

2009-2010 BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICIALS: DATES TO REMEMBER 2009-2010

1. Each official wanting to be considered for a 2010 basketball tournament assignment must submit a Request Form on-line to the IHSAA Office by 5:00 p.m., December 7, 2009. Your request should include your partner's name and a copy of your 2009-10 officiating schedule.

The 2010 basketball tournament dates are February 15, 18, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, March 1, 2; and March 8-13 (state tourney). If you have conflicts on any of these dates, please indicate any conflicts on the website form.

Remember, you must have attended or viewed the on-line 2009 IHSAA-sponsored rules meetings and must have submitted your 2008-2009 basketball sportsmanship rating form on line, on time, in order to be tournament eligible for the 2010 boys basketball tournaments.

2. Supervised (Part II) exams are scheduled for Monday, November 30, 2009 and Wednesday, December 2, 2009. The sites of these exams are found in the 2009-10 IHSAA Guide for Registered Officials or on the IHSAA web site (www.iahsaa.org). The exam begins at 7 PM. Passing the exam on one of the two nights (only allowed to take the exam on one night) will allow you to improve your classification. If this is your third year as a temporary official, you must make plans to take the supervised exam if you want to maintain your officiating license after this year.

OFFICIALS CLINIC REQUIREMENT (starting with the 2008-09 season). New football, basketball and baseball officials (this year 2009-10 season with Wrestling) are required to attend an IHSAA-sponsored clinic within three years of their initial registration. **Also, any official wanting to be considered for tournaments is required to attend a clinic within the next three years STARTING with the 2008-09 season.** (Exception; Wrestling starts with the 2009-10 season) No fee will be charged for attending these clinics. Circle T officials (who are registered for lower level contests only) and officials not interested in working tournaments are not required to attend a clinic but recommended. A rules meeting will be offered as part of the clinics, however, **individuals must attend both clinic AND rules meeting to receive credit.** Officials and coaches can not just attend the rules meeting portion of the clinic for rules meeting approval. IHSAA "Sponsored" clinics would be the only clinics in which IHSAA rules meetings would be provided.

TEMPORARY OFFICIALS, you must take the Part I exam before you will be issued an officiating license or can officiate any games.

LICENSED OFFICIALS

1. In games involving grades 9-12, **all** officials must be registered with the IHSAA.
2. In 7th and 8th grade games, at least **one** of the game officials must be registered with the IHSAA.
3. Failure to use licensed officials according to #1 and #2 above will result in forfeiture of contest by the school responsible for hiring the officials.

IHSAA POLICY WHEN GAME OFFICIALS DON'T SHOW UP

1. Contact other licensed officials.
2. Play the game with one licensed official.
3. The two head coaches may officiate the contest.
 - A. Use the PA system to announce to the spectators and student athletes the following message: "There are not two people in the gymnasium who should know the rules better than the two head coaches. The two head coaches will officiate the game, and the game will be a lot of fun."
4. Reschedule the game.

DUTIES OF GAME MANAGEMENT

RELATIONSHIP OF GAME MANAGEMENT TO OFFICIALS

1. **General:** Most officials continue in the work because it is an avocation which provides the opportunity to maintain contact with the game and with those who administer the contests. If responsible and highly respected people are to be kept in the field, they should be accorded the cordial and businesslike treatment they expect in professions and in other vocations. They are requested to render decisions in rather technical matters and in an atmosphere charged with prejudice and emotion. No effort should be spared in providing conditions which will be conducive to efficiency and pleasant associations. Each contest administrator owes this to the official who is a guest and to the school which must depend on the work being of such a nature as to attract men and women who are in the habit of being treated with respect.
2. Here are a few reminders:
 - a. Notify the officials at least one week before each game giving the exact time and place of the game and the location of the official's dressing room.
 - b. Inform each official who they will be working with. Perhaps a ride can be shared.
 - c. If parking facilities are a problem, provide a place for the officials.
 - d. Designate a capable student manager to act as host to the officials. The host should meet them at the door, escort them to the dressing room(s) and see that they are provided with towels and soap. The host may also accompany the officials to the floor and will take care of their jackets and be responsible for the game ball between halves. The host management should provide personnel to wipe the floor and maintain proper floor conditions as requested by the officials.
 - e. The official's check should be handed to the official privately before the game, or mailed if payment is not able to be made at the game site.

