

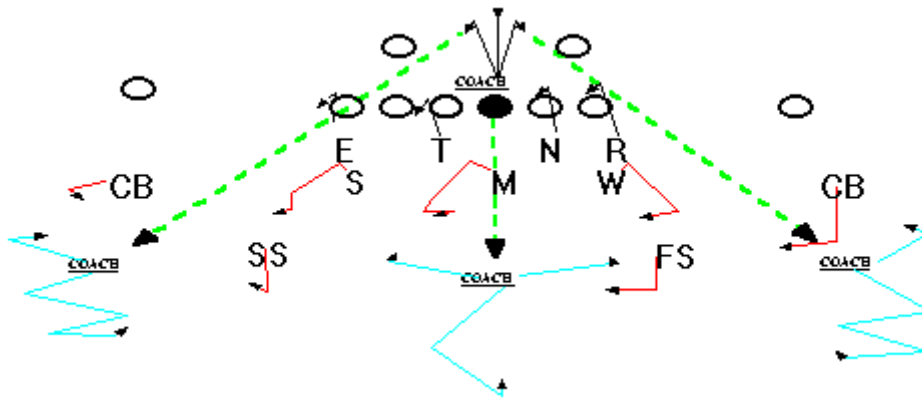
Pursuit Drills
A Clinic by Coco Jarin
Defensive Coordinator - Mt. San Antonio College

Included in this Clinic:

- **OPEN FIELD PURSUIT DRILLS**
 - **Tackle bags**
 - **Buzz and Finish**

- **PURSUIT DRILL w/ runners**
 - **Open field with DB's as runners**
 - **Red Zone with DB's as runners**

- **PURSUIT DRILL w/ ball thrown**
 - **Influence turnover drill**
 - **Fumble drill**
 - **Interception drill**
 - **Search drill**



Openfield

- **Tackle Bags:** All defensive players are responsible for a bag. We will run and tackle the bags that are being held by the next group. We are looking for proper angles and good tackling techniques with the bags being held. With the hit we ask our players to carry the bag out of bounds and drop the bag and hustle back to the huddle. We like to give each group about 3 reps.
- **Buzz and Finish:** What we do with this drill is the same that we do with the tackle bag drill. The difference is the bags are no longer being held by the next group, the bags are lying down on the ground. When the players arrive to the bag they buzz their feet and wait for a whistle by the coach in charge. Once the whistle is blown they go through a tackle motion and finish through the sideline they must hustle back to the huddle.

