

## COIN TOSS

1. After completion of pre-game duties, the Referee and Line Judge go to the press box sideline and the Umpire, Linesman and Back Judge go to the opposite sideline.
2. Get the team captains of the team on your side of the field and have them ready on the sideline 3 minutes before scheduled kickoff time. Ensure that there are no more than four captains. Identify which captain will be speaking on the field. Ask this captain if he has been informed by the coach of his wishes regarding toss options.
3. On the Referee's signal, the Referee and the Umpire only shall escort their respective captains to the center of the field. The speaking captain should be the closest player to the Referee and Umpire when they meet at midfield. The Umpire will introduce his captains to the Referee and then go to the 45 yard line opposite the Referee's position.
4. The Linesman, Line Judge and Back Judge will position themselves at the inbounds marks. During the toss ceremony, only those participating in the ceremony should be on the field of play. All other players, coaches, etc. should be in their team area.
5. The Referee will ask the captains to introduce themselves to each other, and will then introduce the other members of the officiating crew.
6. The Referee shall:
  - (a) show the heads and tails side of the coin to each speaking captain;
  - (b) ask the visiting captain to call the toss;
  - (c) toss and catch the coin;
  - (d) indicate the winning captain by placing a hand on his shoulder;
  - (e) explain the winning captain's options.
7. The winning captain can elect to:
  - (a) defer his options to the second half;
  - (b) kick off;
  - (c) receive the ball;
  - (d) defend either goal.
8. If the winning captain elects to defer his options to the second half, the Referee should, after placing a hand on the captain's shoulder, step well clear and give the option deferred signal (S10) towards the press box. The losing captain should then be given the remaining options.
9. The captains shall then be instructed to face each other with their backs to the goal which they will be defending.
10. The Referee will step back to be in front of the captains of the team that had the options for the half (b, c, d in #7 above), ensuring that his position is not obscured from the press box. The Referee should signal the choice by make a kicking or catching motion while facing the same direction as the captains. (The Referee should not place his hand on the captain's shoulder a second time). There is no need to give the opposite signal for the other team.

If the captain elects to defend a goal, point with both arms towards the goal line and then give an appropriate signal for the choice of the other captain.

11. Summary:
  - (a) indicate the team who has won the toss, and if they have deferred their options;
  - (b) determine who is going to receive, and at which end;
  - (c) move the captains (this tells everyone which goal each team is defending);
  - (d) indicate either who is receiving or who is kicking off, but not both;
  - (e) it is not necessary for spectators to know which option each captain has chosen other than in the case of a deferral.
12. While the coin toss ceremony is in progress, those officials not involved with the actual toss must remain at the inbounds marks and ensure that players do not enter the field of play nor taunt their opponents.
13. As the captains return to their team areas, all officials will meet at the center of the field and record the result of the toss and the options selected. Handshakes or other crew activities at this juncture should be unobtrusive.
14. After receiving the Referee's final instructions all officials should go directly to their kickoff positions.
15. At the request of game management, the toss of the coin may be performed by an individual or attended by a small group of persons.