



Officials Appreciation Game Suggested Actions

Coaches,

Thank you for participating in this year's #OfficialsAppreciation Game. As you know, officials are an essential part of high school sports- without them, our student athletes would not have the opportunity to play the sport they love and learn so much from.

Please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Football and Water Polo Coaches- pick a home game in October. All other sports- use your first home district game to recognize officials.
- Feel free to work with the opposing/ visiting team and have BOTH teams make a presentation.
- To make this a positive experience, please do not publish the names of officials in a program or on a flyer, banners, etc.

As you are planning your night, here are suggested action that show appreciation to our officials. Feel free to use as many of these suggestions as you feel appropriate:

- Have your PA announcer read an announcement thanking officials before the game or during a break in play. A sample announcement can be found in this toolkit.
- Present the night's officials with goody bags before the game. Goody bags can include snacks, gift cards to local establishments, team or school shirts, whistles, or anything else that represents your school.
- Take a picture with the officials that includes players, administrators, coaches, and/ or parents. Post pictures on social media using the hashtag #OfficialsAppreciation and tag @THSCAcoaches.
- Create a #OfficialsAppreciation poster that you can hang in the gym/ field for everyone to see. A sample poster can be found in this toolkit.
- Create a graphic to put on the video board thanking officials for their hard work and dedication. A sample graphic can be found in this toolkit.
- Have your team create a video thanking officials for their work and post on social media and/or display on a video board. A sample post can be found in this toolkit.
- Create a thank you note that is signed by all team members and coaches and presented to officials before the game, when they check into the venue, or during a break in play.

Do you have any other ideas? Will you do something different than the actions listed above? Please share what you are doing with THSCA so we can share with other coaches around the state!