

DUAL-OFFICIATING SYSTEM OBJECTIVE

MOVEMENT PATTERNS: In the dual system, there is always a lead official (L) and a trail official (T). One should be able to draw a diagonal line between the two officials through the ball at any time.

The lead official normally is ahead of the ball on plays to his/her right. He/she is responsible for covering the touchline and nearer goal line. In addition, the lead official must be in position to rule on offside. This means the lead official must assume a position to know the position of the most advanced offensive player relative to the deepest two defenders at the same time the ball is played in the attacking half of the field.

The trail official will normally be behind the ball on plays to his/her left. Attention will be directed to play around the ball. The penetration of the trail official will depend on the type of game being played (kick and run vs. ball control) and the physical ability of the official.

Penetration of 20-30 yards by an official will help "box" the play and preclude any guessing or missed calls from the touchline. At some time, the trail official will become the lead official and will have to rule on goal line plays to the right. Of course, the position of the ball will dictate which official will be responsible for off-the-ball coverage. Alert off-the-ball coverage is the hallmark of the dual system.