- f. Provide a clean, private dressing room with shower, or nearby shower stall. Before and after a game, and at halftime, the official's room(s) should be "out-of-bounds" for everyone except the few who have a definite assignment there.
 - g. Insist that coaches instruct their players to be courteous and respectful to all officials. Players should be instructed to address officials as "Mr., Ms. or Mrs. Referee" or "Mr., Ms., or Mrs. Weaver," not as "Ref," or "Susan or Noel." A time-out should be requested if questions are to be directed to the officials and the privilege of asking questions should be delegated to the captain only. Questions should be limited to those dealing with rules interpretation or game procedure. Nothing is ever gained by questioning an official's judgment and it may lead to a penalty. A public expression of dissent from an official's judgment decision merely excites the fans and often results in a penalty. Reference Conduct Counts materials sent to your school.
 - h. Keep your crowd under control. A continuing program of education and training will work wonders. Police protection should be available and in evidence.
 - i. Insist that coaches set good examples for your crowd and players. Remain seated on the bench. Do not shout at players or officials. The coach, more than any other person, sets the pattern for the attitude of the fans.
 - j. Do not permit coaches to argue or visit with the official during a game or during an intermission. Criticizing an official in front of fans or players invites trouble. Avoid the officials' dressing room(s) unless, just before their departure, you wish to visit briefly. If you have a grievance, stay away. See him or her or them later. That will be soon enough. Better yet, write a letter after three or more days.
 - k. You either hired or approved the officials. Take your share of the blame if you are not pleased. The chances are about 100 to 1 that your team lost the game because of the officiating.
 - l. Emotions need to be controlled. Modern basketball calls for coaches and players who have poise and coolness under stress. Team directors must demonstrate the same qualities.
3. Gymnasium conditions have a great influence in administration of a game. A slippery floor or one with a layer of accumulated dust is a source of trouble and dissatisfaction. An inadequately lighted court detracts from efficiency and has a depressing effect on everyone. Unclean backboards, basket rings which are not level or basket nets which are either ragged or tight so as to cause delays are conditions which contribute to an unsatisfactory event. For many school patrons, the athletic contest provides the only opportunity for seeing the school in action. Their impression ought to be one of good organization and businesslike efficiency.
 4. Starting a game later than scheduled and having unduly long athletic contests are evidence of faulty administration. They are an imposition on the visiting team, the students, the fans, and the officials.
 5. Properly administering a contest is an exacting task. Many co-workers are involved. Each member of this team of student managers and faculty assistants has delegated responsibilities. It is important to conduct practice for this team in the fundamentals of good management. The school which is fortunate enough to have such a team with pride in its work, will have a minimum of "athletic headaches" because they provide conditions which keep players and followers in a frame of mind to look for enjoyable occurrences and to be tolerant in passing judgment on decisions and playing strategy.

SELECTION OF SCORERS AND TIMERS

1. Choose adults. A high school student or one of last year's graduates will have the interest and enthusiasm but may lack poise, impartiality and judgment.
2. Choose someone who has had some playing, coaching, or officiating experience.
3. Choose men or women who can and will be present at every home game. It may be an honor to act as timer or scorer, but it's not an honor which should be passed around with each game.
4. If faculty men or women are available for these jobs, they usually do the best work, although it is not a guarantee.
5. Above all, choose someone with plenty of poise, good judgment, a sense of impartiality and one who you are sure will be able to forget the score and concentrate instead on the job.
6. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THE OFFICIAL SCORER WEAR BLACK-AND-WHITE STRIPED OFFICIAL'S SHIRT WHILE PERFORMING HIS/HER DUTIES DURING THE CONTEST.

TRAINING THE TABLE OFFICIALS

1. Before the opening of the season, provide the table officials with a Rules Book, Case Book, and other basketball rules material available through the State Office. This should be done regardless of the number of years they may have served in this capacity. There are frequent rules changes which affect the tasks of these officials. It might be well to mark or otherwise call attention to those sections of the rules which directly or indirectly refer to their duties. Insist on a careful study of the "Instructions to Scorers" and "Instructions to Timers."
2. Insist that your timer and scorer attend one of the state-sponsored rules interpretation meetings; and, if possible, an occasional meeting of a local officials' group.
3. Before the first game, arrange for several intersquad scrimmages conducted under actual game conditions with your timer and scorer at the bench. Plan to set up unusual situations involving timing and scoring. Check carefully on the work done in these scrimmages and make comments and criticisms.
4. Observe the work of these officials during games and make suggestions for improvement.
5. See that your timers and scorers are accorded the same courtesy and respect as that due the floor officials. Their work is important and it should be done with dignity and pride in good performance.

**RECOMMENDED THE OFFICIAL SCORER WEAR A BLACK-AND-WHITE STRIPED
GARMENT AND HIS/HER LOCATION BE CLEARLY MARKED**

The Officials Advisory Committee recommended and the Board of Control adopted the recommendation that only the official scorer wear a black-and-white striped garment and the official scorer's location be clearly marked. **An "X" 12 inches long and 2 inches wide shall be placed on the floor, out of bounds, and directly in front of the scorer for ease in identifying the scorer.** The timer and scorer should be seated next to each other.

IHSAA BENCH CONDUCT RULE

A coach will be allowed to stand and confer with a player(s) **whenever the clock is not running**. Communication with the player(s) only, should be done in a positive manner and **shall take place directly in front of where the coach was seated**.

When a coach finishes conferring with the player(s) or the ball is put in play (clock will start) the coach shall return immediately to the bench. Coaches are not to stand and show displeasure regarding any situation they are not happy with. This unsportsmanlike behavior is subject to a technical foul being called. The officials will not delay a throw-in administration to permit a coach additional dead clock time to visit with a player(s). This change will allow coaches additional opportunities to stand up and instruct players while the clock is not running during the game.

