

Rules Interpretation Committee

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Coin Toss Notes:

- Short & Deep wings should gather captains on their respective side of the field on the 50 yard line.
- It's good practice to ask whether the press box will be playing the national anthem before or after the coin toss. This will help you be prepared.
- The Short or Deep wing should confirm with the head coach what his directions for the captains will be. Use the O2O to let the R know.
- Referee and Umpire will already be at mid-field awaiting the captains.
- The referee should be facing the main scoreboard.
- The speaking captain should be positioned on the side that will be closest to the referee.
- 4 Captains max per team and only those in full uniform are permitted to attend the mid-field toss. At the discretion of the crew, any extra captains can stand at the top of the numbers or hash mark during the toss.
- The Referee will ask the captains to shake hands and introduce themselves and offer his final thoughts on sportsmanship and expectations.
- If the referee has a special coin, they should show the captains and explain which side is head and which will be tails.
- The visiting team's speaking captain will call heads or tails. The referee should ask for his choice BEFORE flipping the coin and repeat back his choice out loud for the home team captains and umpire to hear.

-The referee has the ability to let the coin drop on the ground, catch it, or catch it and flip it over. Whichever way they decide they should be consistent throughout the season. It's recommended to let the coin drop on the ground, especially on turf fields.

-After the coin toss results, the referee should tap on the shoulder of the winning team captain and ask him what they'd like to do.

-Winning coin toss teams have 3 options: Receive, Defer their choice to the second half or Kick. Please note that if they choose to kick, they do not have the second half choice, meaning they'll be kicking it away to start both halves. This is extremely rare so do not let teams who want to "Defer" say "kick". This is why we confirm coaches' directions.

-If the captain defers, it's recommended the referee immediately signal this to the press box. To alleviate confusion, the opposing team will take the ball. Go back to the captain that deferred and ask them which way they'd like to kick or which goal they'd like to defend. Position the teams with their backs to their respective goal lines. Tap on the shoulder of the team that will be receiving with a catch signal.

-Ask captains to shake hands once again before returning to their sidelines.

-Meet with your entire crew at midfield. All should note on their game card the results of the coin toss and who will have the second half choice.