defender was making the play "just before" or "just as" he was being held.
 - The runner was already past the point where the holding action took place.
 - Action was minor and game was out of hand.

Key Points to Consider

1. Player safety must always be our number one concern !!
2. What effect does the “holding action” have on the play?
3. You must watch the Engagement and the Disengagement. See the whole play.

Officiating Holding on the Perimeter vs. the Interior Line

- Holding action on the perimeter is not forgiven as it might be in the interior line.
- Holding action on the perimeter, at the point of attack, does not have to be severe to spring the runner for a big gain.
- Officials must stay with their keys and make sure they see the action from start to finish. Watch the disengagement !!

Officiating Holding On Pass Plays vs. Running Plays

- On Pass Blocks – you must call
 - Take Downs
 - Upper Body Restraints
 - Head and Neck Restraints
 - Prolonged Contact to the Helmet and Face Mask by Offensive and Defensive Players
 - Illegal Action After the Blocker is Beaten – It may not be flagrant, but it is restrictive

Officiating Holding On Pass Plays vs. Running Plays

- On Run Blocks – you must call
 - Take Downs
 - Wrap Ups
 - Hooks, Turns, etc. – Action That Controls the Defender and Takes Him Out of the Hole Where the Runner is Heading

Penalty Priorities

“Zones of Emphasis”

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
SE W	T G C G QB RB	T TE F

Penalty Priorities

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
SE T W	G C G QB RB	T TE F

Zones of Emphasis -- Always Called

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
Take Downs All Pt. of Attack Holding Action All Safety Fouls	Take Downs All Safety Fouls Prolonged grabs with control	Take Downs All Safety Fouls

Penalty Priorities

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
SE T W	G C G QB RB	T TE F

Zones of Emphasis -- Sometimes Called

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
Quick Grab and release at Pt. of Attack	Grabs (not prolonged) but with control. Hands outside frame with control.	Flagrant, prolonged grabs.

Penalty Priorities

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
SE ← T W	G C G QB RB	T TE F

Zones of Emphasis -- Rarely Called

Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
“Dancing” Double teams Hands outside frame after O-lineman dominates	Same as Zone 1 No advantage	Same as Zones 1 and 2 Take downs that happen as the runner is being tackled.

Penalty Priorities

Zone 2	Zone 1	Zone 2
SE T W	G C G QB ↑ RB	T TE F

Zones Change Based on the Point of Attack

In some situations, there may not be a Zone 3

Holding By The Defense

Was the Offensive Man Placed at a Disadvantage?

- The Pull and Shoot
 - Occurs on Kick Plays – Primarily on FG's and Trys
 - Leave it Alone Unless the “Shooter” is Active
- Control That Allows Another Defender to Make a Play, or keeps O-lineman to get to the next level.
- Grasping the Wide Receiver Before the Ball is Thrown