



# 2009-2010 BASKETBALL PRESEASON BULLETIN

PENNSYLVANIA  
INTERSCHOLASTIC  
ATHLETIC  
ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 2009

## RULES, REVISIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

PIAA Statewide Rules Interpreter: JOSEPH CATANZARO

### Points of Emphasis

- **Traveling**
- **Closely Guarded**
- **Three Seconds**
- **Block/Charge**
- **Free Throw Administration**

### 2009-2010 NFHS BASKETBALL RULES CHANGES

**Rule 2-2-1 Note:** A state association may permit game or replay officials to use a replay monitor during state championship series contests to determine if a try for goal at the expiration of time in the fourth quarter or any overtime period (0.00 on the clock) should be counted, and if so, determine if it is two or three point goal.

**Rule 1-14; 5-6-2:** When a red light behind the backboard or a LED light on the backboard is present, it is permitted to signal the expiration of time in the quarter/extra period. If no red/LED light is present, the audible timer's signal will continue to signal the expiration of time.

### Major Editorial Changes

**Rule 1-13-3; 3-12-5:** Clarified that the imaginary rectangle designates the area to be use for time-outs.

**Rule 2-12-5 Note:** A new note was added to clarify when the 20-second interval begins to replace an injured player.

**Rule 3-7:** Clarified that any item, in the referee's judgment, that constitutes a safety concern in not permitted.

**Rule 9-1-3d:** Clarified that a player leaves a marked lane space when he or she contacts an any part of the court outside the marked lane space (36 inches by 36 inches).

**Rule 9-1-3g:** Clarified that a player occupying a marked lane space must have one foot positioned near the outer edge of the free-throw lane with the other foot positioned anywhere within the designated 36 inch lane space.



### PIAA OFFICIALS'

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## 2009-2010 NFHS POINTS OF EMPHASIS

### TRAVELING

The traveling rule has not changed; however, the committee is still concerned that the rule is not being properly enforced. Consequently, offensive players are gaining a tremendous advantage. Areas of specific concern are: the spin move, the step-through move, the jump stop, perimeter shooters taking an extra "hop" prior to releasing the try and ball handlers lifting the pivot foot prior to releasing the ball on the dribble. The key to determining the legality of those moves is to first find the pivot foot. Then, if the player moves a foot or the feet in any direction in excess of prescribed limits, a traveling violation has occurred. Officials must know the rule, find the pivot foot and improve call accuracy; coaches must demand that players execute this skill properly, especially in practice; players must continue to develop this basic skill and practice performing legal moves.

#### Guidelines for Teaching and Officiating

1. Determine the pivot foot immediately.
2. At the start of the dribble, the ball must be released before the pivot foot is lifted.
3. After the dribble has ended, the player may lift pivot foot, but must release the ball on a pass or shot before the pivot foot returns to floor.
4. A player may never take two steps while in possession of the ball.

### CLOSELY GUARDED

Well officiated closely-guarded situations provide for better balance between offense and defense. When the closely-guarded rules are not followed, there is a significant advantage for the offense. The following areas are to be emphasized:

- a. **Rule basics.** A closely-guarded situation occurs when a player in control of the ball in his or her team's frontcourt, is guarded by an opponent who is within 6 feet of the player who is holding or dribbling the ball; the defensive player must obtain a legal guarding position. A player shall not hold the ball for five seconds or dribble the ball for five seconds while closely guarded in his or her frontcourt. A player can legally hold the ball while closely guarded for four seconds, dribble the ball for four seconds and hold the ball again for four seconds before violating.
- b. **Measuring 6 feet.** Officials must define and have a clear image of the 6-foot guarding distance necessary. Too frequently, officials require the defensive player to be within 3 to 4 feet prior to the count being initiated.

Good visual examples of this distance can be found on the court as: the distance between the free-throw line and the top of the semi-circle; from the division line to the jump circle; two adjacent marked lane spaces. Failure to properly judge the six-foot distance and require the defender to be within three or four feet of the dribbler before beginning the count puts the defensive player in an unfair position.

- c. **Ending the count.** A closely-guarded count ends when no defensive player is within 6 feet. The count also stops when a closely guarded player: completes a dribble anywhere in the team's own frontcourt; starts a dribble in the team's own frontcourt and ends it anywhere in the frontcourt (a new five-second count will start if the player holds the ball); loses possession of the ball for any reason in the team's own frontcourt; or has his or her dribble interrupted. If a closely-guarded player beats the defender (s) by getting the head and shoulders past the defensive player, the count has ended.
- d. **Multiple defenders.** The count should continue even if there is a defensive switch, provided the 6-foot distance is maintained. There is no requirement for the defensive player to remain the same during the count as long as the offensive player is closely guarded throughout.
- e. **Counting mechanics.** The official begins a visible count when the 6-foot distance is established and must switch arms when going directly from one counting situation to another.

