

# March 11, 2026, General Meeting

## Quick recap

This was a TASO (Texas Association of Sports Officials) chapter meeting held on March 11, 2026, where officials discussed various operational matters and rule clarifications. The secretary's report highlighted concerns about insufficient playoff officials, with only about 40-50 officials qualified when 56-58 were needed last year. Financial updates showed the chapter with \$28,545 in the bank with expenses at \$7,611.05 and deposits of \$1,300 plus \$27.50. Rolando Flores addressed several important issues including the need for officials to achieve 90% on tests to qualify for playoffs, proper uniform standards, and the importance of communication with assigners about availability and conflicts of interest. Joe Brown provided detailed explanations of substitution rules, including the difference between unreported substitutes and illegal substitutes, and clarified the look-back rule for base runners. The meeting also covered upcoming events including an on-field clinic on March 22nd and regular meetings scheduled for April 1st and April 15th, with Frank requesting officials to submit their names and IDs through the chat system for attendance verification.

## Next steps

- All officials: Retake the exam to achieve a score of 90 and complete 10 varsity games to qualify for playoffs (deadline implied by playoff season timeline)
- All officials: Attend the on-field clinic on March 22nd (Sunday, 12-3pm) for makeup meeting credit and training
- Frank: Email the list of positions up for election for the April 1st meeting
- Frank/Scholarship Committee: Review and determine final structure for scholarships (\$1,000 or \$600 each) and post requirements on website
- All officials: Submit positive incident reports about schools with good facilities/behavior using the TASO website form
- All officials: Ensure they are in good standing (test score, meetings, clinic attendance) to remain eligible for end-of-year rewards
- All officials: Complete Texas way requirements by April 11th
- Frank/Webmaster: Update website with correct April 15th meeting date
- Frank/Webmaster: Post positive email from coach on website
- All officials: Submit incident reports for any payment delays beyond 30 days using UIL section 1204
- Rolando Flores: Continue monitoring Mercedes ISD payment situation and communicate with officials about expected delays
- All officials: Complete games in full, even for lopsided JV/sub-varsity scores, unless coaches agree to end early
- All officials: Avoid conversations with players during games and do not touch players
- All officials: Use proper TASO vendor uniforms and ensure consistent colors
- All officials: Report conflicts of interest (family relationships with schools) to Rolando Flores
- All officials: Report late arrivals to co-officials and ensure coaches know officials have arrived
- All officials: Submit name and TASO ID in chat for meeting attendance credit

- All officials: Contact Rolando Flores if interested in doing varsity games to arrange assignments
- All officials: Contact Joe Brown for help with test questions to achieve 90 score
- All officials: Ensure proper lineup card completion and reporting of substitutions during games
- All officials: Avoid ending games early for lopsided scores without coach agreement
- All officials: Use NFHS rules for middle school and varsity games, including proper handling of look-back rule and bunting situations
- All officials: Do not accept assignments if not in good standing
- All officials: Report unreported/illegal substitutes properly during games
- All officials: Announce substitutions to opposing head coach (or designated scorekeeper) during games
- All officials: Ensure proper handling of injured players (let play end, then call time, do not touch players)

## **Summary**

### **Official Gameplay and Qualification Guidelines**

The meeting focused on several key topics affecting officials and gameplay. Adrian reported that the chapter needs more playoff officials, with only about 50 currently qualified when 56-58 are needed, and emphasized the importance of officials reaching a 90 score on tests to qualify for playoffs. Rolando discussed recent scrimmage assignments and stressed the importance of proper communication with him about availability and conflicts of interest, particularly regarding schools where officials have family connections. Joe Brown provided detailed guidance on substitution rules, including the differences between unreported and illegal substitutes, and clarified the look-back rule regarding base runners after a walk. The meeting also covered proper uniform standards, the importance of not fraternizing with players, and the requirement to report incidents involving coaches to administrators.

### **Upcoming Events and Administrative Updates**

The meeting discussed upcoming events and administrative matters for the organization. Frank announced two in-person meetings scheduled for April 1st and April 15th at MedHigh, where they will discuss board positions and bylaws. The group addressed payment issues with Port Isabel school district regarding outstanding payments and discussed the requirement to file incident reports if payments are delayed beyond 30 days. Mario Pedrano shared a positive experience with Roma School District's new umpire facilities, and the group was reminded to submit positive feedback about schools to the website. The conversation ended with instructions for members to sign in using their names and TASO IDs in the chat.