

NEW YORK STATE IAABO BOARD 19



TO: ALL NYS BOARD INTERPRETERS

FROM: LEE PAVLOT, BOARD 19 STATE RULES INTERPRETER

The 2023 -2024 basketball season is less than two months away and will be here before we know it. Training classes and board meetings will be set up across the state in the next few weeks to present the rule changes and the updated IAABO mechanics. You will find this year there are several rule changes that do have a major impact on the game.

The IAABO administration and interpreters will be presenting a program on the rule changes and the points of emphasis as well as the changes in the IAABO Officials Manual.

I have listed below the rule changes and the points of emphasis so that you will have them ahead of time.

2023 – 2024 RULE CHANGES AND POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Rule 2-1-3 NOTE (New) Requires that the shot clock operator sit at the scorer's and timer's table. New York State will continue to use the shot clock and you will be able to refer to the shot clock procedure in the NFHS Rules Book as well as the IAABO handbook. NOTE: You must remember the New York State exceptions to the rules book that game officials are required to show the 10-second back court count and when a violation such as kicking or fisting the ball occurs with 19 seconds or less, the shot clock will be reset to 20 seconds.

Rule 3-4-5: Requires uniform bottoms on teammates to be like colored while allowing different styles of uniform bottoms among teammates. This will allow teammates to wear different styles of bottoms, including skirts, but all must be the same or very similar color.

Rule 3-5-6 This rule change will now allow visiting teams to wear black undershirts under their jerseys. Players will continue to be allowed to wear undershirts the same color as their jersey. The restriction is that all players who desire to wear undershirts must all wear the same color. If worn, all visiting players must wear the same color undershirt either black or the color of their visiting jersey.

Rule 4-8-1 This is a major rule change. This rule change eliminates the one and one bonus free throws for common fouls and now establishes the bonus as two free throws awarded for a common foul beginning with the team's fifth foul in each quarter and resets the fouls to zero at the end of each quarter. Each quarter will start with zero fouls. When five fouls are recorded, the free thrower will be awarded two shots. It is also believed that this change will result in less correctable error situations resulting from unmerited free throws or failing to award merited free throws.

Rules 4-36, 6-4-3, 7-5-2 thru 4, 9-1 PENALTY 3, 9-4 PENALTY, 9-5 PENALTY, 9-6 PENALTY, 9-8 PENALTY, 9-9 PENALTY, 9-12 PENALTIES 3 & 4, 9-13 PENALTY

Establishing four throw-in spots along the sideline, (the nearest 28-foot mark along each sideline) and two spots at the nearest spot 3-feet outside the lane line on the end line when a team gains or retains possession in its frontcourt due to a violation, a common foul prior to the bonus or any stoppage other than an out-of-bounds. This eliminates much of the judgement for an official about where exactly the throw-in spot should be located and allows teams to develop throw-in plays both offensively and defensively from the four pre-determined locations. If a defensive player bats the ball out of bounds, the throw-in will be at a spot closest to where the ball went out of bounds.

Rule 7-6-6 Allows the official administering a throw-in to the wrong team to correct the mistake before the first dead ball after the ball becomes live unless there is a change of possession. The mistake cannot be corrected if there has been a change of possession.

Rule 9-3-3 Establishes that a player may step out of bounds without penalty unless they are the first player to touch the ball after returning to the court or if they left the court to avoid a violation.

2023 – 2024 POINTS OF EMPHASIS

The points of emphasis also have an impact on the game, and it should be emphasized to all board members that they need to review them and be very cognizant of their content. Because of the length of the points of emphasis they will be sent as an attachment to this memo. The main points pertain to proper uniforms and proper equipment. IAABO has prepared a great handout available to all officials that presents the proper equipment and the proper way to wear the equipment. Refer to the 2023 – 2024 IAABO Summary of Uniforms, Equipment and Apparel items. Head decorations are permitted if worn correctly. Adornments are permitted and must be securely fastened close to the head. Headbands, wristbands, arm/leg sleeves, compression shorts and tights if worn, must all be the same solid legal color (white, black, beige or the predominant color of the jersey. Undershirts must be the same or similar color as the jersey, with the exception of the visiting team which will be allowed to wear black undershirts. (New this year) All players wearing undershirts must wear the same color. Sleeves MUST be one legal solid color. No designs, no markings, no stripes, just one solid color.

BENCH DECORUM

Bench decorum is one of the points of emphasis that is of major concern. With all of the concerns on sportsmanship it must be emphasized to our members that many of the issues with sportsmanship start with the head coach. Violations by coaches and bench personnel must be addressed. Coaches must not be allowed to wander outside of their coach's area. They must not be allowed to be on the court addressing the rulings made by the officials. They must not be allowed to be in front of the table. Misconduct by coaches, players and bench

personnel should be addressed immediately. Administrative warnings may be used or a technical foul assessed if warranted.

