

Table 2.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE GUIDELINES

The guides set forth by the NFL for game officials to use during serious on-field injuries include:

- Players and coaches must go to and remain in the bench area. Direct all players and coaches accordingly. Always ensure adequate lines of vision between the medical staff and all available emergency personnel.
- Attempt to keep players a significant distance away from the seriously injured player(s).
- Do not allow a player to roll an injured athlete over.
- Do not allow players to assist a teammate who is lying on the field: i.e. removing the helmet or chin strap or attempting to assist breathing by elevating the waist.

- Do not allow players to pull an injured teammate or opponent from a pile-up.
- Once the medical staff begins to work on an injured player, all members of the officiating crew should control the total playing field environment and team personnel and allow the medical staff to perform services without interruption or interference.
- Players and coaches should be appropriately controlled to avoid dictating medical services to the certified athletic trainers or team physicians or taking up their time to perform such service.

Note: Officials should have a reasonable knowledge of the location of emergency personnel and equipment at all stadiums.

SOURCE: *z(Prehospital Care of the Spine-Injured Athlete, A Document from the Inter-Assoc. Task Force For Appropriate Care of the Spine Injured Athlete, pg 31, Table 3) AOSM [15]*