### THREE SECONDS

When a team is in control of the ball in its frontcourt, a player of that team may not remain in the lane for three seconds. The lane is bounded by the end line and the farther edge of the free-throw line-and includes the lane lines.

- a. **Team control.** In order to understand the administration of the rule, it is necessary to know when team control exists. Team control exists: during player control, holding and dribbling inbounds; during a pass between teammates; during an interrupted dribble. Team control continues until: the ball is in flight during a try for goal; an opponent secures control; the ball becomes dead. Team control does not exist during the tapping of a rebound or when the ball is loose following a try. There is no team control during a throw-in. The three-second restriction is not in effect when there is no team control and is terminated the instant team control ends.

## **2009-2010 NFHS POINTS OF EMPHASIS CONTINUED**

b. **Exception.** Allowance is made and the count is momentarily stopped when a restricted player has the ball and dribbles or makes a move to try for goal. However, the previous count is resumed if the player does not continue and try for goal. Some may feel that exception complicates the rule, but it is necessary in order to balance the offense and defense. The most obvious misinterpretation of this rule is when the restricted player has a two-second count when he or she begins the move to try for goal, but is stopped or the ball is batted loose. The player involved, while in the lane, attempts to regain possession and instead of continuing the count, the official erroneously stops it entirely. If the player starts a move to the basket and the ball is jarred loose, the previous count is resumed and results in a violation if it reaches three seconds. The purpose of the rule is circumvented if a violation is not called when this occurs.

c. **Screeener.** Another situation that is occurring more frequently, and which is often not properly called, is when an offensive player sets a screen in the lane and remains there for more than three seconds. The responsible official must make sure that offensive players are not occupying restricted positions for more than the permitted time. The offensive player gains an unwarranted advantage if he or she can "camp out" in the lane, either as a potential shooter or as a screener.

**Rough post play.** When the three-second rule is properly enforced, rough post play is likely reduced. Post defenders cannot be expected to defend and deny an opponent in the lane indefinitely. When an offensive post player "camps out" in the lane, defenders tend to get frustrated and become more physical. Calling this infraction when it occurs goes a long way to decreasing rough post play – an area that has been emphasized for many years.

### **BLOCK/CHARGE**

The obtaining and maintaining of a legal guarding position on a person with and without the ball has been a point of emphasis over the years, but yet, remains one of the most difficult plays to coach and officiate.

a. **The basics.** To correctly understand the guarding rule, the following points are critical:

1. To obtain an initial guarding position on a player with the ball, the Defender must get to the spot first without contact, have both feet touching the floor and initially face the opponent.
  2. Once the initial guarding position has been obtained, the defender may move laterally or at an angle or backwards in order to maintain a legal guarding position. Keep in mind that when a defender obtains an initial position with both feet touching the floor and facing his/her opponent, the defender need not be stationary but may continue to move in order to stay in front of the person with the ball.
  3. Once the defender obtains a legal guarding position, the defender may raise his/her hands in a normal stance or may jump vertically within his/her vertical plane.
  4. A defender may turn or duck to absorb the shock of imminent contact.
  5. A player is never permitted to move into the path of an opponent after the opponent has jumped into the air.
  6. A player who extends an arm, shoulder, hip or leg into the path of an opponent and causes contact is not considered to be in a legal guarding position.
- b. **Guarding a player with the ball.** Points to remember when a defender is guarding a player with the ball:
1. Time and distance are of no consequence. If the defender gets to the spot first and is in a legal guarding position, the onus is on the person with the ball.
  2. A defender is never permitted to move into an opponent and thus cause contact.
  3. If a player with the ball gets his/her shoulders past the front of the torso of the defender and contact occurs, the defender has blocked and a foul must be called. In order for the defender to re-obtain a legal guarding position, all "guarding a person with the ball" criteria must be met.
  4. When an offensive player receives a long pass with his/her back turned and places one foot on the floor and crashes into a legally set defender, it is a player-control foul. It seems many officials are calling this a traveling violation, which is incorrect.

## 2009-2010 NFHS POINTS OF EMPHASIS CONTINUED

- c. **Guarding a player without the ball.** Time and distance are the key factors. The distance allowed depends on the speed in which the offensive player is moving, with the distance never to exceed two strides, regardless of how fast he or she is moving. Once the defender has met the criteria of both feet touching the court and initially facing the opponent, the defender has obtained a legal guarding position and may move the same as if he/she were guarding a player with the ball.