Assistant coaches are to remain on the bench. They are not allowed to be off the bench coaching nor are they authorized to go to the table at any time.

With the emphasis on sportsmanship, members must be alert for any form of taunting, baiting, finger-pointing, trash talking or using inappropriate gestures. Technical fouls should be assessed immediately.

Unruly fans must be handled by security at the game. Officials, upon arrival at the game site must identify the person in charge of security. The security person is the person responsible for dealing with any unruly fans. Officials must not deal directly with unruly fans.

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF 2023 – 2024 POINTS OF EMPHASIS REFER TO THE ATTACHMENT WHICH IS PART OF THIS MEMO

SHOT CLOCK

The shot clock procedure is now listed in both the NFHS Rules Book and the IAABO Handbook. As you review the shot clock procedure, be sure to note the exceptions adopted by New York State. NYS exceptions are: during a throw-in in the backcourt, officials are required to show the 10-second count and not use the shot clock as a guide for a 10-second violation. The second exception involves violations such as kicking or fisting violations and if 19 seconds or less are showing on the shot clock, the shot clock will be reset to 20 seconds.

SIGNALS

A reminder on signals—IAABO signals are the only signals that should be used. Just a reminder that officials should only use one signal to indicate a team control foul and a player control foul. The one signal to be used is to place the hand behind the head (the original player control signal) which serves as both a team control foul and a player control foul. The fist out in front of an official which did indicate a team control foul has been eliminated from the basketball signals and should not be used. At the spot of the foul, stop the clock with the appropriate signal, identify the player committing the foul, then signal a team control foul or a player control foul followed by indicating the direction play will continue. If a team control foul, officials should verbalize that it is a team control foul. Again, this must be done at the spot of the foul, then at the reporting area.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Sportsmanship and good sporting behavior have become a major issue. Coaches set the tone at athletic contests with their display of sportsmanship. If coaches act in a sportsmanlike manner, their behavior will set the tone for players and spectators. If coaches are constantly complaining about the official's rulings, then the players follow with their comments and then the spectators are off and running with their questionable actions. Officials must start with

the coaches and not allow them to constantly complain. Coaches have an area that they are required to stay in. Their area is off the sideline, in front of their bench, from the endline to a 28' line. This is the area they should be restricted to. Not in front of the table, not up to the division line, not on the playing court, but in their area. If coaches continually leave their area, it could be a good time for an official to use the warning. If it continues or the coach continues to complain, a technical foul would be warranted.

In addition, there is concern about inappropriate conduct by players, bench personnel, coaches, officials, and spectators. Players should not be allowed to “let off steam” by using profanity. Profanity should not be allowed and quickly penalized, as should any form of taunting or baiting.

It is recommended that emphasis be made to all board member officials to enforce the coach’s area rule. Do not allow them to wander all over the court area. Do not allow them to constantly complain about every ruling. It must start with the coaches. We are in a difficult time period. It is becoming difficult to recruit and retain officials and it may be because of coach and fan reactions. Again, let’s start with the coaches and administer the rules as they should be. **I will repeat a quote I made last year I would like to hear it said “man the referees are not putting up with anything this year.”**

PREGAME MEETING – UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

At about the 10-minute mark before the game, the officials must conduct a pregame conference with the team captains and the coach. The referee must verify with each head coach, prior to the start of a contest, that the teams’ uniforms and equipment are legal and will be worn properly, and that all participants will exhibit proper sporting behavior throughout the contest. (Rule 2-4-5) It is the coach’s responsibility to see that their players are wearing proper uniforms. This includes proper color undershirts/undergarments, headbands, wristbands, leg and arm sleeves, etc. If any illegal items are noted, the Head Coach should be advised and allowed to make the correction. Also, at the pregame meeting the NEW YORK STATE SPORTSMANSHIP CARD required by the NYSPHSAA must be read. This sportsmanship card must be read at all levels of school basketball.

OFFICIATING MECHANICS AND SIGNALS

The IAABO Interpreters have updated the handbook, updating rule changes and casebook plays, as well as making changes in the operating manual. The handbook was written by the IAABO Interpreters exclusively for IAABO members and has been updated yearly with rule changes and updated mechanics. Please emphasize that all Board Officials should review the updated manual. All officials are expected to adhere to the approved IAABO mechanics and signals. Using only approved mechanics and signals adds to the professional image of the officials and shows greater respect for the game. Officials at the high school level are part of an education-based activity and the use of proper mechanics and the avoidance of “personal style” is essential.