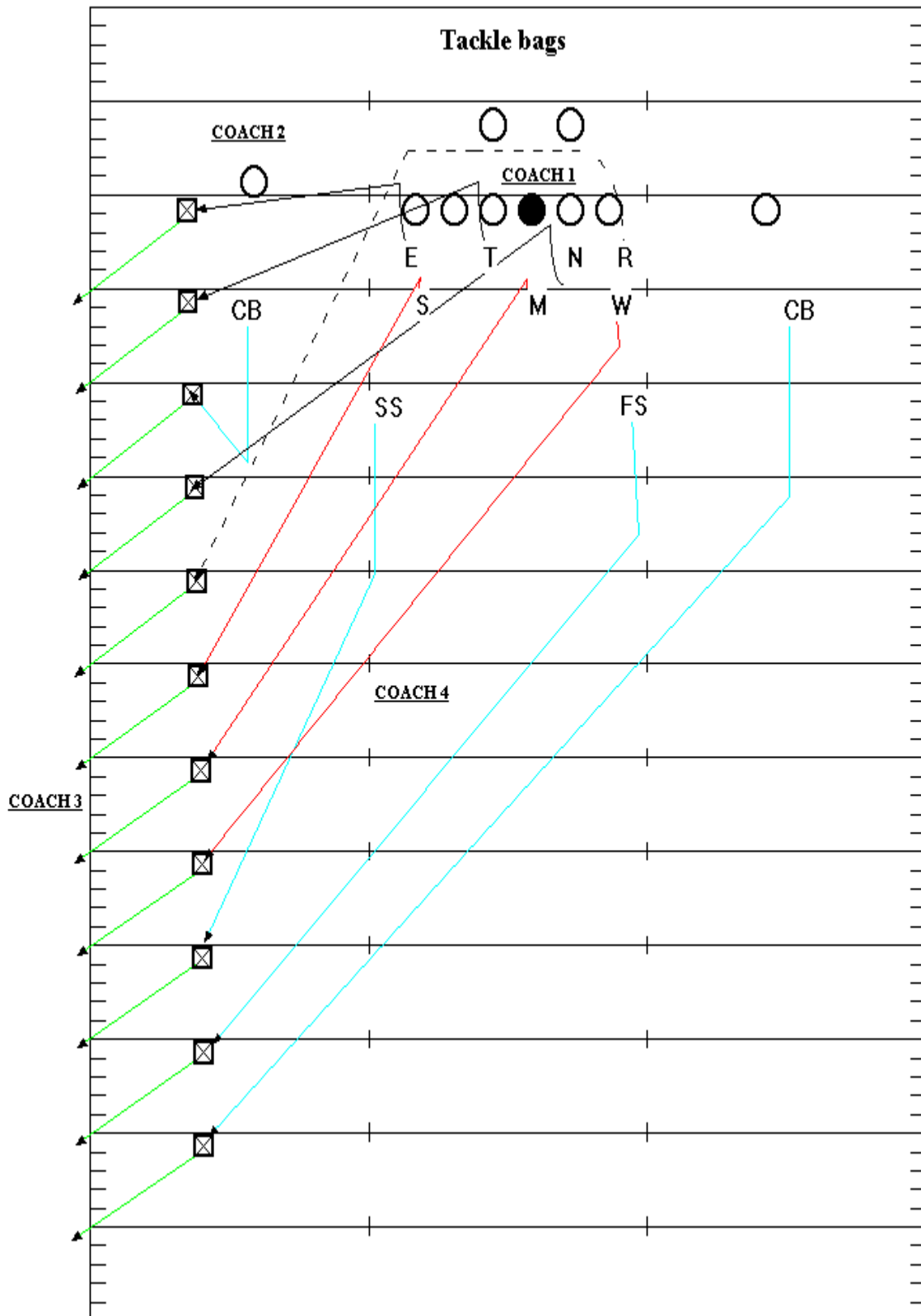
Pursuit Drills w/ runners

- **Open field:** What we do here is have a defensive back running either left or right up the sideline. What we ask our players is to pursue to the ball and get an angle that will put them across the face of the ball carrier. What we don't want any of our players to do is bump the runner. We have a line of runners and like all of our pursuit drill we give them about 3 reps.
- **Red Zone:** Is a area that has its own angles not like the openfield pursuit drill. In this drill we ask our players to have nice sharp angles and never cross the goal line. If the angle is too deep and the player is in the endzone then it's a score. The coaching point here is to flatten once you get to the goal line.

Pursuit Drills w/ ball thrown

- **Influence turnover drill:** Here is where we work the officials. Once the ball is intercepted or is on the carpet and a fight for the ball is taking place, the remainder of the defense runs to the nearest official and points that we have the ball.
- **Fumble drill:** We can actually give a fumble on the snap, the catch or off a drop back by the QB.
- **Interception drill:** Here we drop back and throw the ball towards a coach on the field once the interception has been made we gather and run up the near sideline. If the interception is made and the person is on the ground we influence the official nearest that we have the ball. In this case we use our coaches on the field as officials.
- **Search drill:** In our search drill we will throw the ball to a coach. Once the coach has caught the ball we now tell our players to search the ball out of the hands of the receiver. The first to arrive will work a strip or rip technique and the second will search the ball out. The remaining defenders in pursuit will recover the fumble. Once the ball has been recovered we will now enter our influence drill with the official.