### **FREE THROW ADMINISTRATION**

Over the years, NFHS rules Committee have been concerned with an increase in rough play during free throws. There have been several rules changes and Points of Emphasis during this time to address these concerns. Last year, a change was made to move all players up one lane space, leaving the two lane spaces closest to the end line vacant. The change attempted to reduce rough play during free-throw situations, while maintaining acceptable defensive rebounding percentages. The following areas are still of concern and are being emphasized:

- a. **Lane-space requirements.** The first marked lane spaces on each side of the lane, above and adjacent to the neutral-zone marks, shall be occupied by the opponents of the free thrower. No teammate of the free thrower shall occupy either of these marked lane spaces. If the offense desires the second spaces, it may have them. If the defense desires the third spaces, it may have them. If a player entitled to the second or third space does not occupy that space, an opponent may be in the space (within the number limitations, four defense and two offense). All officials are responsible for ensuring players are in their proper spaces. The administering official (Lead) should check each space for proper alignment before bouncing the ball to the shooter. If these requirements are not met, see 9-1-9 Penalty.
- b. **Rough Play.** Coaches must not teach players to "lock up" arms along the lane line, nor drive players further under the basket with brute force. Offensive players in the second position must not be permitted to displace or push the defensive player in the first lane position. In addition, defensive players in the last position should not be permitted to displace the free-throw shooter. Fouls must be called for illegal contact and displacement on free throws, just as they would be for illegal rebounding activity off of any try.

- c. **Disconcertion.** With the space closest to the shooter now occupied, disconcertion is a concern. Of particular concern is when the free throw will become dead (first of two or first two of three). Defensive players often employ tactics which serve no other purpose than to disconcert the shooter during free throws ("boxing out" the free thrower off the free throw line, waving arms, yelling instructions to teammates, etc).
- d. **Other violations.** Players are attempting to gain a rebounding advantage by violating the free-throw restrictions and entering the lane early. No player shall enter, leave or touch the court outside the marked lane space (3 feet by 3 feet). Officials must review and enforce the rules regarding offensive and defensive free-throw violations.
- e. **Officials' Positions.** Officials must be positioned appropriately to administer free-throw situations properly. In a crew of three, the Lead official should be approximately 4 feet to the nearer lane line and well off the end line for all free throws. The Center should be halfway between the nearer free-throw lane and the sideline, at approximately the free-throw line extended – a step up or down to get the best angle to observe the opposite two top spaces and the free throw shooter. The Trail official should be approximately the 28-foot mark and just inside the tableside boundary line – not at or near the division line!

### 2009-2010 MECHANICS CHANGES

1. In a crew of two, when free throws are to be attempted, the calling official will become trail and be positioned tableside. The lead official will be positioned opposite the table.
2. In a crew of three, the trail shall mirror the lead stop– and start-clock (chop) signals for frontcourt end line throw-ins.

### **END OF A PERIOD**

The official responsible for the last shot in a period shall blow his/her whistle when the period ends. If there is no attempt for goal, he/she should just blow the whistle without any hand signals. If a shot is in progress, he/she shall blow the whistle and immediately give the good signal if it goes.

If the ball is still in the hand of the shooter as the horn sounds, blow the whistle and immediately give the no basket signal. (Both signals in the above situations should be given immediately and not wait until the ball enters or misses the basket). Many times an official may be influenced by crowd reaction if he./she waits until the ball enters the basket and then gives the signal for good or no good basket. There is no question when you have signaled good or no good prior to the ball reaching the basket. You will not be influenced by crowd reaction, the call has already been determined.

## TECHNICALS

A technical is a game tool to be used when appropriate and necessary. Whether it is a team technical, player or coach technical, it should be made like any other call without malice or aggressiveness. It is not necessary to invade a player's or coach's space when executing the technical call. Officials should have the same look and intensity as he/she does when calling a violation or foul. Make the call and move into your position. Do not get into a verbal confrontation with the player or coach.

The second direct technical always results in ejection. A player is ejected to the bench and disqualified from participation the rest of the day and the very next game for the entire day. A coach is ejected from the vicinity of the gym for the rest of that day and the very next game for the entire day. He/she should not be in the gym as a spectator for that next game. That is the responsibility of the school to enforce that policy. Also, three indirects or two indirects and one direct to the coach results in ejection. Remember, any flagrant technical that is assessed to either the coach or a player results in immediate ejection. Following are some situations concerning team, player and coach technicals:

### Team Technicals

**SITUATION #1:** Team A fails to present the roster and starting line-up to the scorer prior to the ten minute mark.

**Ruling:** One team technical charged to Team A.

**Comment:** Start the game with a technical {two free throws} for Team B followed by a mid-court throw-in, opposite table, for Team B. (Counts toward the bonus)

**SITUATION #2:** All five starters for Team B have different numbers than the ones listed in the scorebook and must be changed before the jump ball.

