




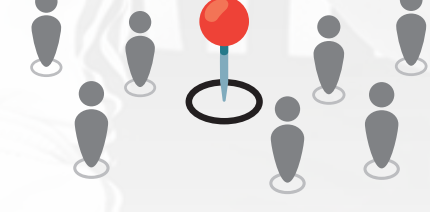
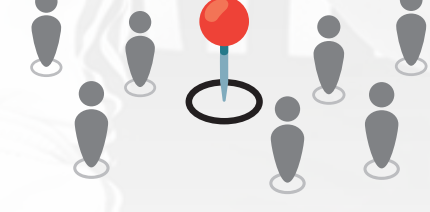
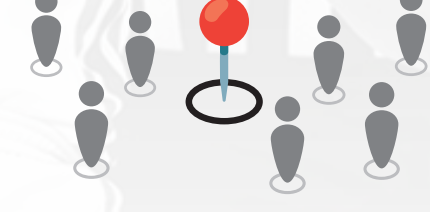


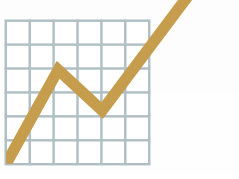
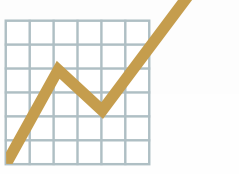
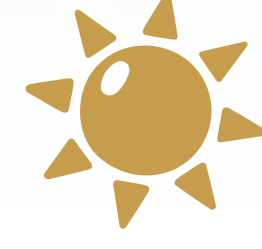

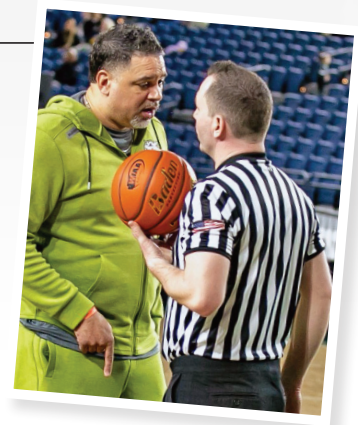

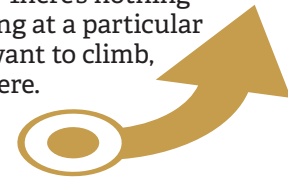






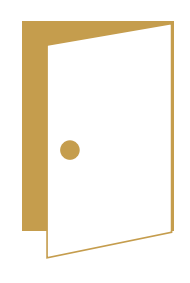





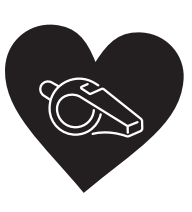

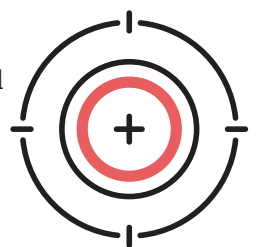




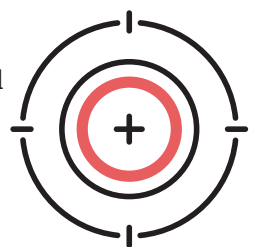
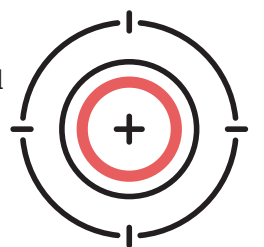













EQ

REASONS WHY WE LOVE OFFICIATING

FOR THOSE WHO ANSWER THE CALL, NOTHING COMPARES TO WHAT WE GIVE AND WHAT WE GAIN.