DISQUALIFIED PLAYER: A coach will now be permitted to stand up following notification of a disqualified player and walk the confines of his/her bench to select a replacement for the disqualified player. The new rule change states a player must be replaced within 20 seconds from the time the coach is notified. Any unsporting acts on the coaches part are subject to being assessed a technical foul.

Coaches, these are two additional opportunities to stand up and coach. The IHSAA/IGHSAU asks that you respect these opportunities and use these positive teachable moments for the right reasons.

BENCH DECORUM: Besides the two above mentioned, coaches may stand or leave the bench for:

1. Charged time-out, confer with players
2. In case of injury, if beckoned by official, attend an injured player(s)
3. Intermission
4. Prevention or notification of a correctable error 2-10
5. Stand up to show approval of an exciting play
6. Stand up to call time-out when his/her team is in possession of the ball
7. Stand to congratulate a player being substituted for
8. Confer with personnel at the scorer's regarding a timing error, scoring error, or alternating possession error

7TH & 8TH GRADE BASKETBALL

1. At least one of the game officials must be registered with the IHSAA.
2. The intermediate size basketball shall be used for all 7th and 8th grade competition. It is the same basketball currently used for girl's basketball in Iowa.
3. The 3-point goal will **not** be used in junior high basketball games played in Iowa (grades 7 & 8).

VIDEOTAPING/FILMING FOR SCOUTING PURPOSES

Videotaping or filming is permissible in scouting your opponent. Your opponent shall be notified, space for taping or filming for scouting is not required of the host school. Hand-held cameras are recommended. If you are going to videotape or film your opponent for scouting purposes, please call ahead and notify them that someone from your school will be taping the game while scouting.

2010 IHSAA BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT BASKETBALL

The basketball the IHSAA will be using in IHSAA 2010 tournaments will be the Spalding ZK Pro, wide-channeled ball. This ball will be used in ALL tournament games.

NFHS MECHANICS

Communication and consistency remain the most important elements of good officiating. It is important for officials to be familiar and comfortable with the proper NFHS officiating mechanics. The primary reasons for utilizing **only** approved NFHS mechanics are:

1. Effective communication between officiating partner(s)
2. Providing immediate information and feedback to coaches, players, scorers, timers, and knowledgeable fans
3. Foul calling - with a signal to stop the clock and appropriate eye contact with partner(s) the "double foul dilemma" can be avoided.

The National Federation and the state of Iowa are placing an important emphasis on proper high school officiating mechanics. Forget what you see on television with college and NBA officials, they are different games with different rule codes and different mechanic requirements. High School officials are still in the business of providing the best possible communication

we can through the use of our high school officiating mechanics. The use of proper mechanics is more important at the junior high and high school level than any other level of basketball.

I challenge each of you to place a high priority on using the proper NFHS mechanics.

PLAYER GAME LIMITATIONS

The player participation rule states that no individual player may play in more than 21 games during the season, exclusive of tournaments. An individual may play in six quarters in any one day. Three quarters constitutes a game.

An individual will be allowed a maximum of six quarters of participation in one day (participation to be in not more than two games in one day). Participation in three quarters, or any subsequent number of quarters up to a total of six, will constitute one game being charged against the individual's season limitation rule.

Exception: When an invitational tournament is played on a Saturday with each team playing two games, the six-quarter limitation rule will be waived. The player may play in both games, four quarters in each game, under this exception game limitation.

OFFICIALS & CHEERLEADERS - LET'S TALK ABOUT IT!

An official is running down the court and asks your cheerleaders to go stand over in the corner because they are in his/her way. An official backs into a cheerleader, because the cheerleader refuses to move--that is her spot! A cheerleader happily moves aside so the official can get a better view of the action. The official smiles and says, "Thanks," to the cheerleader that gets the ball when it has gone out of bounds. The cheerleaders anxiously watch the official for an indication of whether it is a full time out or 30-second and then slowly creep out onto the court when they realize it is a full time out.

Do any of these situations sound familiar? They happen all the time between officials and cheerleaders. Obviously there are good and bad situations. ICCA, IHSA and Iowa officials' organizations have been working on some solutions to the problems. After all, the cheerleaders really want to cheer and the officials want to do a good job. The solution is perhaps a short meeting with each other.

This year officials and cheerleaders will have a pre-game conference. It should be brief and to the point. The cheerleader captains of each team should be present for this meeting. Here is a list of things that should be discussed.

1. Decide where the cheerleaders will stand. (Home squads should be of help here.)

2. Time outs - 30-second versus full. Tell the cheerleaders to be watching for your signal so they (cheerleaders) know what to do.

3. Sportsmanship. The cheerleaders should volunteer to assist the official in any way that they can to see that the crowd follows good sportsmanship.

4. National Federation Rules. The official will remind the cheerleaders to follow the rules.

5. Thank the cheerleaders for their cooperation and for understanding their role in the game.