**Ruling:** One team technical charged to Team B. (Counts toward the bonus)

**Comment:** If Team B has any more difficulties for the rest of the game, there is no additional penalty. (i.e. adding more names to the roster, changing additional numbers, etc.)

**SITUATION #3:** Team A attempts to start the game with a player who was not designated as a starter.

**Ruling:** One technical charged to Team A.

**Comment:** If the designated starter was injured or became ill during warm-ups, then there is no penalty. (Exception)

**Note** – Not presenting the scorer with rosters and starters prior to the ten minute mark results in one technical foul. After the ten minute mark, for any infractions concerning, adding names, changing numbers, changing starters and identical numbers results in one technical foul only no matter how many of these infractions occur after the 10-minute mark.

**SITUATION #4:** Team B's coach is using a megaphone or a computer for coaching purposes.

**Ruling:** Team technical against Team B.

**Comment:** Any mechanical device or any electronic transmission device at courtside is prohibited.

**SITUATION #5:** Team B has more than five players participating simultaneously.

**Ruling:** Team technical against Team B.

**Comment:** Poor management by the game officials and must be penalized while the violation is occurring.

**SITUATION #6:** Following a time-out, all players from Team A do not enter the floor at approximately the same time.

**Ruling:** Team technical against Team A.

**Comment:** All players must return to the floor at approximately the same time following a time-out or intermission.

**SITUATION #7:** Team B requests an excess time-out.

**Ruling:** Team technical against Team B.

**Comment:** Grant the time-out and then enforce the technical foul.

### Player Technicals

**SITUATION #1:** Team player A1 dunks the ball during warm-ups.

**Ruling:** A1 is charged with a technical foul and Team A's coach is charged with an indirect technical foul.

**Comment:** Any player on Team B may attempt the two free throws. The coach of Team A must sit for the entire game. (Technical counts toward the bonus)

**2009-2010 MECHANICS CHANGES CONTINUED**

**SITUATION #2:** Substitute B6 runs onto the court without reporting or being beckoned.

**Ruling:** Technical charged to B6 only. (Counts toward the bonus)

**Comment:** If the ball becomes live before it is discovered that B6 did not report properly, he/she is now a legal player and it is too late to penalize.

**SITUATION #3:** Player B1 participates after changing his/her number without reporting it to the scorer and an official.

**Ruling:** Flagrant technical foul.

**Comment:** Penalize while being violated. Player is ejected to the bench and is done for the entire day and the next game for the entire day.

**SITUATION #4:** Player A2 intentionally slaps or strikes the backboard or causes the ring to vibrate while a try is in flight or is touching the backboard or ring.

**Ruling:** Technical charged to A2.

**Comment:** It is not basket interference or goaltending. If the ball goes through the basket, count the score and enforce the technical foul.

**SITUATION #5:** Player B3 removes his/her jersey within the visual confines of the playing area.

**Ruling:** Technical foul on B3.

**Comment:** If this occurs after the coach was notified that B3 committed his/her fifth foul, during an intermission between quarters or halftime or prior to the start of the game, the coach is assessed an indirect technical and must sit for the rest of the game. (All players are considered bench personnel at those times)

**SITUATION #6:** Player A3 punches B3 who does not retaliate.

**Ruling:** Flagrant personal or technical foul against A3 and ejected to the bench.

**Comment:** It depends on whether the ball was live or dead. If dead, it is a flagrant technical foul and anyone on team B may attempt the free throws. If live, B3 must attempt the free throws unless hurt, then his/her substitute must attempt the throws. (A3 is disqualified from participation the entire day and the next game for the entire day)

**Coach Technicals**

**SITUATION #1:** Head coach of Team A fails to replace A1 who was injured or fouled out within 20 seconds.

**Ruling:** Direct technical assessed to the head coach of Team A.

**Comment:** The head coach must sit for the rest of the game except to stand to call a time-out, to confer at the table for a correctable error, to spontaneously react to an outstanding play or acknowledge a replaced player (but must immediately return to his/her seat) and during time-outs and intermissions.

