

For most if not all of us we have kicked off the 2021 football with the first weekend of scrimmages behind us. I was asked to pass this along some of these words to a new group of officials, but I think it is something that we all could take something from.

We are all excited to be back on the field. So, lets add some perspective to this. Don't be afraid to cut yourself some slack. We have been blessed to have the physical ability to somewhat keep up with 14–19-year old's, many of them at the peak of their physical prowess, every weekend. As I tell all new officials, we get older, the players don't.

There is not one official that has not missed a call in his or her career. Some are of a greater magnitude then others, but we are human, and we all make mistakes. Acknowledge it, learn from it and move on. We will beat ourselves up over it for days if not weeks. Do not let that define you. For the vast majority of us, officiating is an advocacy, not a vocation. The key is to have fun. Have a great season.