



**PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 24, 2026

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PIAA Football Officials Recognized by Philadelphia Eagles

Football Officials recognized from District XI belonging to the Schuylkill County, Carbon County, Northeastern Penn and Eastern Penn Officiating Chapters.

MECHANICSBURG, PA – The National Football League (NFL) and National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) have joined together for a national initiative designed to recognize and celebrate high school football officials for their dedication to interscholastic athletics. The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc (PIAA) is proud to announce the NFL/NFHS September Football Officiating Crew of the Month. The Philadelphia Eagles are recognizing a crew from PIAA District XI for their professionalism, teamwork, communication and commitment to high school football.

Congratulations to the crew of:

Pat Petrone, Referee – Drums, Pa
Tom Halcisak, Umpire – Emmaus, Pa
Kerry Kalinoski, Head Linesman – Emmaus, Pa
Tim Scheeler, Line Judge – Mahanoy City, Pa
Jamie Heydt, Side Judge – Leighton, Pa
Luke Thorpe, Back Judge – Easton, Pa
Noah Sparandeo, Field Judge – Easton, Pa

The crew was nominated by District XI Male Officials Representative Jim Haney and is comprised of officials from the Schuylkill County, Carbon County, Northeastern Pennsylvania and Eastern Pennsylvania Chapters. [Click here for the Eagles recognition.](#)

“This crew continues to get rave reviews from all who are involved with the game,” Haney wrote in the nomination. “Coaches and players love how the game is handled and the communication that occurs throughout the contest. The athletic directors love how everything prior to the game and then during is handled with professionalism.”

“This recognition provides a wonderful opportunity to shine a light on the professionalism, leadership and dedication these officials bring to the field each week,” said Mark E. Byers, PIAA Executive Director. “We are proud to see a PIAA crew from District XI recognized by the NFHS and NFL and appreciate the time and effort all of our officials dedicate to Pennsylvania’s student-athletes.”

Among the members of the recognized Pennsylvania crew is Kerry Kalinoski, who is the first female official recognized by Pennsylvania through this initiative and the first female to work a PIAA Football Championship game. This is the second crew honored by an NFL team. The first coming last season by the Pittsburgh Steelers.

About the Program

The NFL/NFHS Officiating Crew of the Month program recognizes the dedicated officials who help make high school football possible throughout the Philadelphia region. During the months of September, October and November, the Philadelphia Eagles will recognize one officiating crew from the PIAA for their commitment to the game, professionalism, leadership and dedication to creating a safe and positive environment for student-athletes.

The program celebrates the officials who work behind the scenes each week to support players, coaches, schools and communities and ensure the game is played with integrity and respect. The recognition provides an opportunity to highlight the important role high school football officials play in interscholastic athletics and the commitment required to serve student-athletes, coaches and schools throughout the season.

The initiative began during the 2023-24 school year with five state associations and five NFL clubs participating. It has grown significantly, with 29 state associations and all 32 NFL clubs participating during the 2026-27 school year.

“The NFHS and NFL are excited to be working with 29 state associations and all 32 NFL clubs for our joint officiating initiative during the 2026-27 school year,” said Dana Pappas, NFHS Director of Officiating Services. “The growth of this initiative to where we are now is an absolute thrill, and we are looking forward to the opportunity to recognize officials from across the country who serve interscholastic football.”