**SITUATION #2:** Head coach of Team B runs onto the court without being beckoned by the officials.

**Ruling:** Direct technical assessed to the head coach of Team B.

**Comment:** The head coach must sit for the rest of the game.

**SITUATION #3:** B2 reports into the game and is wearing a jersey with a visible manufacturer's logo on it.

**Ruling:** Direct technical to the head coach of Team B.

**Comment:** Penalize when discovered. Only one technical is charged regardless of the number of offenders.

**SITUATION #4:** Coach of Team A is out of the box and making gestures and derogatory remarks to the officials.

**Ruling:** Direct technical to the head coach of Team A and he/she must sit for the rest of the game.

**Comment:** In this situation, a warning to the coach is not appropriate.

**SITUATION #5:** Head Coach of Team B curses the officials loud enough that many spectators can hear him/her clearly.

**Ruling:** Direct flagrant technical foul on head coach of Team B.

**Comment:** Head coach of Team B is ejected from the vicinity of the gym and is disqualified for the entire day and the next game for the entire day. (Assistant must sit for the rest of the game)

**SITUATION #6:** Head coach of Team A refuses to attend the pre-game with the officials and captains. The officials tell the coach that he/she must attend the pre-game meeting. He/she is adamant and states that he/she is not going to attend.

**Ruling:** Direct flagrant technical to the coach.

**Comment:** He/she is ejected from the vicinity the gym and disqualified for the rest of the day and the next game for the entire day. (Assistant must sit for the entire game)

**PIAA BY-LAWS, ARTICLE XV:  
SECTION 3 REQUIREMENT OF  
WRITTEN CONTRACT**

All PIAA member schools shall enter into either paper or electronic contracts on the official contract form entitled "Contract for Officials Under PIAA Rules" with all registered sports officials retained by the schools or assigned by an assignor. Registered sports officials are independent contractors and therefore, are NOT employees of PIAA, the school, or the assignor. Disputes arising from oral agreements will not be considered by PIAA.

**ARRIVAL AT THE SITE**

Cooperation with Contest management begins with timely arrival at the Contest site. Nothing makes administrators and coaches more nervous at the onset of a contest than not knowing whether the officials are going to show up. Start the game off right by communicating your arrival time at the site with the athletic administrator. Show up, where possible, at least thirty minutes prior to the scheduled tip-off. It will go a long way in helping your credibility as a quality official.

**SECTION 4 VIOLATION OR  
CANCELLATION OF SPORTS  
OFFICIALS'S CONTRACT BY A PIAA  
MEMBER SCHOOL**

If a PIAA member school violates or cancels a contract with an official, the District Committee or the Board of Directors, in their respective jurisdictions, may require a school so violating or so canceling to pay to the offended official the fee or fees for the Contest or Contests which have been provided in the official contract. Failure of a PIAA member school to live up to the terms of the contract shall be considered a violation of the Constitution and By-Laws of PIAA.

**Comment:** It has been brought to our attention on numerous occasions that officials have lost assignments or games because a school or assignor has "double booked" the contest. Officials are reminded that unless there is a written contract executed between the parties, they have no claim to any type of reimbursement from the offending school(s). Many schools have made a "good faith " effort to the officials to get them an additional assignment in the future or offer a scrimmage to pick up the lost fees.

However, officially, without a written, signed, properly executed contract between the official(s) and the school(s), there is no recourse for the officials. In this day of technology it is not very hard for assignors, or schools, to execute these contracts. This is part of an assignor's responsibility. Officials should request contracts from their assignors or schools for both parties protection.

**OFFICIALS' UNIFORM**

1. The PIAA Official's Emblem must be worn on the upper left sleeve of the official's standard shirt when officiating in all PIAA sponsored games.
2. All PIAA-registered officials must wear identical uniforms during a contest.
3. Required uniform for basketball officials:  
**Shirt:** Alternating black and white 1-inch vertically striped, short-sleeved shirt with a black collar. V-neck shirts have been approved for PIAA member school games as long as all officials are dressed alike.  
**Slacks:** Full length black trousers.  
**Belt:** Black.  
**Socks:** Black.  
**Shoes:** Solid black with black laces.

PIAA recommends the use of a black, plastic FOX-40 whistle with a black lanyard. If jackets are worn before the game, they must be black in color and identical in style. College jackets or jackets from any organization other than PIAA or local basketball chapters may not be worn. The wearing of jewelry (except wedding bands and medical-alert bracelets) and wrist watches (except as a required timing device) is prohibited. Smoking and/or tobacco chewing is prohibited (Minutes, Board of Control, PIAA Summer Workshop, July 17, 1989, p. 3).