The reason for having signals is to communicate to players, coaches, table personnel, fans, and other officials on the floor. The use of approved signals leads to clearer communication between all those involved. To that end, for each ruling the proper sequence of signals is:

- Stop the clock using the proper signal for a violation or foul.
- Signal held ball or the type of foul or violation.
- Verbally state the jersey color of the team entitled to the ball for the ensuing throw-in and point in the direction of that team's basket.
- Indicate the throw-in location as per the 2023-24 change indicating the proper throw-in spots.

We must continue to emphasize to our board members that proper IAABO signals and mechanics must be used in all boys' basketball games. We have been trained in the use of these signals and mechanics and, therefore, proper signals must be used. A preliminary foul signal at the spot of the foul is required, not a whistle and fist and then run to the reporting area. The proper procedure is to sound whistle, with fist raised straight up, indicate the player committing the foul by jersey color and number, give a preliminary signal of the foul, then the player shooting or the designated spot for a throw-in, followed by hustling to the reporting area to report the foul.

College mechanics and signals continue to creep in and should not be used in high school games. Let's strive for consistency across the state and have all boards use the proper signals and mechanics.

TIME-OUT ADMINISTRATION

Time-out administration still needs reviewing mainly during live ball situations. Only the team in control of the ball may be granted a time-out. Officials must verify that there is **PLAYER CONTROL** before granting the request, especially during loose ball situations when players are trying to gain control. Be sure there is player control. When in doubt, do not grant a time-out. During loose ball situations, players may attempt to gain control of the loose ball to request a timeout. During this time, players may push or jump on top of other players to gain control. Do not hesitate to charge fouls for players "jumping on" or pushing another player. "Going for the ball" does not justify rough play.

Head Coach requesting: Coaches must understand that just because they have requested a timeout it does not guarantee it will be granted immediately. Remember, only the head coach (not an assistant coach) or a player of the team in control of the ball may legally request a timeout. Officials must be sure the head coach is making the request. This request may be oral or visual.

Granting Time-out Requests: Ideally, granting the time-out should be the primary coverage official. However, other official(s) may become aware that a time-out is being requested. In all cases, officials must be certain there is player control prior to granting the timeout request. Officials should also be cognizant of situations where time-outs are more likely to be requested e.g., end of the period/ game or a team has made several baskets in a row.

THREE-PERSON MECHANICS

Whenever possible take advantage of using three-person crews. The more games you can get three-person crews to officiate the better. Advancements have been made, but let's keep up the push. Today's games need three-person crews.

OFFICIAL'S UNIFORM

The official's uniform shall be a black IAABO jacket, black and white striped shirt, black pants, (beltless or a black belt if used) black socks and black shoes. The official black and white shirt with narrow stripes must be used. When ordering new shirts, officials must request the narrow stripes. The US flag should be affixed to the back of the shirt, centered, and located 1 to 1 1/4 inches below the neckline. Flags should not be affixed on the shoulder of the uniform shirt. All officials working in the NY State Tournament, including regionals, must have the US flag affixed to their uniform shirt in the proper spot.

CONCUSSION RULE

There is always emphasis on the importance of the concussion rule. The concussion rule has been discussed before and it has not changed. We must continue to be cognizant of this important rule. By rule, officials shall immediately remove from the game a player who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion. (Rules 2-8-5 & 3-3-8) Officials must be alert to when a player strikes his head, either on the floor, a wall, or another player and goes down holding his/her head, the game should be stopped, and the player checked. The coach should be beckoned out to check the player. If the coach indicates that the player is OK and can resume play, the official should also check the player. The official should check the player for symptoms such as: is he/she dizzy, does he/she act lightheaded, can he/she answer questions such as what day is it? where is he/she? who is playing? etc. These questions will help the official decide on whether the player should be removed from the game. The official can then make his/her decision. Once a player is removed under the concussion rule per New York State rule, they are not allowed to return to the game. We all know that concussions are a hot issue in all sports at all levels. Everyone knows the danger of a possible concussion and, therefore, must act accordingly.

Once again sportsmanship is a major concern. Please be sure to emphasize controlling rough play and poor sportsmanship. Be alert for taunting and the in your face action. Please be sure to emphasize the use of our proper signals and mechanics, all leading to consistency among officials. I wish everyone a successful season and above all stay safe.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL, Lee

E-MAIL: lpavlot@yahoo.com

PHONE: 315-729-7960

LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO ACCOMPLISH THE IAABO PHILOSOPHY OF

“ONE RULE – ONE INTERPRETATION