

# 2020-21



## **Basketball Coaches Manual**



Coach,

THANK YOU! While we have always known the value of our coaches, and how much they impact our student-athletes, it has NEVER been truer than now. There is so much uncertainty in the world, and everyone (kids and adults alike) is looking for something stable. For many of our kids, even if their sporting events are in question, their relationship with their coach is ALWAYS felt. We appreciate the time and effort you have given throughout the past seven months and ask that you continue to be flexible and positive as we move into this winter together.

It is important that we work together to ensure this information is in the hands of ALL coaches – not just head coaches. In essence, this guide is a detailed written version of the online meeting that all head coaches are required to take.

And, speaking of 'online meetings', these rules meetings remain mandatory for Varsity Head Coaches and are offered online. Directions and availability are detailed in the early pages of this manual. We hope you'll encourage your assistant and junior high coaches to view this also, especially considering the adoption/implementation of the "Out of Season Instruction" regulation that is now in effect. The purpose of the "Rules Interpretation Meetings" is to give EVERYONE a thorough understanding of the interpretations of OHSAA Regulations as well as the changes and "points of emphasis" to the National playing rules written by the NFHS.

Rules governing OHSAA basketball stem from the National Federation (NFHS) and the OHSAA. NFHS Rules govern all playing rules while OHSAA Sport Regulations govern specific rules to Ohio as well as the various administrative regulations and interpretations. Our elected Board of Directors approve these regulations annually and serve as the basis for ALL schools playing by the same rules.

The 2020-21 season starts on October 23 (Girls) and October 30 (Boys) and concludes with the state basketball tournament on March 13 (girls) and March 20 (boys). Given our everchanging circumstances with Covid-19, there may be adjustments throughout the season, and in tournament time.

Communication is a key in the successful administration of any of our sports. I encourage you to ask questions or seek assistance by *first* going through your Athletic Administrator. We encourage YOUR communication with them to help us operate as efficiently as possible. I continue to try to keep you informed of changes and current information with 'Coach Memos' that are emailed and posted on the basketball pages. Nearly all information can be found on the "Basketball" web pages (boys or girls). **Please** take the time to review the materials provided here, and I encourage coaches and officials to 'check the website' periodically.

This is wishing each of you a successful basketball season. I commend you for your time and effort working with the student-athletes in Ohio.

Kathleen Coughlin, CAA  
Director of Sport Management

## ***The Ohio High School Athletic Association Mission Statement***

*To serve our member schools and enrich interscholastic opportunities for students.*

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## Important Basketball Dates

### Girls

**First day for Online Rules Meeting:** Wed, October 14 – 9:00am  
**First Day of Coaching:** Friday, October 23, 2020  
**Regular Season Contests May Begin:** November 20, 2020  
**Sectional/District Tournament Draw:** Sunday, January 31  
**Sectional Tournament:** February 8 – 20, 2021  
**District Tournament:** February 22 – February 27, 2021  
**Regional Tournament:** March 1 – March 6, 2021  
**State Tournament:** March 11 – 13, 2021  
**No-Contact Period:** August 1 – 31, 2021

### Boys

**First day for Online Rules Meeting:** Wed, October 14 – 9:00am  
**First Day of Coaching:** Friday, October 30, 2020  
**Regular Season Contests May Begin:** November 25, 2020  
**Sectional/District Tournament Draw:** Sunday, February 7  
**Sectional Tournament:** February 15 – February 27, 2021  
**District Tournament:** March 1 – March 6, 2021  
**Regional Tournament:** March 8 – 13, 2021  
**State Tournament:** March 18 – 20, 2021  
**No-Contact Period:** August 1 – 31, 2021

## OHSAA Basketball Resources



**Kathleen Coughlin**, *Director of Sport Management (Basketball Sport Administrator)*: [kcoughlin@ohsaa.org](mailto:kcoughlin@ohsaa.org)  
**Beau Rugg**, *Director of Officiating (Officiating Administrator)*: [brugg@ohsaa.org](mailto:brugg@ohsaa.org)  
**Dennis Morris**, *Director of Officiating Development*: [dmorris005@woh.rr.com](mailto:dmorris005@woh.rr.com)  
**OHSAA Basketball Webpage (Girls')**: <https://www.ohsaa.org/sports/girlsbasketball>  
**OHSAA Basketball Webpage (Boys')**: <https://www.ohsaa.org/sports/boysbasketball>  
**OHSAA Handbook**: <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/SchoolResources/Handbook.pdf>  
**NFHS (Rules, Court Diagrams, etc.)**: <http://www.nfhs.org>  
**Ohio High School Basketball Coaches' Association**: <https://oh.nhsbca.org/>



## Looking Ahead to Tournament Time

OHSAA tournament divisions are determined by processes set forth in OHSAA General Sports Regulation 16. Changes to tournament division enrollment cutoffs after Board of Directors approval may occur if there was an error during this process that would apply to all schools. Therefore, changes to an individual school's data and/or tournament participation will NOT modify the approved tournament divisions. More information can be found at: <https://ohsaa.org/School-Resources/Divisional-Breakdowns-2020-21-School-Year#745411-boys-basketball>