PIAA sports' officials may display an American flag (maximum size 2 by 3 inches) on the right sleeve of their uniform shirt approximately three inches down from the shoulder seam. This will be the same position the PIAA official patch is displayed on the left sleeve.

PIAA Basketball officials may use a pink whistle for games that are designated as "cancer benefit" games by PIAA member schools.

## **FITNESS AND HEALTH CONDITION**

Athletic officiating is a vigorous avocation and it demands that an official be in excellent physical condition, able to give the very best, on every play, in every contest. To that end, the American Medical Association has stated that before one attempts any vigorous physical activity they should first visit their family physician for a check-up. It is part of good personal health maintenance to have an annual physical exam and participate in an exercise program. This type of exercise program should be minimally three days per week and include cardiovascular conditioning, strength training, flexibility and muscle endurance. These components along with proper nutrition will assist in developing one's optimum body composition.

The PIAA Sports Medicine Committee recommends that each registered sports official have an annual physical examination and practice good health habits. Being physically fit and conveying an appropriate, positive image through proper health and nutrition habits will greatly assist all officials in keeping up with the game. After all, the game, the schools, players, coaches, spectators and fellow officials deserve no less. As importantly, officials owe good health habits to themselves and their families if for nothing more, than the health of it. If officials have any chronic health condition, officials are requested to share this information with on site medical personnel at their contest(s).

## **PIAA SPORTSMANSHIP MESSAGE**



ALL OFFICIALS MUST READ THIS MESSAGE TO CAPTAINS AND HEAD COACHES PRIOR TO GAMES AT ALL LEVELS.

***PIAA requires all registered sports' officials to enforce the sportsmanship rules for coaches and contestants. Actions meant to demean opposing contestants, team, spectators, and officials are not in the highest ideals of interscholastic education and will not be tolerated. Let today's contest reflect mutual respect. Coaches please certify to the officials that your players are legally equipped and uniformed according to NFHS rules and PIAA adoptions. Good luck in today's contest.***

For distribution purposes, this message is printed on the back of all PIAA registered sports officials' 2009-2010 identification cards.

Chapter interpreters are requested to remind all officials to read this message at each contest they officiate. There have been some concerns addressed by the schools that some of our officials are not reading the PIAA Sportsmanship message prior to the contest. This is an improper procedure and this message **MUST** be read. Officials are not to paraphrase, modify, or develop their own Sportsmanship Message to the captains and head coaches. The proper procedure is head coaches and captains **MUST** attend the pre-game reading of the sportsmanship message. This message **MUST BE READ VERBATIM** by the contest officials. Coaches must certify to the contest officials their team is legally equipped and in compliance with NFHS Basketball Rules. The reading of this message will set the tone for the contest to be played in the spirit of good sportsmanship and have the coaches verbally confirm aloud their teams' adherence to compliance with equipment and safety rules. This confirmation is not only the adherence to contest rules, but also assists in alleviating the legal liability concerns for the officials if the teams subsequently violate the proper equipment provisions of the contest rules.

## **PRE-SEASON PREP**

Pre-season preparation applies to mental and physical fitness as well as updating one's uniform. Take the time to review your uniform annually so that you present a clean, crisp, neat uniform. As we all know, "you never have a second chance to make a first impression". It is also important to review your officiating equipment; shoes, socks, undergarments, equipment bags, and other officiating supplies to make your uniform complete. Many officials work more than one game per week and need the ability to have multiple uniforms available for their use. Don't compromise your appearance and the reputation of your chapter by attempting to make that shirt and pants last another year. Game control starts with your appearance and the professionalism that goes with it. Be fit; be neat, be sharp. If you are in need of updating your officiating supplies, please be reminded that Purchase Officials Supply of Pennsylvania is the official vendor of PIAA Sport Officials' Uniforms. Please give them your consideration for any purchases regarding officials' supplies. If interested, you may provide them with your email address to send you their catalog, seasonal specials and discounted items that may be of interest and service to your avocation of sports' officiating. Purchase Officials Supply of PA may be contacted via email at [mjsumpref@aol.com](mailto:mjsumpref@aol.com), [www.pa.purchaseofficials.com](http://www.pa.purchaseofficials.com), or by calling 800-934-4555.

## **PIAA OFFICIALS INSURANCE**

For the 2009-2010 school year, American Specialty Insurance Services will provide the following benefits:

- One Million Dollars of Liability Coverage;
- \$25,000 Excess Accident Medical Coverage (with a \$250 deductible);
- \$5,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment (including a cardiac benefit).

This program is administered by American Specialty Insurance Services and underwritten by USF&G and Mutual of Omaha. Both carriers carry "A" ratings by A.M. Best. Again this year, as a new service for chapters, all regularly scheduled chapter meetings will be covered under PIAA's basic liability coverage.