Open Field Pursuit



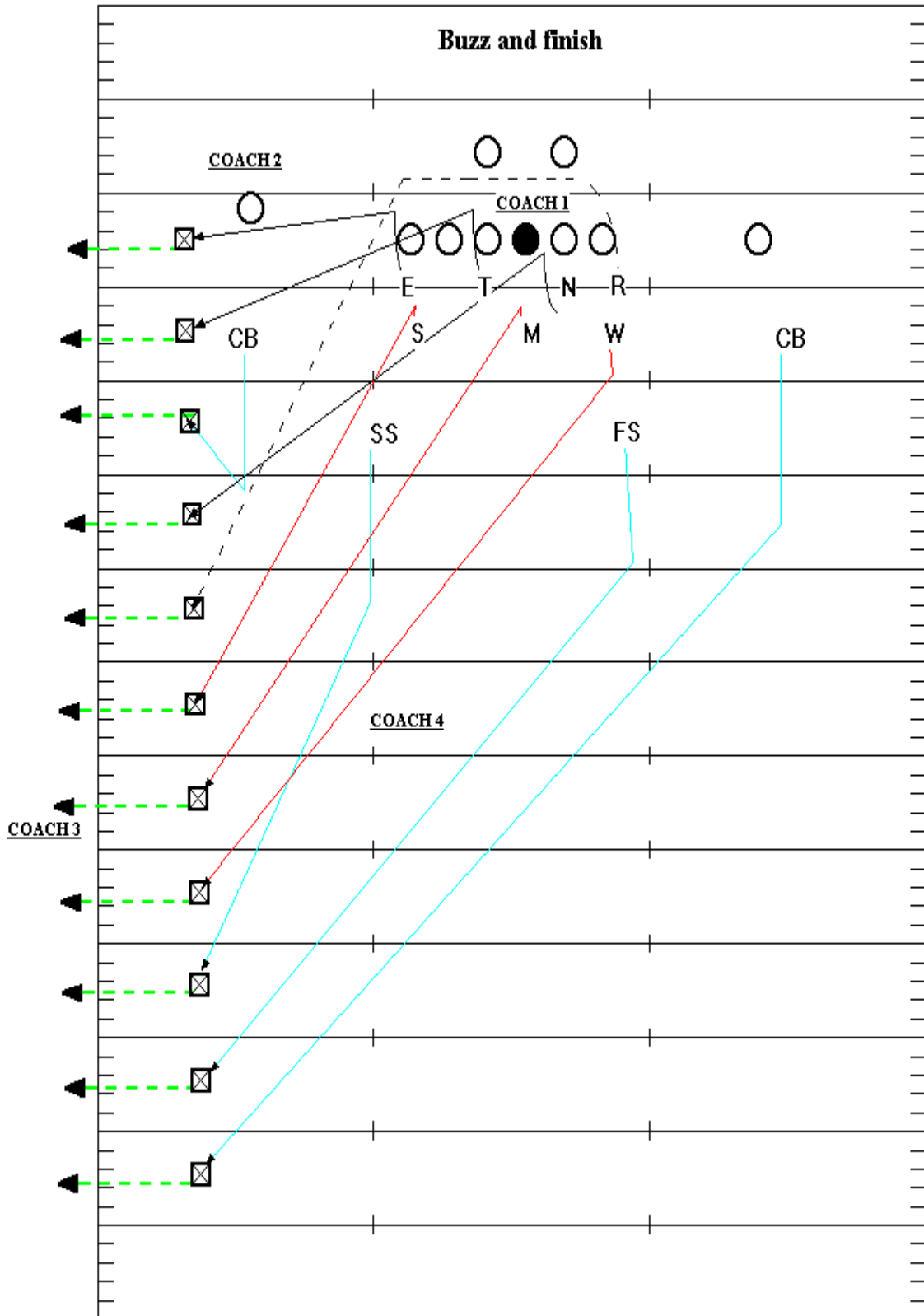
Responsibilities

Coach 1- runs the drill. Coach 2- checks D-line and trail man.

