

North Texas Football Chapter Texas Association of Sports Officials Board of Directors Policy

Self-Forming Crew Plan

1. Definition:

A Self-Forming Crew is one of which an official, who has been certified as a Referee (Crew Chief) by the North Texas Chapter, forms a football officiating crew by recruiting members of the chapter, who are in good standing per TASO and Chapter bylaws and secures, in writing, their agreement to participate in said crew. Members may also contact referees and other members about their desire to be on a crew with them.

A. Crew Chief:

The crew chief of each crew will be the referee. They must meet all current TASO requirements to officiate football and meet all of the North Texas Chapter crew chief guidelines listed:

- 1.) Score at least a 90 on the TASO rules test from the previous season and current season.
- 2.) Meet the chapter meeting attendance requirements from the previous season as required in the North Texas Chapter bylaws.
- 3.) Must be Referee as primary position for a minimum of 2 years unless approved by the chapter board.
- 4.) Receive final board approval.
- 5.) An official that does not meet all the requirements may appeal to the board for a waiver to these requirements.

B. Crew Official:

A football official that has met all current TASO requirements to officiate football and is a member in good standing with the North Texas football chapter who has signed on with a Crew Chief to officiate football under the crew concept. Each crew official is encouraged to submit a TASO points form at the end of each season.

C. Independent Official:

A football official that has met all current TASO requirements to officiate football and is a member in good standing with the North Texas football chapter who has not agreed to be on a crew.

D. Transfer Official:

An official who has transferred from another chapter in state or out of state will not be eligible to be a Crew Chief in the current year of transfer.

2. Formation of Crews:

The Crew Chief shall notify the chapter secretary in writing the names and officiating position of each member of his/her proposed crew no later than midnight August 1 of the current year.

There are no limits on the number of crews that can form. Each crew shall meet the following requirements and have final approval of the board:

- a) All members are in good standing with TASO and the North Texas Chapter.
- b) Crew chief must be certified as previously stated.
- c) No one official can block more than 50% of their Friday availability.

3. Crew Rotation (Reformation):

The crews will remain intact for a one year period. Returning crew chiefs may retain any number of members from the previous crew, provided they meet the criteria established in the formation of crews.

A. Formation of Crew:

- 1.) A new crew wishing to form will be permitted to do so, provided it meets the formation of crew requirements.

B. Removal of a Crew or Crew Member:

- 1.) If a crew wants to disband or a Crew member wishes to leave prior to assignments, pending or released, being made, then notification to the chapter secretary must be received prior any assignments being made to the chapter. The crew chief will then find a replacement.
- 2.) A Crew chief or Crew member that did not meet the requirements the previous season as outlined in the definitions will be removed from the crew and become an independent official. The remaining members of the crew have the option to disband and become independent officials or choose a replacement.
- 3.) If a crew member is removed after assignments, pending or released, have been made, the crew will remain as is, and the Chapter Assignment Secretary will assign a replacement on a week to week basis.
- 4.) A crew member who is removed or chooses to leave from a crew will become an independent official until he is recruited to a new crew during the next crew formation cycle.

4. Independent and Crew Availability:

All members are required to keep their availability current with the Assigning program in use by the chapter.

A. Conflict of Interest (COI):

- 1.) If a crew official has a COI as defined by current Chapter and TASO policies, the crew chief will be contacted with the option of applying that to the whole crew or using a replacement in the event that crew is assigned to that school. The replaced official will be an independent official for that game.
- 2.) Per TASO policy, a COI may be waived upon mutual consent of both schools.

B. Scratches of Officials:

- 1.) If a Crew official is scratched by a coach the crew will be notified and may be handled in the following manner.
 - a) The coach will be notified that the official is part of a crew and that his scratch may prevent him from being able to use any official on that crew. The coach may then remove the scratch in order use that crew.

- b) The crew may choose a “scratch one scratch all” stance.
- c) The crew may choose to use a replacement in place of the scratched official if assigned to that school.

5. Game Assignments:

Games will be assigned in order to provide coverage of officials to each game. A crew should not expect to receive the priority of assignments to games over those who are not on a crew. When a crew is assigned a six-man game a 5th member of the crew will be an independent official that week unless the game will allow for a 5 man crew. Some weeks may require that the assignment secretary remove a multi position official to use on another game. Crews may not work for a school more than 3 times per season (playoffs exempt)

6. High Profile Assignments

Playoffs are assigned per chapter policy using a playoff assigning committee comprised of the President, Vice-President, and Assignment Secretary. The committee reserves the right to assign those games using independent officials, crews, or a combination of both based on the UIL requirements, TASO requirements and chapter policies.

This policy was adopted and approved by the Board of Directors on July 20, 2020.

Larry Schupbach
President