



# Wildwood Wildcat Booster Club

## Football Chain Gang

<b>Committee:</b>	Athletic Committee	<b>Job Title:</b>	Football Chain Gang
<b>Raptor Security Approval Required:</b>	No	<b>School Year</b>	2022/2023
<b>Committee Chairperson</b>	Roger and Nancy Schenpp, Co-chairpersons	<b>Chairperson Contact Information</b>	nrs21949@gmail.com
<b>Training Required:</b>	Yes Training will be provided by existing Chain Gang members	<b>Estimated Time Commitment</b>	Arrive 30 minutes prior to start of game and stay through equipment return after the game is over

### Contact Information

**EMAIL:**

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**WEBSITE:**

[HTTP://WILDWOODWILDCATSBOOSTERCLUB.COM](http://WILDWOODWILDCATSBOOSTERCLUB.COM)

### Job Description

**ROLE**

The chain crew, under the direction of the [head linesman/down judge](#), signals the officials' decisions; it does not make decisions. Players look to the chain crew to see the line of scrimmage, the down number, and the yardage to be gained. Officials may rely on the chain crew after a play (incomplete pass or penalty) whose outcome depends on the original spot of the ball. This also includes bringing the chains onto the field whenever an accurate measurement is needed to determine if a first down has been made.

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

Three members of the chain crew hold poles upright. The bottom of each pole is placed along a sideline to denote a line across the gridiron to the opposite sideline.

1. A "rod man" holds the "rear rod" that marks the beginning of the current [set of downs](#).
2. Another "rod man" holds the "forward rod" ten yards toward the defense's goal-line from the rear rod. This marker indicates the [line to gain](#), which the offense must reach in their series of four downs in order to retain possession of the ball. The two rods (sometimes known as "sticks") are attached at the bottom by a chain exactly ten yards long. The chain is always taut so that the rods are ten yards apart.
3. The "box man" holds a pole that marks the [line of scrimmage](#).
4. There may be a fourth man to place the clip on the chain to line up with the rear edge of the closest five-yard line to the rear rod. A device on the clip indicates which numbered line this is. The clip and the device let the chain crew restore the position of the rods after a mishap.

The chain crew operates on the side of the field opposite the press box (usually the visiting team's sideline).

The chain crew does not wear protective gear as players do. A routine instruction by officials is for the chain crew to drop the rods, and get out of the way, if the play comes toward them to avoid injury.

**PHOTO #1 SIDELINE VIEW**



**PHOTO # 2 EQUIPMENT**



**PHOTO #3 PHOTO OF CLIP**



Author (s):	Gary Carbone, WWBC Chain Gang Member	Date:	May 20, 2022
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