Coach 3- checks the run through of the bags being hit.

Coach 4- checks all angles of the defensive backs.

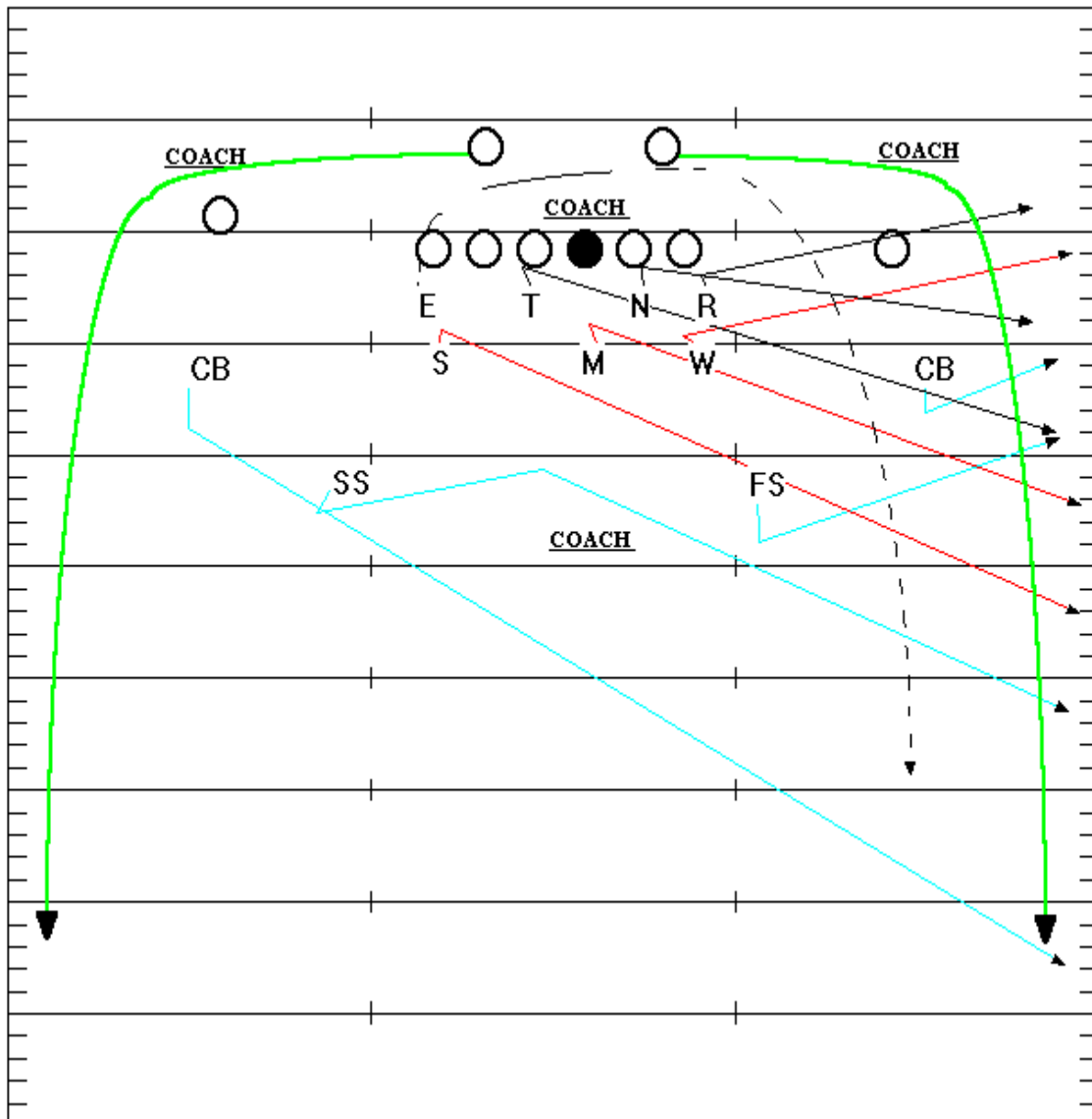
Open Field Pursuit



Responsibilities:

Coach 1- runs the drill. Coach 2- checks D-line and trail man.
Coach 3- checks all 11 players makes sure their in a hitting position and buzzing their feet.
Coach 4- checks all angles, blows whistle for finish.

