

2015-16 BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICIALS: DATES TO REMEMBER 2015-16

Each official wanting to be considered for a 2015 basketball tournament assignment must submit a Request Form on-line to the IHSAA Office by 4:00 p.m., November 30, 2015. Your request should include your partner's name and a copy of your 2015-16 officiating schedule.

The 2015 basketball tournament dates are February 15, 18, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29 March 1, AND 7-12 (state tourney). If you have conflicts on any of these dates, please indicate any conflicts on the website form.

Remember, **to be tournament eligible you must attend an IHSAA sponsored clinic within the past three years, view the on-line 2015-16 IHSAA basketball rules meeting, pass the 2015-16 open book on-line basketball exam in the required time frame, and must have submitted your 2014-15 basketball sportsmanship rating form on line, on time, in order to be tournament eligible for the 2015 boys basketball tournaments.**

OFFICIALS CLINIC REQUIREMENT:

1. **NEW OFFICIALS** within 3 years of their initial registration must attend an IHSAA sponsored clinic. If you have not done so, you will then be ranked as a "Non-Varsity" (NV) official beginning your third year once you have met the exam and rules meeting requirements.
 - a. **If you have been a BASKETBALL out-of-state official in Iowa PRIOR to 2014 and have NOT missed more than 3 consecutive years of registration, you will be grandfathered in unless you want to be considered for post season consideration (see top of page 2).**
 - b. **For any NEW Iowa or Out-Of-State official registering for the first time beginning with the 2015 BASKETBALL season; you will have 2015, 2016 or 2017 to attend an IHSAA clinic **before** the 2017 season begins. If not, you will be classified as a Non-Varsity official beginning the 2017 season.**
 - c. **For any Iowa official who first registered for the 2013 BASKETBALL season and you have not yet attended a clinic, this is your final opportunity to attend a clinic before the 2015 season begins. If you have not done so, you will be ranked as "Non-Varsity" this season.**
 - d. **If an official fails to register and/or meet the rules meeting and exam requirements for a period of three consecutive years, and desires to register at a later time, he/she will be required to start anew, including attending the required clinic within your first 3 years.**
2. **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES** who indicated spring of **2015** as their graduating year will begin their varsity status this season once the above requirements are met. The clinic requirement will commence with the **2015** BASKETBALL season. You will have the **2015, 2016 or 2017** to meet your clinic requirement to maintain a Varsity status ****before**** the **2017** season begins. If this requirement is not met, you will be listed as Non-Varsity beginning in **2017**. **If you graduated in 2013, you needed to attend a clinic this year. If not, your rank will be listed as Non-Varsity for the 2015-16 season once your exam and rules meeting requirements are met.**
3. **ALL OFFICIALS SEEKING POST TOURNAMENT CONSIDERATION** must attend an IHSAA sponsored clinic within a 3 year period for as long as you are an official and want to be considered for tournaments. **If you last attended a clinic in 2012, you would need to attend again this year to meet your post season tournament requirement. Check your account often.**

NOTE: Only IHSAA clinic dates listed on our web-site will give you credit for a clinic. Rules meetings will not be held in conjunction with clinics. You will need to view the online version every year. Also, we ask that you complete your official's registration prior to attending a clinic. This will ensure receiving proper credit for your attendance.

ONLINE EXAMINATION AND RULES MEETING:

There will be one joint on line examination AND one joint online rules meeting for both boys and girls basketball officials. Each official will be given three attempts to pass the exam. The IHSAA will share your exam results and completed rules meeting attendance to the IGHSAU, weekly. **The online exam and online rules meeting will be available beginning October 26, 2015 and ends November 30, 2015 at 4:00 PM. No exceptions will be made after 4:00 PM.**

SPORTSMANSHIP RATINGS:

Your final varsity only basketball sportsmanship ratings should be done on-line by March 1, 2015 **no later than 4:00 PM. No exceptions will be made after 4:00 PM. Print your ratings for your records.** Enter your ratings during the season, so you won't forget at the end of the season!

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. 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 granted 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 to act as the 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 rules questions are to be directed to the officials and the privilege of asking the rules question(s) 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 local school district.
 - 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). If you have a grievance, stay away. See him/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. **The table crew is a part of the officiating crew.**
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. **NEW: STARTED WITH THE 2012-2013 BASKETBALL SEASON: IT IS REQUIRED 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, 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 or view 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 inter-squad scrimmages conducted under actual game conditions with your timer and scorer at the bench. Plan to set up unusual situations involving timing and scoring and 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 granted the same courtesy and respect as that due of the floor officials. Their work is important and it should be done with dignity and pride in good performance.

THE OFFICIAL SCORER IS REQUIRED TO WEAR A BLACK-AND-WHITE STRIPED OFFICIALS SHIRT OR VEST/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, directly in front of the scorer for ease in identifying the scorer.** The timer and scorer should be seated next to each other.

IHSAA/IGHS AU POINT OF EMPHASIS: 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. **Coaches are not to visit/ask questions with officials, even though the clock is not running, unless they are seated.** Standing when the clock is not running is a coaching opportunity only. ****THIS RULE MAY CHANGE TO THE NFHS RULE PENDING APPROVAL FROM BOTH BOARDS IN NOVEMBER 2015. PLEASE BE AWARE AND LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION—NOVEMBER 20th.**

DISQUALIFIED PLAYER: When a player is disqualified a coach is permitted to stand up following notification of the disqualified player and walk the confines of his/her bench to select a replacement for the disqualified player. The rule 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/IGHS AU asks that you respect these opportunities and use these positive teachable moments for the right reasons. **Please understand, if a coach**

receives a technical foul, he/she loses the right to stand and coach when the clock is not running except for the following. He/she can stand and go to the bench for a correctable error, stand and applaud an outstanding play, stand and call a time out and stand and coach during the quarter break, but the coach loses the right to stand and coach when the clock is not running during the contest.

