

Officials and Their Duties

Section 1 Game and Table Officials

Article 1... The official's uniform shall be a white shirt, black pants, primarily black shoes and socks. You will be able to purchase the white shirt and black jacket on our site. (need link)

Article 2... The game officials shall be a referee and two scoring officials or three scoring officials, one of whom shall be a routine official. They shall be assisted by an official timer, a music/audio operator and an announcer.

Article 3... The scoring officials and all of the assistants listed in Section 1, Article 2 shall be located at the timer's table.

Section 2 Officials' Jurisdiction

Article 1...The officials shall make decisions for infractions of the rules committed within or outside the boundary lines. The use of any replay or television monitoring equipment by the officials in making any decision relating to the game is prohibited.

Article 2... The officials' jurisdiction, prior to the game, begins when they arrive on the floor. The officials' arrival on the floor shall be at least 15 minutes before the scheduled starting time of the game.

Article 3...The jurisdiction of the officials is terminated and the final score has been approved when all officials leave the visual confines of the playing area.

Section 3 Referee's Authority

The referee shall make decisions on any points not specifically covered in the rules.

Section 4 Referee's Pregame Duties

The referee shall:

Article 1... Inspect and approve all equipment, including the competitive floor/mats, any additional mat panels and scoreboard.

Article 2...Designate the official timepiece and official timer prior to the scheduled starting time of the game.

Article 3...Be responsible for having each team notified five minutes before each half is to begin.

Article 4...Verify with the head coach, prior to each contest, that his/her team members' uniforms and equipment are legal and will be worn properly, and that all participants will exhibit proper sporting behavior throughout the contest.

Section 5 Referee's Duties during Game

1. 5 minutes prior to game meets coaches and captains
 - a. Check with coaches that the athletes are members of USA Cheer
 - b. Coin flip for initial possession
2. Gets next round to be played from team with possession
3. Tracks which team has the next possession within the quarter and to start the next quarter
4. During the quarter tracks routines which have been called
5. Signals to the crowd and score table which team gets point(s) for the round
6. Handles any injury or music issues which may occur in a round/quarter/game
7. Tracks teams timeouts used and left in the game
8. Checks to be sure both teams are in proper position to start a round (lined up properly on the field)
9. Overtime
 - a. Coin flip for initial possession
 - b. Tracks which round number is next if needed
 - c. Tracks which team has possession
 - d. Signals to score table and crowd score and winner/tie

Scoring Officials

1. Needs to have working knowledge of the routines
2. Bring with them the 8 count sheets for the routines
3. Watch the routines for execution error(s)
 - a. Synchronization issues within the team
 - b. Technique/falls/bobbles
 - c. Stepping out of bounds
 - d. Alter or omit a skill(s) from the routine
 - e. Decide if an execution error is a minor, major or double major as outlined in the training
 - f. If teams on different counts, decide which team is correct/incorrect (if routine official being used they will help with this)
4. Count up errors for each team for the round and award the appropriate amount of points to team(s) that win the round
5. If no routine official, one official must signal winning team to the referee on the field

Routine Official

1. 1 and 2 from the scoring official list
2. Tracks the routines as they are going for inconsistencies between the performances of the 2 teams and identifies which team is correct/incorrect
3. Notifies the scoring officials when there is a count or skill issue and which team is correct/incorrect
4. Helps with deciding close calls on a round