



WHERE TO LOOK

Holding vision is an art and a necessity in controlling the game effectively.

More than ever in the 3 ump system the opportunity lies to execute this basic requirement in controlling the game....

Heavy wet conditions make the players closer to each other, more contested ball and the opportunity to lay a heavy bump on the opponent is prevalent.

3 sets of eyes should assist with the end zone umpire moving up at all times when ball is entering his zone and when play leaves the area he should allow the mid zone off the hook to prepare for next act of play, by squaring up and taking set kick control.

At times too many of umpires are narrow and need to push out wider to open up vision, so as to get a wider look at the contest and open up off ball areas so if anything out of the rules occur we can act upon it effectively.

Throwing the ball up and getting out quickly to set up good space 15m-20 metres is also a good skill to acquire.... again the end z ump can assist at ball ups and bti's.

As the out of zone ump your eyes should be off the contest watching and assisting the controlling umpire whether you are mid or end zone umpire.

HAVING A FEEL FOR THE GAME

Prepare, discuss with other umpires how the game is going to be played, do your homework – talk about how you are going to umpire...

Examine the conditions, what's at stake, history etc.,

Heavy hits, late bump, not playing in the spirit of the game demands action....

Voice, whistle, trigger, warning, 50m penalty, free kick, report send off.

Experienced umpires will sometimes prevent something before it happens.

If teams are playing footy-let em play, however the opposite is occurring---- ask yourself what am i going to do about this.

Standing back paying free kicks, looking the goods is not enough.

Get in there get your hands dirty and do something..... Pete