**Open Field Pursuit
with Carrier**



Responsibilities:

In this drill with a ball carrier we want all of our defensive players to cross the runners face without touching him. The only player that we ask not to cross face is the trailer. We have our players run this up to three times in a row.

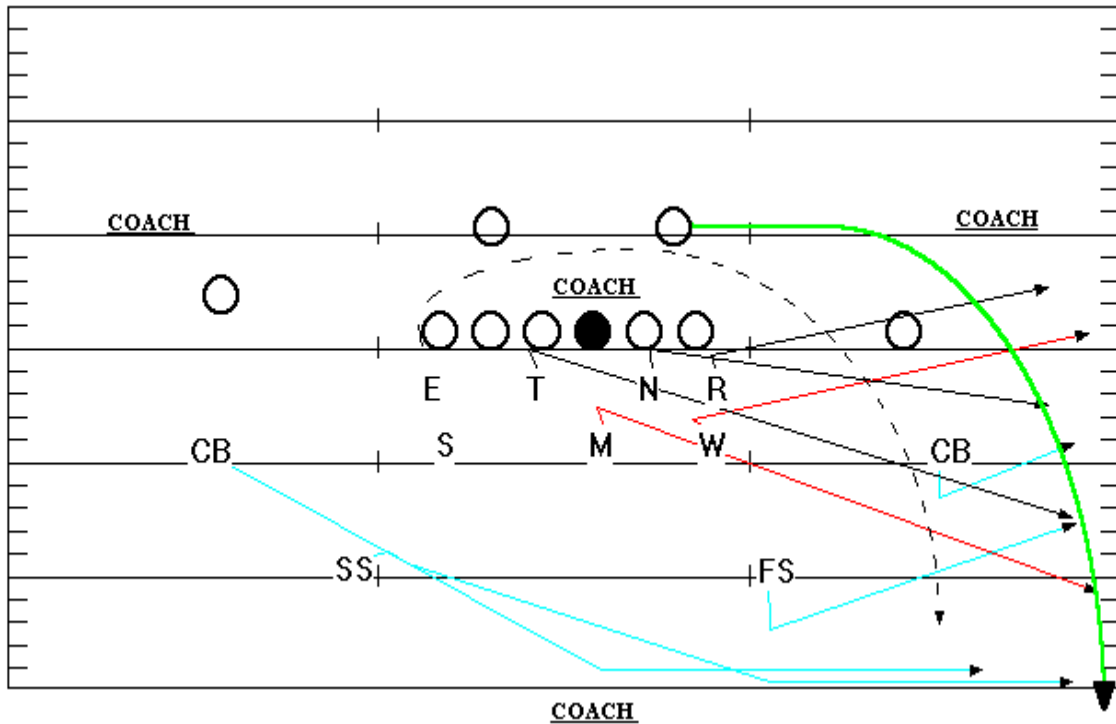
Coach #1 plays QB, tosses the ball to either of the backs (Rabbits) their job is to

run up the sideline as fast as they can.

Coach #2 and #3, check to see if the backside ends are as deep as the deepest and are running up the hash mark. Also coaches #2 and #3 are to set huddles 2 and 3 up.

Coach #4 is in the middle of the field, he checks to see if we have the proper cutback angle of the off safety and make sure that the long angle of corner away is at 100%.

