

# The Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire & Derbyshire RFU Society of Referees



## Front Row Briefing

Captain, please could I have the **Front Row**, **Front Row Replacements** and **Scrum Half** — and **Captain** would you like to listen in.

### Scrum Half

- I'll indicate when scrum is set — no delays — a credible feed into the Scrum please;
- Defending — stay out of the gap — either stay within 1m of scrum – same side as “throw—in” – or behind the back foot. Off—side line (5m back);
- PK/FK — no quick taps behind my back;
- No quick taps if I have any doubt over safety of scrum — ASK , if it is safe, please take the tap at the back of the scrum, not at the side;
- Make sure the ball leaves your hands and not off your knee;
- When I say “Use it” – the ball has to be moved away immediately – otherwise it's a turnover.

### Front Row

- Who's starting the game?
- I will make a mark – **Defending Hooker** — set up to the left of the mark;
- **Attacking Hooker** — set the gap;
- **Both props**, I want feet parallel not split, (ensures they stay square);
- It's a pushing contest;
- Please keep your shape;
- **Tight Head** – give him a shoulder and bind on top or side — not on the chest, arm, sleeve collar or shorts;
- **Loose Head** – don't come round the corner & long bind side – not on the chest, arm, sleeve collar or shorts;
- There will be 3 distinct phases of engagement. Please be ready for the crouch 30 seconds from when I make my mark;
- I will ask you to “**Crouch**”;
  - ▶ If you're **NOT** ready – don't crouch – talk to me
- I will ask you to “**Bind**”;
  - ▶ Bind when I ask, not before
  - ▶ I want to see **ALL Props** correctly bound
  - ▶ There will then be a pause
- When I'm happy that both front rows have **touched** and are **Square, Steady, Level and Equal Height**;
  - ▶ I will call “**Set**” — you will engage when ready

- If there's a problem at any stage – I will whistle you up and start again;
- Messing about at ANY point during engagement is liable to penalty.

### **Front Row Replacements**

- Who's covering what position?

### **No. 8**

- No "shot—guns" – full binding from the start please.

### **Line—out**

- Who's at the front? – I'll give you a defensive mark – attackers set the metre gap;
- **Hooker** – stand in the middle of the gap — once it's above your head – it comes in without delay;
- No early jumping/lifting;
- Until the ball is thrown—in:
  - ▶ Non—throwing—in **Hooker** – stay at least 2m away – i.e. you can't lift.
  - ▶ **Scrum Halves** (Receivers) stay back at least 2m.

Any questions? Enjoy your game.