

PROPOSED PLAN FOR BETTER OFFICIATING

IN FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL

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SECTION 1. The program should comprehend football officials and basketball officials. Basketball officials should be included in an effort to standardize rule interpretation and improve the quality of officiating.

SECTION 2. The system should provide for the selection of competent officials exclusively, continuous reports on the work of these officials, and the periodic rating of these officials as to all-round efficiency.

The first objective can be accomplished by a set of examinations dealing with physical condition, game rules, and officiating technique, supplemented by the compilation of accurate and up-to-date records of experience as player, coach, and official.

The second objective can be achieved by a rating system based on examination grades, experience, and game reports from coaches and scouts. Details of the grading and rating procedure to be worked out by handling agency. As to football officials, they should be classified as nearly as possible as Referees, Umpires, Field Judges, and Head Linesmen, and assigned to games in that particular capacity, as nearly as possible.

The third objective can be accomplished by required detailed reports on the work of each official in each game from the coaches of the competing teams, and from scouts.

SECTION 3. The system should provide for a uniform interpretation of the playing rules in both sports during each season. This can be accomplished by holding a meeting of all qualified officials in the sport, say football, several weeks before the beginning of the playing season. This meeting might last for two or three days. At one session, the interpretation of rules would be presented by the District Representative of the Football Rules Committee. At other sessions, drill work on playing rules and officiating technique would be stressed. During the meeting, uniform interpretation of the rules would be agreed upon and the officials instructed to apply such interpretations in all games to the best of their abilities. All football coaches of member institutions should be required to attend the interpretation meeting.

SECTION 4. The system should provide for the impartial assignment of officials to individual games, due consideration being given to the wishes of the various coaches. Officials should be assigned on the basis of merit, rating preferences of the coaches being followed wherever possible.

ARTICLE I

PURPOSE

SECTION 1. The immediate purpose in establishing the Office of Commissioner shall be to provide a neutral agency for the appointment of football and basketball officials and, thereby, to take over official detail, correspondence and negotiations which make for