

## NEWS – OCTOBER 31, 2007

### **An Update from Herb Peters**

“Results of yesterday's CAT scan confirmed large lymph nodes in neck, armpits, and small nodes located deep in the chest. Doc remains somewhat puzzled that my energy levels are good, no night sweats or loss of appetite to go with the swollen nodes. Recommended FCR (fludarabine, cytoxin, and retuxin sp?) chemo treatment which MD Anderson in Houston has used for 20 years with continued success. WVU doc will order the chemo through the collaboration with a Charleston oncologist (Jubilier or Frame) at CAMC and will follow me every three months at WVU for check-ups. He suggested chemo on M, T, & W of the first week and then two weeks off for six cycles of treatment (18 weeks). It's good to finally have a plan of action rather than WAIT & WATCH/WORRY! Will probably start as soon as WVU makes arrangements with CAMC. Dr. also said that I should be able to work while taking a prophylactic (sp?) antibiotic and be free of any infections from the students.”

### **Breaking the Huddle with 12 Players – Mike Webb**

**A question from our KVFOA meeting last Tuesday:** Neil Caruthers said he has had coaches complaining about getting penalties (illegal substitution) for breaking the huddle with 12 players. Is it always a foul if you break the huddle with 12 players?

**Mike:** **There is no foul for breaking the huddle with 12 players in our Federation rules. Why guys can't separate Saturday stuff from Friday night stuff is beyond me.**

### **Also from Mike Webb – Mercy**

**Question:** What are your thoughts about a "mercy rule" in football? I read about this in Referee magazine a while back. I saw a MS game a couple of weeks ago...it was 32-0 in the first quarter. Maybe this doesn't happen all the time in WV...I don't know. The magazine talked about GA having a 28 point rule, which would cause the clock to run continuous (with some exceptions) and regular timing if the differential came back within 28 points. Just curious what you thought.

**Mike:** **The mercy rules other states use are OK, but in WV we have to weigh the desires of coaches and the players to gain experience against the “rush” to an easy to use mercy rule. Many coaches are reluctant to shorten games because they want the kids to get the most playing experience possible. To these coaches, the scores are not the important thing, the experience of the players is. Our use of Rule 3-1-3 in WV is limited because it requires two coaches to agree. Keep in mind these are competitive people and they do not like to give up.**

**Officials, on the other hand, view the use of a mercy rule in two ways. One, and this is important, is safety. The other is to just get the game over with. I agree, safety of our players is important but shortening a game makes it sound as though we shouldn't be playing the game in the first place.**

**I will address the use of a mercy rule or some way to get 3-1-3 more useful at our next WVSSAC Coaches' Advisory Committee meeting.**

### **Observations from the Sideline**

It is Senior Night and the Line Judge permits the Senior team members to come to the hash mark to observe the coin toss. This happened at a varsity game last Friday night.

This has been addressed at previous Rules Clinics. Team members who are not captains should remain with their team at their sideline.

### **Don't forget about the Banquet!!!**

Fred McPherson tells me he has 45 responses for the Banquet. If you haven't already done so, please let him know whether you are planning to attend, or not. Please call or e-mail Fred or e-mail Webmaster and I shall pass it along.

The KVFOA Banquet is Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at the Dunbar Bingo Building.

### **Do You Know Where these Guys Are?**

Fred McPherson needs the addresses of the following people: Jack Cremeans, Ken Legg, Charlie Fowler, Al Davisson, Bob Kouts, and George Pack. If you can help, please either e-mail or call Fred.

### **2008 KVFOA Registration**

We are going to try something different for renewing registration. We shall be posting the registration form if you wish to fill one out and mail, however you don't have to complete a form if you have website access.

Just send in your check for the appropriate amount (\$40 for renewal) made payable to "Kanawha Valley Football Officials Association, Inc." and indicate in the memo "my info is up-to-date" to indicate your information on the website is current and you are registered. You don't have to send in your open dates, just update them on the website.

For those who do not have website access, we will mail forms.

## **Don't Forget the Deadline for Filing Your Game Reports**

December 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for filing your Game Reports with WVSSAC.

Please note in the 2006-2007 WVSSAC Officials Handbook that Game Reports (Form 0-4) must be postmarked on or before December 1<sup>st</sup> for football or no points will be given for games worked. The Handbook goes on to say "Game Report (Form 0-4) will be accepted and points credited if postmarked within 30 (thirty) days of the prescribed date and further provided, that the late Form 0-4 is accompanied by the payment of a late fee in the amount of \$25.00.

A tip: I send in my Game Reports along with my 2008 WVSSAC registration card and my 2008 fees. I also include the postcards to be mailed back to me. That way, I am all set for the 2008 season. I send mine by Priority Mail (envelopes available at the Post Office) and request a Delivery Confirmation. This will cost \$5.25 for 2-3 day delivery service and tracking of the envelope to ensure delivery (you can check it on the internet). Don't forget to stamp your confirmation cards (26 cents each).

This may be going a little overboard, however there is no question that the envelope was sent and received using this method.

## **Finally**

Regular season ends this weekend, however football is not over. I shall try to publish officials selected for high school playoff assignments. It is an honor and worthy of recognition. I'll also continue to check-in with Mike Webb to see if there are play situations in playoff games that we need to know about.

Good luck to all officials who are in the running for playoff consideration.