Red Zone Pursuit Drill



Responsibilities:

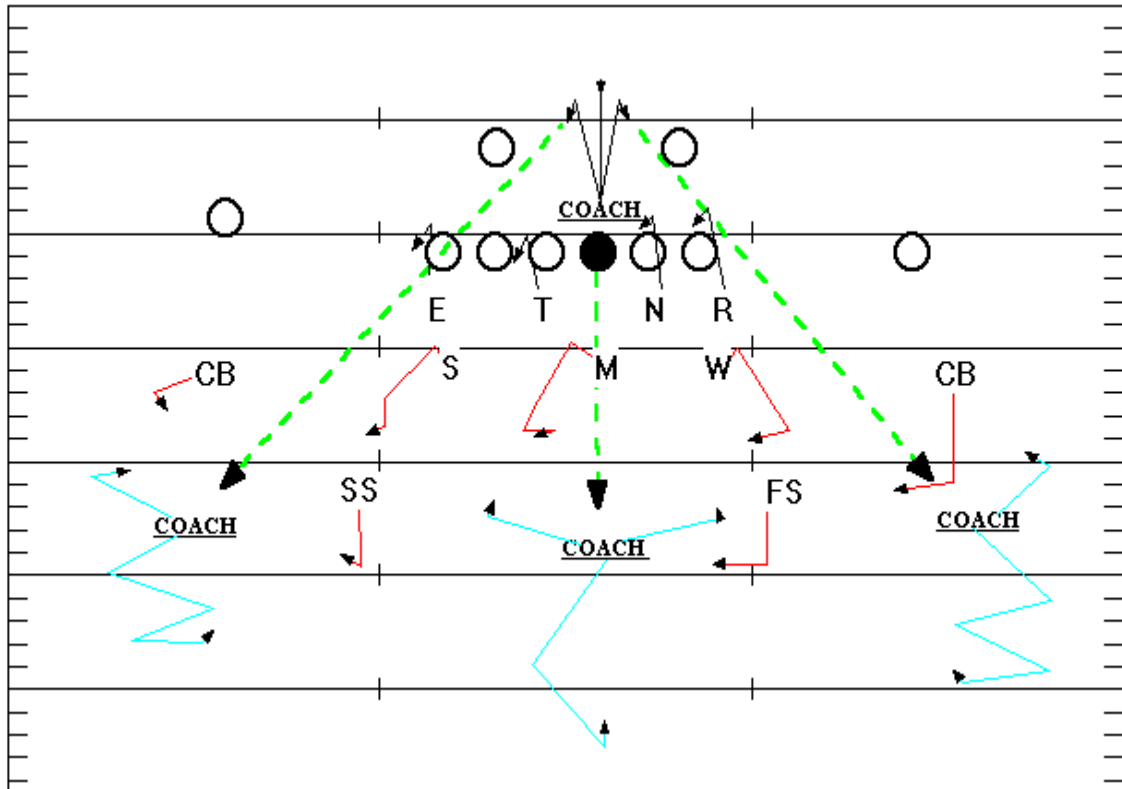
In this drill with a ball carrier we want all of our defensive players to cross the runners face without touching him. The only player that we ask not to cross face is the trailer. We have our players run this up to three times in a row.

Coach #1 plays QB, tosses the ball to either of the backs (Rabbits) their job is to run up the sideline as fast as they can.

Coach #2 and #3, check to see if the backside ends are as deep as the deepest and are running up the hash mark. Also coaches #2 and #3 are to set huddles 2 and 3 up.

Coach #4 is in the middle of the field, he checks to see if we have the proper cutback angle of the off safety and make sure that no one crosses the goaline.

Influence Turnover Drill



Responsibilities:

The whole object of this drill is to have our players use their eyes and react to ball as it is thrown down field. Once the ball is released all defensive players must run to the ball using proper angles thinking turnover. First and second to arrive must try to search the ball loose with the rest of the defense in pursuit. Once the ball is recovered, as a defense we all give an indication that we have recovered the ball trying to influence the referee.

Coach #1, plays QB.

Coaches #2-4, are down field and roam about in their thirds and act as wideouts for QB.

Addition to the drill: (Rabbit), fumble snap, interception where we will utilize our automatic interception return and then there's the fumbled ball after the catch.