<u>Division</u>	<u>Boys Enrolled</u>	<u>Total Schools</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Girls' Enrolled</u>	<u>Total Schools</u>
I	352 and up	197	I	335 and up	195
II	206 - 351	198	II	194 - 334	194
III	129 - 205	199	III	115 - 193	196
IV	128 and down	201	IV	114 and down	198

### Tournament Draw Dates

The draw date for tournaments is established by the Board of Directors. The approved dates for the 2021 Tournament are:

**Girls' Sectional/District Draw: January 31, 2021      2:00 p.m.**

**Boy's Sectional/District Draw: February 7, 2021      2:00 p.m.**

### State Tournament Dates

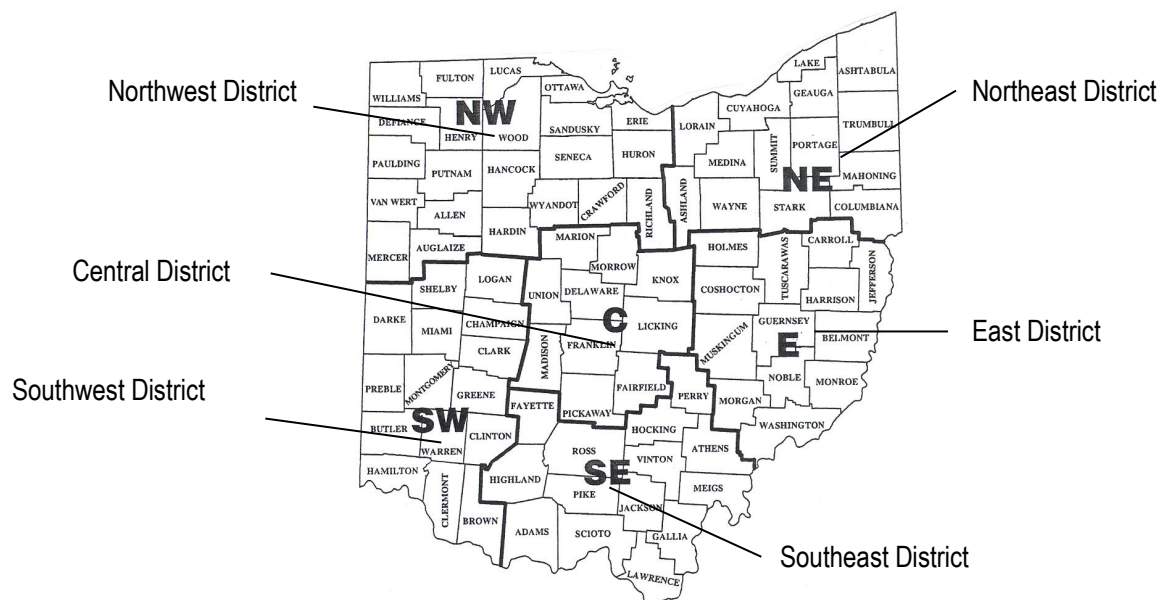
**Girls' State Tournament:      March 12 – 14, 2020      TBD**

**Boys' State Tournament:      March 19 – 21, 2020      TBD**

### Athletic Districts

Representation to the Regional tournament (the number of Regional 'qualifiers') from District winners is determined by a formula based upon the number of teams participating in the previous year's tournament.

The complete tournament regulations that will be adopted by the Board of Directors at its' October meeting will be able to be read in their entirety by logging on to [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and navigating to the boys' or girls' basketball site under the "Sports and Tournaments" pull down menu. With a few exceptions, most schools in the counties listed below are assigned sites from the respective District Athletic Boards. You are encouraged to visit their websites for additional information.



## **OHSBCA Officers**

### **President**

David Sheldon, Colonel Crawford

### **Vice President**

Doug Graham, Ironton

### **Treasurer**

Pat Carroll, Uniontown Lake

### **Secretary**

Bob Von Kaenel, Dover

### **Past President**

Scott Bardall, Lakeland Academy

### **Hall of Fame Director**

Paul Wayne

### **Public Relations Director**

Adam Hall & Larry Wilson

### **Executive Director**

Joe Balogh, Ontario

## **OHSBCA District Directors**

### **District 1**

John Cullen, South Range

### **District 2**

Sean O'Toole, Gilmour Academy

### **District 3**

Brett Larrick, Elyria High School

### **District 4**

Matt Hackenberg, Canton GlenOak

### **District 5**

Joe Dunlevy, Indian Creek

### **District 6**

Roger Jury, Hopewell-Loudon

### **District 7**

Dave Boyce, Perrysburg

### **District 8**

Jason Vermillion, Arlington

### **District 9**

Kris Spriggs, Kenton Ridge

### **District 10**

Pat Murphy, St. Francis DeSales (Columbus)