This is a major change from the past when only the annual rules interpretation meetings have been covered. Chapters are requested to please submit their list of regularly scheduled chapter meetings to the PIAA Office to assist procedurally in the exchange of information to have all local associations' meetings covered.

### ***Contact information is as follows:***

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## **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND SKIN INFECTION PROCEDURES**

The risk for blood-borne infectious diseases, such as HIV and Hepatitis B, remains low in sports and to date has not been reported. However, proper precautions are needed to minimize the potential risk of spreading these diseases. In addition to these diseases that can be spread through transmission if bodily fluids only, skin infections that occur due to skin contact with competitors and equipment deserve close oversight, especially considering the emergence of the potentially more serious infection with Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA).

## **Infectious Skin Diseases**

### **Universal Hygiene Protocol for All Sports**

- Shower immediately after all competition and practice.
- Wash all workout clothing after practice.
- Wash personal gear, such as knee pads, periodically.
- Don't share towels or personal hygiene products with others.
- Refrain from (full body) cosmetic shaving.

Means of reducing the potential exposure to these agents:

- Notify guardian, athletic trainer and coach of any lesion before competition or practice. Athlete must have a health-care provider evaluate lesion before returning to competition.
- If an outbreak occurs on a team, especially in a contact sport, consider evaluating other team members for potential spread of infectious agent
- Follow NFHS or state/local guidelines on "time until return to competition." Allowance of participation with a covered lesion can occur if in accordance with NFHS, state or local guidelines and is no longer considered contagious.

### **Blood-Borne Infectious Diseases**

Means of reducing the potential exposure to these agents include:

- An athlete who is bleeding, has an open wound, has any amount of blood on his/her uniform, or has blood on his/her person, shall be directed to leave the activity until the bleeding is stopped, the wound is covered, the uniform and/or body is appropriately cleaned, and/or the uniform is changed before returning to competition.
- Certified athletic trainers or caregivers need to wear gloves and take other precautions to prevent blood-splash from contaminating themselves or others.
- Immediately wash contaminated surfaces or mucous membranes with soap and water.
- Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with disinfectant before returning to competition. Be sure to use gloves with cleaning.
- Any blood exposure or bites to the skin that break the surface must be reported and evaluated by a medical provider immediately.

*As copied from the NFHS 2009 Basketball Rules Book.*

## PIAA BY-LAWS: ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 8

Any coach and/or contestant who, while coaching or competing for a PIAA member school, is ejected from a Contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official in that sport for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant misconduct shall be disqualified from coaching and/or participating **for the remainder of the day and in all Contests on the next Contest day of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition.** For a coach, participation in the next Contest includes any contact by the coach with members of the Team, including other coaches, between the time that the Team arrives at the Contest site and the conclusion of the last Contest of the day. The Principal shall direct the coach not to attend all of the Contest(s).

Any coach and/or contestant ejected from the last Contest in that sport in a sport season shall be disqualified from coaching and/or participating in the first Contest(s) in that sport in the subsequent sport season, at the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, at any PIAA member school or, if the student changes levels of competition, such as from junior varsity to varsity, the first Contest(s) in that sport.

The official shall file a report with the PIAA Office on the form prescribed for the sport involved, within twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of the Contest in which the ejection occurred. Failure to file such report shall not affect the validity or consequences of the ejection. In Basketball, the athletic director and principal must meet with the ejected coach/contestant and detail in a report what corrective action has been taken. This report then must be signed by all parties and sent to the district Basketball chairperson. This form is located on the PIAA website on the Basketball page.

When a coach or contestant is disqualified/ejected from a Regular or Post-Regular Season Contest a report must be filed by the official who disqualified/ejected the coach or contestant. When the report is received in the PIAA Office it is faxed to the concerned school Principal and Athletic Director and mailed to the respective District Chairmen, officials' representatives and sportsmanship chair. A copy is also given to the Associate Executive Director and placed in the school's file.

### **OFFICIALS ARE TO FILE A REPORT WITH THE PIAA OFFICE ON THE APPROPRIATE FORM WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE EJECTION OR THEY MAY BE PLACED ON PROBATION.**

Officials may complete the disqualification form online through the officials' information area of the PIAA website. Additionally, officials may email or fax a downloaded copy of the disqualification form. Officials who repeatedly do not file the proper form in the prescribed time period may be suspended.

