

QUAD A BASKETBALL OFFICIALS

VOLUME TWO, MEMO ONE

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HAND-CHECKING, BODY BUMPING AND POST PLAY

There is too much physical play, it causes a distinct advantage to allow this to happen without calling a foul; call the foul and the players will adjust. Freedom of movement means making the play so it is not affecting the speed, quickness, balance and rhythm of all players on the floor. **ALL CONTACT IS NOT A FOUL BUT ALL CONTACT IS A DECISION.** You must be able to delineate between illegal contact and marginal contact. We do not want scrums or slugfests; we want the players to play the game as it is supposed to be played. **IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THIS ADJUSTMENT BE MADE IMMEDIATELY BY OFFICIALS.**

REFEREE REPORTS

The reports are to be done within 24 hours of the game and they are to be more than a brief “this was an easy game and everything went well”; it must have some substance and meaning. That also means you do not have to write a novel but you should be reporting on all facets of the game. If you do not want to do the reports just let me know and I will not make you the Referee. You must enter QABO Arbiter to make this report or you will not have a “Save” button.

LEAD POSITION

You need to move more as the lead, when the ball moves toward the sideline you must move to basically mirror the ball and not be stuck next the free throw lane (B position). Feel free to move as the ball moves and always look for a reason to rotate. You not only should be moving as the ball moves, but move to keep daylight between the offensive and defensive players and to keep proper angles of your primary and secondary matchups to avoid being straight-lined or stacked.

COACHING BOX

There is another attachment included with this email that is hand drawn with the dimensions of the coaching box, make sure the courts are marked accurately. If the coaching box has its boundaries marked by painted lines which are wrong, mark the correct lines with tape. Remember that Coaches must remain in the box to coach; if they are out of the box and coaching they must be warned, if they do not adjust the next step must be taken.

INTENTIONAL FOUL

This is a “must” call. If the thought enters your mind that it is intentional, it probably is! Players must be playing the ball and any act, especially late in a game, which is obviously not playing the ball or is not a “basketball play”, should and must be called an intentional foul. Additionally, even if a play is a basketball play but involves excessive contact (i.e., a throw-down after a foul or coming from behind on a breakaway), it is also an intentional foul.

MERCY RULE

This does not have to be part of your pregame with the table. When it is getting close to the 40 point difference in the second half; the Referee must inform the scorers and timer. You must let the timer know when to start and stop the clock. As a courtesy to both coaches, let them know that the “Mercy Rule” may soon be in effect.

OFFICIAL’S SHOES

This is from the NFHS Officials Manual; Part 1.5 UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT; “D. Shoes: Entirely black with black laces”. Enough said!!! A few officials have mentioned that the craft stores Joanne Fabrics and Michaels sell a black paint for plastics and leather.

DRESSING FACILITIES

At McKeesport you will get dressed in one area and then after the game you will be taken to another place to shower. At Ringgold if there is a swim meet you will get dressed in a classroom and then at halftime you will be moved to a locker room, you will need to hustle to get this all done in seven minutes. As with all other games the attire to these sites is business casual.

DUNKING

If you see a dunk or attempt to dunk during warm-ups, you must do the following immediately: notify the player, get their number and report it to the Referee who will then report it to the table and the coaches that the game will start with the administration of a technical foul.

TRAVELING

Please be more observant with traveling since many mistakes are being made in this area: traveling being called when it isn't and not being called when it is. Find the pivot foot of each player on every possession. By doing this you will get it right!!!

NO MORE "LONG SWITCH"

There is a lot of confusion about a new mechanic which actually makes life easier for every official. Pennsylvania now follows the same mechanics as the rest of the country when a foul by the offense is committed in the frontcourt and there will be no free throws as a result. When this happens, treat the foul in the same manner as if you had called a traveling violation. In other words, there is no switch by the officials when a foul without resulting free throws occurs. If you are the L, you will go to the box, report the foul and return to handle the throw-in as the new T. If you are the T, you will report the foul and become the new L. If you are the C, you will report the foul and become the new L. It's that simple. The only times that a calling official will become the T table-side is (1) when a foul is called anywhere in the frontcourt and the ball will remain in the frontcourt and (2) when a foul is called anywhere on the court but there will be free throws. Remember this: go to the same spot where all 3 officials would be if a travel had been called. All throw-ins in the backcourt on violations are administered by the new trail official and the same holds true for the above situation.

SCORERS AND TIMERS

The scorers and timers must be at the table at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the game. The Referee must make sure they are there as soon as you walk on the floor; if not, tell the Athletic Director or game manager to get them to the table. Referee, if this is happening please include this in your Referee report and I will contact the Athletic Director. DO NOT take for granted that the scorers and timers know what to do. You must review with them what you expect of them, (i.e. on all subs blow the horn when the sub is at the correct reporting area, on a 5th foul notify us immediately not after the first shot etc). If you are the "R" and do not know what topics to discuss with the scorer's table, call me.

THE FAN

The following is from the NFHS Officials Manual, Part 1.2.9: "Thick-Skinned: An official cannot be overly sensitive about criticism. If the official has a chip on the shoulder, a surly attitude or a short temper, officiating will be difficult. Most spectator comments during a heated contest should not be taken seriously. It is often a rebellion against authority in general, rather than against an individual in particular. In nearly all cases, critical comments are forgotten after there has been time for reflection. Everyone connected with a team is somewhat biased and prejudiced in favor of any advantageous call and against any adverse decision."

Officials are often too quick and overzealous to get rid of fans. There are situations where we cannot allow fans to make remarks, such as sexist and/or racist in nature nor can we allow fans to be a physical threat to the players, coaches or officials. For all other comments coming from the fans, however, refer to the excerpt from the manual above. Our job is to adjudicate the game between the lines, which is tough enough. As a last resort, if it becomes necessary to have a fan removed, be as inconspicuous (do not create a scene) as possible by going to game management, explain the situation and ask them to have security remove the fan from the gym. The crew should know before the start of the game who and where your site game manager is.

TECHNICAL FOULS

Outside of administrative technical fouls they should only be used to better the game, be judicious in your selection of its use.

MUSIC/SOUND EFFECTS/ARTIFICIAL NOISEMAKERS

Rule 1 Section 18 – "The playing of music/sound effects shall only be permitted during pregame, time-outs, intermission and post-game. The use of artificial noisemakers shall be prohibited". Officials already have allowed this to happen so be warned and know the rules!!!

COMMITMENT...THE KEY TO EXCELLENCE!!!