1. **CLARITY**
It is important for officials to think with a clear mind. Officiating teaches independent thinking and the ability to see the big picture — a skill that translates outside of officiating. 
2. **DEDICATION**
To truly be a good official, at any level, requires commitment to the craft. But like most things in life, the more of yourself you give to something, the more it gives back to you. 
3. **GOOSEBUMPS**
Officiating provides goosebumps in spades. The hair-raising moments are memories that make up who we are. 
4. **CHALLENGE**
Every game — no matter the venue, player abilities or teams — is a challenge. Nothing is mundane or an easy task. 
5. **FITNESS**
Who doesn't like getting paid to exercise? There is little motivation needed to get you to work out through officiating. 
6. **ADDICTION**
What official is not ready for his or her next game after the last? More games? We'll take them. It's an addiction that only officials understand. 
7. **VANTAGE POINT**
It's the game within the game — not just watching the teams or the game. 
8. **SORT OUT WHAT MATTERS**
With a lot of action going on and a lot of noise, you have to sort out what exactly matters. There can be no fear or favor — just deciding on situations based on rules. 
9. **BOOS**
There's nothing like fans booing when you have the silent satisfaction of knowing that you got it right. 
10. **ADRENALINE**
It's a rush to be in the moment and have to make the big decision. 
11. **PERFECTION**
Officials enjoy the drive toward excellence. While knowing that perfection cannot be achieved, there is still great satisfaction in trying to achieve perfection. 
12. **TO PROVE YOU CAN DO BETTER**
You saw others do it, thought you could do it better, and now's your chance to prove it. 
13. **FRESH AIR AND SUNSHINE**
For those officiating outdoors, this is an opportunity to get a little vitamin D. 
14. **ATMOSPHERE**
From the pep band jamming out to the buzz of the crowd, officials are in a prime spot to soak it all up. 
15. **PERSONALITIES**
Interactions with the players, coaches and other officials are great. Officiating allows you to channel your inner psychologist with all the personalities involved. 
16. **PEER PRAISE**
Being congratulated on accomplishments by peers, whether it's a playoff game or a state tournament game, is rewarding. 
17. **MOVIN' ON UP**
Everyone starts at the amateur level and some ascend to the top of the profession. There's nothing wrong with staying at a particular level. But if you want to climb, opportunity is there. 
18. **GUARDIAN OF THE GAME**
Officials can take pride in playing a critical role in ensuring participants are following the rules and that the integrity of the game is preserved. After all, without officials, it's just recess. 
19. **ESCAPE**
Once an official steps onto the court, field, ice or pitch, everyday problems seem to fade away. 
20. **SHERLOCK HOLMES ... OF THE RULES**
There's nothing quite like hunting down — and finding — the rules that apply to a particularly unusual on-field or on-court situation. It's like solving a mystery. 
21. **TEAMWORK**
No one official can carry a crew. The best officiated events require the dedication, togetherness and ability of all officials to be one team. 
22. **FOR THE KIDS**
Without officials, kids miss out on the lessons and memories that only real competition can teach. 
23. **DISCOMFORT**
Growth lives outside comfort, and officiating puts you there often. 
24. **DOOR OPENER**
Officials are identified and associated with the sport(s) they work. People know who the good officials are. They recognize you outside of officiating. 
25. **REVERENCE FOR THE RULES**
Play by the rules regardless of what others are saying. 
26. **INTESTINAL FORTITUDE**
Officials learn how to have inner strength and self-confidence. To truly excel in officiating, one must deliver in both categories. The courage and mental strength which officials develop can serve them off the field as well. 
27. **OTHERS THINKING WE'RE CRAZY**
Ever talk to someone and they look at you like you're crazy? Officials have the unique ability to enjoy doing a job the average person thinks is impossible. When everyone runs away, we thrive on doing what no one else could imagine putting up with. 
28. **NEVER THE SAME**
Every game is unique and takes its own form. One day may require managing the intricate technicalities of a low-scoring affair, demanding intense focus on positioning. The next, a high-tempo, emotionally charged rivalry that tests your ability to control volatile intensity. 
29. **STRESS MANAGEMENT**
No official would say the job is stress-free. Officiating — though stressful at times — also provides stress relief from our daily lives. Officials learn to balance stress through direct involvement in stressful situations. 
30. **PASSION**
The amount of passion officials have is off the charts. Passion to get plays right is what drives us. 
31. **GIVE BACK**
Most get something out of the sport prior to becoming an official. Many officials like to pay it back to the sport for what it has given them. 
32. **FIRSTS**
That first pitch or first toss-up or first kickoff. As that new season gets underway, there's so much promise for new experiences and opportunities. The slate is clean and it's a fresh opportunity to put all the preseason preparation into action. 
33. **COMMUNITY**
Like Harley Davidson riders, there is no community like officials. When it comes down to it, during a game, officials' only true friends are fellow officials. Many of them become your closest friends — lifelong friends. 
34. **LIFE SKILLS**
Officiating teaches great life skills — helping you beyond officiating. For example, time is of the essence — no game can start when officials are late. 
35. **ALL FIVE SENSES**
After a long work day, venting with the familiar sounds, smells and feels of the sport is a joy. Whether it's the swish of a net, the smack of a ball, the smell of the dirt or the squeak of sneakers, we all have something that perks us up. 
36. **PHONE AWAY**
Being on the field or court provides the opportunity to disconnect the phone and connect with a live event. 
37. **BEAM WITH PRIDE**
It's great seeing the growth of fellow officials or your own growth. We all start out with different abilities and grow at different rates, but any improvement is special. 
38. **FOCUS**
The amount of mental energy and physical demands is unmatched. Laser-sharp focus is required for the entire game. 
39. **IN THE GAME**
Officials stay engaged and a part of the game they once played. The connection lasts well beyond their playing careers. 
40. **CAMARADERIE**
The fellowship and humor officials share with one another are incomparable. 
41. **CHRISTMAS MORNING ANYTIME**
When that new gear arrives, it's like being a kid at Christmas — and we can't wait to get out there to wear it or use it. 
42. **HIGH STANDARD**
You are expected to have high character, on and off the court or field. Many enjoy living up to the demands of being an official. It may not always be easy, but meeting the challenges fosters deep personal growth and a profound sense of fulfillment. 
43. **TRAVEL**
Officials travel to many different places — interesting or historic venues and towns or places people likely would never visit. It's a great way to take in some amazing sites while you work a game. 
44. **MONEY TALKS**
There is no better part-time job or hobby for people to make a little extra money. 
45. **MEMORIES**
The longer you work, the more memories you will build. Some will be the great games; others the talented players. Most importantly, you'll remember your great partners and mentors. 
46. **GET OVER IT**
In life, there are always setbacks. Officials have tremendous pressure on them to make correct decisions. Toughness is taught when we get a decision wrong and immediately drop it to get the next one right. 
47. **COMPETITION**
Officials don't compete like the teams do, but there is a competitive spirit driving us. After all, we'd all like to get those deep postseason assignments. 
48. **LOVE OF SPORTS**
Most officials start out as sports fans. We truly enjoy the intricacies of the sports we work. 
49. **MAKE A DECISION**
You have to make quick and accurate judgments. Your training, experience and powers of observation will be challenged constantly. 
50. **IT'S NOT COACHING**
Many officials have coached or considered coaching. With officiating, there is only a given time parents can complain. Coaches on the other hand have parents always complaining — with no filter. 