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
9. Enter the court to assist officials if a possible fight may or does break out, coach no longer needs to be beckoned on the court by an official

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 interscholastic contests.
3. The 3-point goal is allowed in 7th and 8th grade interscholastic contests in gyms that are properly marked.

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.

2015 IHSAA BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT BASKETBALL

The basketball the IHSAA will be using in IHSAA 2015 tournaments will be the Spalding LEGACY ball. This ball will be used in ALL tournament games.

Pregame Meeting: Per the request of the Iowa basketball Coaches, the pre-game meeting with the captains and head coach of the level of competition being played, **should be held off the playing floor** at an open spot on bench side or wherever the least amount of noise and open space presents itself. The head coach at the level of competition being played is responsible for taking part in this pre-game.

- **Reminder, headbands and wristbands and leg compression sleeves can be white, black, beige or a single solid school color.**
- **ALL team members must wear the same color for each wrist, sweatband or leg compression sleeve worn by each individual participant.**
- **Compression Sleeve:** The specifications regarding arm compression sleeves were changed to require the item to be white, black, beige or a single solid school color.
- All arm compression sleeves worn:
 - Shall have only a single manufacturer's logo that does not exceed 2¼ square inches.
 - Shall be the same color for each team member.
 - Need not be the same color as the headband/wristband color.

Arm compression sleeves must still be worn for medical purposes, and the coach in Iowa must provide to the referee a signed medical statement from the doctor.

- **Pre-game/Halftime:** Teams entering the gymnasium prior to the contest should **NOT** run through the area occupied by the opposing team or under the basket where opponents are warming up.
- **Teams must only enter, jog or warm-up on their own half of the court,** even if a team goes into the locker room and no one is occupying the other end of the floor. No penalty, inform violating head coach and host administrator.

NFHS MECHANICS

Communication and professionalism 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 eight quarters in any one day. Three quarters constitutes a game.

An individual will be allowed a maximum of eight 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 eight, will constitute one game (or possible two games) 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, IHSAA 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.

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.

MERCY RULE

- Based on a recommendation from the Iowa Basketball Coaches Association and approval from the IHSAA Board of Control, a 35-point differential rule is in effect for all games played in Iowa, **grades 7-12**.
- If there is a 35-point differential at the end of the first half or anytime after, the game will be continued with a running clock.
- Beginning with the ensuing possession when the 35-point differential becomes effective, the following changes, and only these changes, will be made regarding rules determining when the clock will and will not be stopped.
- The clock will run continuously **except for the following situations** when it will be stopped:
 1. Anytime a time-out is charged to a team;
 2. Intermission between third and fourth quarter;
 3. Anytime officials determine it is necessary for safety reasons.
 4. **NEW 2014-15;** Anytime a foul is called that will result in free throws the clock should stop; please understand if the clock continues to run following a foul call, as soon as it is determined we are shooting free throws, the clock should be stopped and shoot the free throws. **We will not put time back on the clock that may have run off prior to recognizing we are shooting free throws.** The clock will resume to a running clock or regular timing if the score falls below the 25 point rule due to a made free throw(s). The clock will resume upon the touching of the last missed free throw or when the last made free throw is made, when the ball is legally touched following the throw-in.
- Please keep in mind we play the first half to completion with regular timing. If the differential is 35 points or more at half-time or anytime there is a 35-point differential during the second half, the running clock procedures will be used.

- If the score margin drops below 25 points, then normal timing will resume for the remainder of the game, or until the 35 point plateau is again reached.

CONCUSSIONS

- A concussion is a traumatic brain injury that results in a temporary disruption of normal brain function.
- Most concussions do NOT result in loss of consciousness (being knocked out).
- Adolescent student athletes are particularly vulnerable to the effects of concussion.
- Even a “ding” or “bell ringer” can result in a minor concussion and cause changes in short- and long-term brain function.
- Neither officials, nor coaches, are expected to “diagnose” a concussion, as that is the job of a licensed health-care provider.
- Officials, coaches and administrators do need to make efforts to ensure that student athletes with signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion do not continue to participate.
- Officials, any player who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the game and shall not return to play until cleared by a licensed health care provider (per Iowa Code 380.13C).

CONTACT

(On the Perimeter and at the Post)

The following acts constitute a foul when committed against a ball handler/dribbler. A player becomes a ball handler when he/she receives the ball. This would include a player in the post position.

- Placing two hands on the player.
- Placing an extended arm bar on the player.
- Placing and keeping a hand on the player.
- Contacting the player more than once with the same hand or alternating hands.

POST PLAY (CLEANING IT UP)

- Illegal contact on a post player is any tactic using hands or arms or just generally demonstrating rough physical movements that allow a player on offense or defense to control the movement of an opposing player.
- It is a foul and should be ruled as such when:
 - An opponent is displaced from a legally established or obtained position
 - An arm-bar is extended and displaces an opponent
 - A locked and or extended elbow displaces an opponent
 - A leg or knee is used in the rear of an opponent to hold or displace
 - Holding, hooking, slapping, pinning, or pushing the leg or body of an opponent
 - An offensive post player “backs-down” and displaces the defender once that defender has established a legal guarding position