

2026 RAOA Football Meeting

August 24, 2026

6:00 PM Lourdes HS Forum

Welcome & Opening Statement – Wadewitz

RAOA Football Leadership Introductions

- MSHSL Regional Coordinator SE MN: **Mike Graf**
- Assignor: **Jared Butson**
- Charter Clinician: **Royce Ruter**
- VP for Football: **Andy Wadewitz**



New Member Introductions & Full-Time Crew Assignment – Wadewitz

- Alex Evenson
- Kevin Fox
- Steve Miller
- Brian Himlie
- Joe Larson
- Ryan Liffbrig
- Jordan Whitcomb – Crew King

Congratulations to All!

2025 State Tournament Recognition - Wadewitz

- Severson Crew: 4A Quarterfinal @ Stillwater HS
- Okstad Crew: 1A Quarterfinal @ Mayo HS
- Ruter Crew: 4A Semifinal @ US Bank Stadium
 - Marshall Behrens (FJ) & Bou Gazley (SJ)
- Severson Crew: 6A Semifinal @ US Bank Stadium
 - Jeremy Zacher (FJ) & Jared Butson (SJ)

Congratulations to All!

Crew Introductions – Butson



Mark Benfield	R
Scott Zarn	U
Jeff Pratt	LOS
Collin Phillips	LOS
Todd Horman	B



Bou Gazley	R
Jordan Jensen	U
Kent Bruinsma	LOS
Joe Klunder	LOS
Nathaniel Fox	B



Steve Hacken	R
John Arens	U
Steve Heftman	LOS
Paul Ringo	LOS
John Hansen	B



Greg King	R
Bill Duncan	U
Darrin Hererra	LOS
Jordan Whitcomb	LOS
Alex Bryngelsen	B

Crew Introductions – Butson



Kevin Dather	R
Justin McNamara	U
Kelly Raymond	LOS
Isaac Bowe	LOS
Kane Malo	B



Ben Moen	R
Kyle Schoneck	U
Matt Bloxham	LOS
Corey Dornack	LOS
Ian Stauffer	B



Eric Okstad	R
Justin Dunker	U
Jim Fall	LOS
MJ Wagenson	LOS
Josh Weise	B



Royce Ruter	R
Mike Schumacher	U
Troy Prigge	LOS
Ron Giles	LOS
Jeff Hobbs	B

Crew Introductions – Butson



Tom Schultz	R
Scott Hruby	U
Dave Benson	LOS
Barry Durkee	LOS
Garrett Benson	B



Tristan Severson	R
Justin Mathre	U
Matt Sogla	LOS
Marshall Behrens	LOS
Zach Fuller	B



Joel Traver	R
Mark Prondzinski	U
Jay Lonien	LOS
Josh Prondzinski	LOS
Curt Hughes	B



Paul Vizina	R
Bill Zuelsdorff	U
David Timmons	LOS
Chad Schmitz	LOS
Kyle Dubbels	B

Crew Introductions – Butson



Andy Wadewitz	R
Joel Olson	U
Ryan Buckingham	LOS
Tom O'Hara	LOS
Kyle Dessner	B



Russ Zabel	R
Rich Guggisberg	U
Rick Erickson	LOS
Dan Reisgraf	LOS
Nic Zabel	B



Jeremy Zacher	R
Tim Benz	U
Eric Williamson	LOS
Brady Stevens	LOS
Jeremy Delger	B

2026 Sub List

- Greg Lamp
- Tim Nicometo
- Hunter Sveen
- Brian Kelly
- John Christian
- Amy Moen
- Jason Moen
- Don Leisen
- Jeff Newton
- Corey Wagner
- David Krieg
- Chris Zollner
- Tim Wehr
- Doug Inman

2026 Sub List

- Bradley Prigge
- Brian Himlie
- Joe Larson
- Ryan Liffrig
- Kevin Fox
- Steve Miller
- Alex Evenson
- Jared Butson
- David Schenck (SOA)
- Kirk Oswald (SOA)
- David Ludowese (SOA)
- Rob Jarrett (SOA)
- Erik Christensen (SOA)
- Josh Dascher (Big Ten)

Recognition of Others in Attendance - RAOA Football - Wadewitz

Substitutes/non-rostered

Retirees

Association members

First Year Officials - RAOA Football

Caden Boyum – Crew Moen

Mission Duop – Crew Wadewitz

Maurice Smith - Crew Zabel

Welcome to RAOA Football!

