

# CHAPTER 22: GAME DAY

## COACHING STAFF ROLES & PRESSBOX CHARTS

### That Must-Have Moving Pieces

The Play Caller: I suggest placing the play caller in the press box unless he is the head coach.

Field-Level Personnel: the field level needs a substitution and personnel communicator. This coach communicates with perimeter personnel groups between each series. A coach is also needed to communicate with the offensive line and running back personnel groups. I suggest placing the offensive line coach on the sideline in the roll of communicator with interior personnel. On a large staff the substitution and personnel communicators are different coaches potentially. With smaller staffs the substitution and personnel communicator often pulls double duty on the sideline.

It is important the play caller and the offensive line coach take different vantage points when both are on the field. The play caller generally stands close to the line of scrimmage, while the offensive line coach generally stands as far down the sideline as possible to gain a view from behind the action. Setting these two field-level vantage points is important for play caller and line coach communication throughout the game.

Press box: Coaches in the press box are the primary eyes for the play caller and offensive line coach. We place a coach who charts defensive tendencies and alignments in the press box as well.

### Additional Staffing Assignments

Additional coaches are generally split between substitution and personnel communication duties on the field. Larger coaching staffs often put multiple spotters with specific jobs in the press box as well. One coach watches the defensive front and another watches the coverage for example. Dividing chart duties and expanding the amount of information collected in the press box is an advantage for larger coaching staffs.

Figure 249 shows a sample play chart for the offense. The play caller may want to reference what they ran before in terms of play combinations and formations. He may also want to know how many ways the offense ran a certain play or what plays the offense ran from a specific formation. This chart gives the offensive play caller a quick reference to the information he needs in terms of what plays were called previously.

2017 Scrimmage @ SAGU - ZW CALLSHEET									
#	Q	2+	3+	4+	5+	6+	PLAY (1-25)	DEFENSE	NOTES
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
11									
12									
13									
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20									
21									
22									
23									
24									

Fig 249

The next illustration (Figure 250) is an example of a press box chart used for tracking defensive alignment. Charting how the defense lines up gives us an accurate account of how the opponent defends each formation. Press box spotters are able to pre-populate the chart with expected defensive alignments once you develop your game plan for the week. We draw every formation to the left in our press box chart. Drawing your chart where one column is aligned strong left and the other strong right is also an option if that's what the spotter prefers.

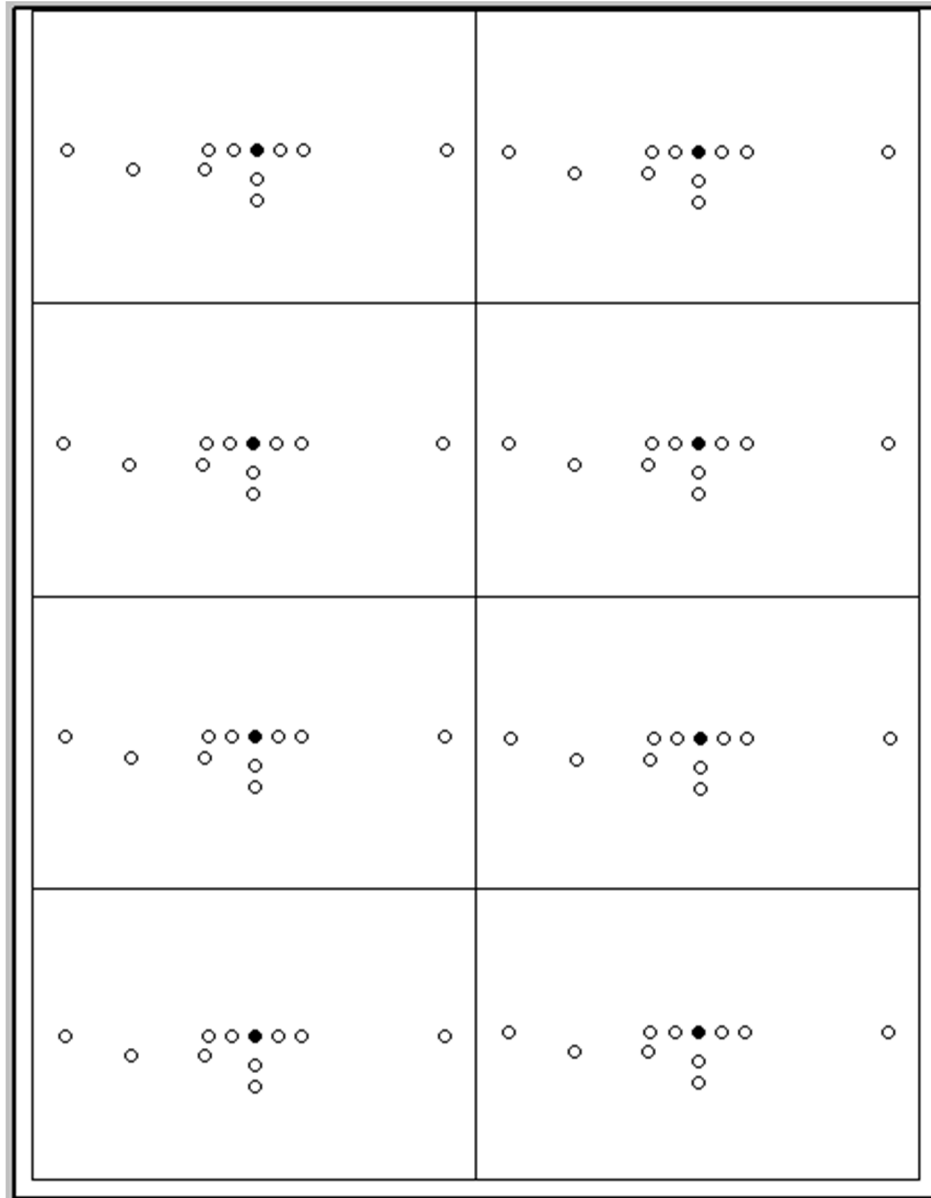


Fig 250

A spotter is able to pre-populate the chart with multiple alignments on the same page if you enter the game expecting a defense to line-up against a formation in two different ways. The spotter marks it one time if the defense runs an expected look. The rest of the chart is reserved for unexpected looks. The spotter quickly diagrams or makes notes covering what the defense is doing against a specific formation.

The play caller then talks to the spotter as needed between each series and asks questions about how the opponent is defending the formations used previously. This information guides the play caller when anticipating what he will see from the defense in the next series.

## SECTION FOUR: Coaching the Tex-Bone Chapter 22

It is important that inexperienced play callers receive quality information from the spotters. Coaches learn to see the field more adroitly with experience. Even veteran play callers find spotters useful when they change to a new offensive system.

## APPENDIX

Coaches, thank you for your interest in the Tex-Bone. Supplemental materials (including selected diagrams, power point slides, templates and excel documents) are available to original purchasers of this book. To gain access to these materials, please email me at [coachjoeaustin@gmail.com](mailto:coachjoeaustin@gmail.com).

If you have any questions while you are studying or implementing the Tex-Bone, please reach out. Coach Tom Ross and I are happy to help. God bless you and your team.

