

# Altercation/fight protocol

## 1) Position of officials

- **3-Man game** - two officials get as close to the action as possible. These two officials should be the single side official and the bench official closest to the altercation. The remaining official, bench side farthest from the altercation should run to the Midline in front of the table
- **2- man game** - official closest to the alteration should get as close to the action as possible while the other official should run to the Midline in front of the table

## 2) Actions by officials

- Official(s) closest to the action should use verbal commands to direct players to stop fighting and blow whistle loudly and continually to signal to players to stop the alterations- officials should not touch or grab players or attempt to physically restrain any of the players involved in the altercation. Officials should try to position themselves in ways that signal their physical presence while using verbal command and blowing whistle
- The official positioned in front of the table and nearest the benches is responsible for "freezing the benches". This official should use verbal commands to tell the players to stay at their bench areas and to enlist coaches in helping ensure that players stay in their respective bench areas. This official should signal with two hands up in the area, palms facing outward as a "Stop sign" to players and coaches to stay at their bench areas

## 3) Note numbers of players involved in altercation and actions

- The official(s) nearest the altercation must note actions of all players involved in altercation and the numbers of these players
- The official nearest bench must note any player or coach leaving the bench area and joining the altercation.

## 4) Once the altercation has been resolved

- Take a deep breath, stay calm
- Send all players to their respective benches

- Instruct coaches to keep players on their benches and to help calm the situation
- Conference with partners, being sure to face benches to see if there is any further misconduct
- Come to consensus about application of penalties- standard is 3- minute Unsportsmanlike and Ejection for fighting- additional penalties should be assessed for penalties that may have occurred before and leading to the altercation (ex: slash before altercation would result in additional one minute penalty to player who committed slash)
- Report penalties to the table. Report conclusions to both coaches in meeting together in front of the table.
- Resume game if appropriate.

## **5) Post game**

Referee must call the Assignor immediately to report the situation. The Referee writes up the game report. Stick to the facts, names, numbers of players involved and action that occurred and penalties and/or actions applied. Do not inject opinion or conjecture. Stick to the facts. This report will be read by CTLOA officers and THSLL board members, and could be read by others in the future. Stick to the facts.

## **6) Do not share details of the situation with others unless asked specifically by CTLOA or THSLL.**

After the game is over, this matter will be supervised and handled by CTLOA officers and THSLL board and they may ask you for more information but you should only communicate details with those individually and never players, coaches, or fellow officials unless directed to do so.