Second Year+ Football Officials - Formal Evaluations

Austin Bahler – Crew Schultz

Shiloh McHanna - Crew Ruter

Luke Decker – Crew Zacher

Ben Midge – Crew Severson

Eric Sonnek – Crew Moen

Brett Lettner – Crew Traver

New Officials Program

By-Law:

Football:

First year - 7 games working with current association members at the below varsity level. No formal game evaluations are done for first-year games.

Second year - 7 games working with an association member at the below varsity level (9th grade and above). Formal game evaluations are done for second-year games.

Submission Tool (one person from the crew) within 1-2 days after the game:

[New Officials Football Submit Form](#)

Charter Clinician Update - Ruter

- General Module, Football Module, MSHSL Training Clinics
- New Rules, Mechanics, and Season Points of Emphasis
- MSHSL Mechanics Book - updated and all-inclusive
- RAOA video clip sharing
 - Anyone send clips to Royce via Hudl
- In-Season daily/weekly information
 - Ref Masters and MSHSL updates

Charter Clinician Update - Ruter

Mechanics used are all in our updated MSHSL Football Game Officials Manual

- <https://digital.referee.com/books/> (link for use from a PC)



Referee Digital Portal
Sports

Open

Rules or Mechanics or Philosophy Questions

- I (Royce Ruter) am your first point of contact, then Mike Graf (SE Regional Coordinator) – Mike will go to MSHSL as necessary

RAOA Position Group Leaders:

- Referees - **Royce Ruter**
- Umpires - **Justin Mathre**
- Line of Scrimmage - **Matt Sogla**
- Back Judge - **Jeff Hobbs**

Administrative Items - Butson

- Arbiter MSHSL - Badges by 9/2 (8/27 for Week 0)
- Arbiter RAOA - Blocks, Profiles - updated please
- Arbiter Pay (electronic payment) - Most schools
- Bound <https://www.gobound.com/mn>
- [RAOA website](#)
- HUDL (MN Officials) - Film Exchange - Varsity only
- Varsity Scheduling dynamics
- [RAOA Mileage and Game Fees 2026-27](#)
- Football Dues (\$2 - UV/\$3 - Varsity) - November 15, 2026
- Disqualification - MSHSL report filed

Administrative Items - Butson

- Under-Varsity Football
 - Referees - email the AD to confirm and copy the crew a day or two before the contest.
 - Full Uniforms - please match short or long sleeve shirts. NO shorts. Look professional.
 - [4-person Mechanics](#)
 - [3-person Mechanics](#)
 - [Under-Varsity Timing Rules](#)

Administrative Items - Butson

- Saturday 8/29 Scrimmages
- All are paid. \$75 stipend (no mileage)
- 8 sites. 13 varsity scrimmages. Byron, Winona, Stewartville, Century, Pine Island 2x, Lake City 2x, Triton 2x, Grand Meadow 3x.
- Shorts or pants, tuck the shirt in please. Look professional.
- Confirmation emails by Butson to ADs Thurs AM, everyone will be copied.
- Sunday 8/30-On-field Clinic at Whitney Stadium (Mayo HS)

Test Review - Wadewitz

- Benfield (1-4), Gazley (5-7), Hacken (8-10), King (11-14)
- Dather (15-17), Moen (18-21), Okstad (22-24), Ruter (25-27)
- Schultz (28-30), Severson (31-34), Traver (35-37), Vizina (38-40)
- Wadewitz (41-44), Zabel (45-47), Zacher (48-50)