



On-Field Radio Usage Procedure

Purpose

This procedure documents guidance for CCFOA officials utilizing radios for on-field Official-to-Official (O2O) communications. The primary purpose of O2O radio usage is to enhance the accurate, efficient, timely, and reliable exchange of information among an officiating crew in support of improving overall communications, crew coordination, and on-field safety and fairness. The information in this document is not intended to replace the use of an approved, standard hand signals as defined within applicable NFHS and Mechanics documentation.

Application

This procedure applies to all CCFOA officials using radios for on-field communications.

Procedure

The Referee assigned to any specific contest has sole discretion over that crew's use of radios and the channel to be used. While not mandatory, it is recommended that radios are only to be used when all officials on the crew are equipped with radios.

1. At the Referee's sole discretion, radios may be used for contests at any level, including Varsity (boys and girls), Junior Varsity (boys and girls), Freshman (boys and girls), and Youth.
2. Proper radio etiquette, outlined below, is to always be followed:
 - a) All officials planning to use a radio for on-field crew communications are responsible for having a functioning radio, earpiece, and Push to Talk (PTT) microphone in accordance with the Authorized Equipment section of this procedure and are responsible to arrive with a fully charged battery.
 - b) While it is acceptable to provide a radio to the Timer to facilitate corrections to the field's scoreboard, the Timer's radio should be set to a different channel than the one the crew is using. Further, except in emergency situations, officials are prohibited from sharing their radio/earpiece with anyone other than fellow crew members.
 - c) Only contest-related radio traffic is permitted.
 - d) Radio communications are to be professional, using only appropriate and respectful language. Keep in mind that individuals other than one's crew may be listening to the crew's selected channel. Should a crew determine others are using the same channel, radio communications should be limited, if not stopped, until it is convenient for the crew to change to a different channel.
 - e) Each radio transmission must be clear and concise, short and to the point.

- f) Officials are to speak slowly and clearly to ensure comprehension and to minimize the need to repeat oneself.
3. An official's radio is to be securely fastened to the outside of their uniform at the waistline wherever is most convenient for that official.
4. Wires for earpieces and PTT microphones are to be concealed under the official's jersey to the greatest extent possible.

Authorized Radios and Related Equipment

Officials shall only use radios and earpieces that meet the following specifications:

- a. Band Type: FRS/GMR
- b. Transmission: Analog
- c. Frequency Range: 462 MHz to 467 MHz
- d. Earpiece compatibility: Must support a PTT microphone

Policy URL Location:

<http://www.ccfoa.us/downloads>

Approval and Review Dates

- Instructional Chair Approval Date: 00/00/00
- CCFOA Board Approval Date: 00/00/00