### **EXAMPLES OF DISQUALIFICATION PROVISION OF ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 8**

**The following examples are for players or coaches and are only examples and not a complete list. What this means is a player or coach ejected from a contest at any level must sit out the remainder of the day and the next day of the next contest at that level.**

**Example #1:** Player/coach gets ejected from a junior varsity contest before a varsity contest. This player/coach gets disqualified for the **remainder of the day and the next day** of the next junior varsity contest. If this contest is followed by a varsity contest **on the same day**, the player/coach gets disqualified for the varsity contest also (**the whole day**).

**Example #2:** Player/coach gets ejected from a varsity contest on Friday, the team's next varsity contest is Friday. Before the varsity contest is a scheduled junior varsity contest, player/coach cannot participate in any of Friday contests.

**Example #3:** Player/coach gets ejected from a varsity basketball game Saturday. The next varsity contest is a game on next Friday but the game gets postponed to Saturday. On Saturday, the junior varsity team is to play in another basketball game, is player and/or coach eligible to participate in the junior varsity game?

**Ruling:** No. Since the Friday contest was postponed the **next varsity game** is the same day as the junior varsity game and the player/coach are not eligible to participate the whole day.

## PIAA 2009-2010 DISTRICT RULES INTERPRETERS

District 1    Donald T. Taylor	District 7    Regis A. Giles
District 2    James P. Gross	District 8    Daniel L. Robinson
District 3    Craig S. Bradley	District 9    Dennis J. Geitner
District 4    Martin Mauer, Jr.	District 10    Timothy F. Lavan
District 5    Ronald Koppenhaver	District 11    Joseph Catanzaro
District 6    Richard L. Young	District 12    James P. Moore, Sr.

## PIAA 2009-2010 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

First Practice Date .....	Friday, November 20
First Inter-School/Scrimmage Date.....	Friday, November 27
First Regular Season Play Date.....	Friday, December 11
Last Regular Season Contest Date.....	Saturday, February 27
District Championship Deadline.....	Saturday, March 6
<b>PIAA Basketball Championships:</b>	
Play-in Round.....	Tuesday, March 9
First Round.....	Friday & Saturday, March 12 & 13
Second Round.....	Tuesday & Wednesday, March 16 & 17
Quarterfinals.....	Friday & Saturday, March 19 & 20
Semi-Finals.....	Tuesday & Wednesday, March 23 & 24
<b>PIAA Basketball Championship Finals</b>	
Bryce Jordan Center, PSU, University Park	Friday, March 26
<b>Championship Schedule:</b>	
AA Girls' Championship .....	12:00 pm
A Boys' Championship .....	2:00 pm
AAAA Girls' Championship .....	6:00 pm
AAA Boys' Championship.....	8:00 pm
Bryce Jordan Center, PSU, University Park	Saturday, March 27
<b>Championship Schedule:</b>	
A Girls' Championship .....	12:00 pm
AA Boys' Championship.....	2:00 pm
AAA Girls' Championship .....	6:00 pm
AAAA Boys' Championship.....	8:00 pm



**PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**550 GETTYSBURG ROAD, PO BOX 2008**  
**MECHANICSBURG PA 17055-0708**  
**TELEPHONE (717) 697-0374 OR (800) 382-1392 FAX (717) 697-7721**  
**WEBSITE [www.piaa.org](http://www.piaa.org)**

**BASKETBALL PLAYER, COACH, OR TEAM PERSONNEL DISQUALIFICATION FORM**

During the 2009-2010 PIAA basketball Regular Season and Postseason, a disqualified basketball player, coach, and/or Team personnel shall not be permitted to participate for the remainder of the day and in all Contests on the next Contest day of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition from which the player, coach, and/or Team personnel was previously disqualified. For a coach, participation in the next Contest includes any contact by the coach with members of the Team, including other coaches, between the time that the Team arrives at the Contest site and the conclusion of the last Contest of the day. The Principal shall direct the coach not to attend all of the Contest(s), in accordance with ARTICLE XIII, Disqualification from next contest. Section 8 of the PIAA By-Laws and NFHS Basketball Rules 2-8-1, 2-11-11N2, 2-12-5, 4-14, 4-18, 4-19-14, 5-8-3b, 10-3-8, 10-4-1g, 10 Pen 8, and 10-5-2. The referee must complete and file this form, as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours following the completion of the Contest in which the disqualification took place by forwarding it to the above address.

Name of Ejected Player, Coach or Bench Personnel		School Name	
Date of Contest	Location of Contest	Time of Contest	
Visiting Team		PIAA District	Visiting Team's Final Score
Home Team		PIAA District	Home Team's Final Score
Name of Official Who Ejected Player, Coach or Bench Personnel			Level of Competition

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