### **District 11**

John Feasel, Olentangy

### **District 12**

Mark Romick, River Local

### **District 13**

Ryan Davis, Chesapeake

### **District 14**

Steven Ater, Wheelersburg

### **District 15**

Adam Priefer, Centerville

### **District 16**

Brian McMonigle, New Richmond

## **OHSBCA Girls District Directors**

### **Districts 1 & 4**

Mike Miller, Smithville

### **Districts 2 & 3**

Andrew Booth, Wadsworth

### **Districts 5 & 12**

Troy McClellan, Strasburg

### **Districts 6 & 7**

Natalie Lantz, Shelby

### **Districts 8 & 9**

Greg Rickard, Crestview

### **Districts 10 & 11**

Dave Butcher, Pickerington

### **Districts 13 & 14**

TBA

### **Districts 15 & 16**

Beth Simmons, Summit Country Day

# **The Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association**

The Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association is voluntary, non-profit organization that was formed in 1947 by basketball coaches in Ohio. Today, the OHSBCA is one of the largest coaches' associations in the country with more than 4,000+ members. The OHSBCA is organized into 16 separate districts and are governed by officers. The objectives of this body include:

- To promote a harmonious relationship between principals and coaches in their respective schools concerning the administration of the game of basketball.
- To promote pure, wholesome, amateur interscholastic basketball in the schools of Ohio.
- To help maintain the highest possible standards in interscholastic basketball and the basketball coaching profession, and to work together for the improvement of conditions in Ohio High School Basketball.
- To secure a better understanding of the problems of high school basketball coaches and to place at the disposal of coaches, sources of information.
- To have a representative group of coaches to which may be referred basketball problems of general interest in the hope of creating better relationships between high schools and a sympathetic understanding of all basketball problems.
- To promote good fellowship and social contacts among coaches.
- To honor and recognize players and coaches for their achievements and accomplishments in Ohio Basketball.
- To honor and recognize other people outside the organization who promote Ohio Basketball.

### **The Value of Joining the OHSBCA**

1. The OHSBCA maintains a strong Mentoring Program in each District.
2. Mentors are there to help with designing practice plans to helping interpret the rules of the game. They maintain a strong interest in the importance of high school basketball and insuring strong coaches from generation to generation. Mentoring lists are available from the website  
[http://www.ohiobkcoaches.com/Information/Mentoring\\_List.htm](http://www.ohiobkcoaches.com/Information/Mentoring_List.htm).
3. The OHSBCA maintains a listing of state records and assists with the publication of these records.
4. The OHSBCA promotes the student-athlete in basketball through various programs that include:
  - Academic All-Ohio Teams
  - All-State and All-District Teams including 'Coaches of the Year'
  - Coaches Awards (100 game winners, 200 game winners, The Paul Walker Award, The Bob Arnzen Award
  - Scholarship Programs providing \$15,000.00 to members sons/daughters
5. OHSBCA has partnered with LUCEO SPORTS and the PLAYBOOK ANIMATION iOS app in order to provide every member access. This app enables a coach the option of drawing, storing and viewing plays from any electronic device (iphone, ipad, laptop, tablet, etc).



### **Joining the OHSBCA**

1. The Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association holds a membership drive each September, the membership drive lasts until December 31 of that year. No memberships will be accepted between January 1 and August 31.
2. Annual membership fees are only \$25.00.
3. Memberships are active one current season

## Rules Interpretation Meeting Information

Rules affecting basketball coaches/team and officials are classified as being “Administrative Rules” or “Playing Rules”. There are limited **RULE changes** for the 2020-21 season and as a result, meetings will be held ONLINE only again this year. It is more efficient to deliver specific Administrative Rule changes/highlights to coaches and officials separately through an **online delivery of the Mandatory State Rules Meetings**. A significant amount of the meeting will be spent detailing specific General Sports Regulations affecting basketball.

Completion of the Rules Meeting remains **mandatory for 2020-21**. The Rules Meeting for Coaches is geared exclusively FOR coaches while the Rules Meeting for Officials is exclusive for Officials.

**Note to Coaches:** OHSAA Basketball Sports Regulations will be covered as well as General Regulations and Bylaws as they pertain to coaches and players. Though the main purpose is to provide knowledge and advice on the various OHSAA regulations, this is the education mechanism to ensure compliance with the various rules and regulations. In light of many infractions that occur throughout the year, information provided in these meetings is designed to reduce and prevent these infractions.

**Note to Officials:** The Officials’ Online Rules Meeting will be exclusive to Basketball officials. Most of the OHSAA’s rules and regulations affect the administration of the sport, overseen by Athletic Administrators and Basketball Coaches. Enforcement of such things as “coach certification”, practice start dates, number of contests, etc., are assigned to school administrators and coaches and will not be covered in the coaches’ online presentation and do not need to be covered in the Officials’ meeting. Dennis Morris, Director of Development for Basketball Officiating, will have the key role in the online delivery.

### Instructions and Tips for Completing the Rules Meeting Online

#### **For Coaches:**

Rules meetings are ONLY available through the coach’s individual myOHSAA Account.

IF you do not have your account already, you will obtain your myOHSAA Account in this way:

1. Your Athletic Director adds the staff member’s name by using the “Add New Staff” button.
2. Your AD follows the prompts to add the:
  - a. New Staff Member’s FIRST NAME
  - b. New Staff Member’s LAST NAME
  - c. New Staff Member’s EMAIL ADDRESS
  - d. Check box(es) to assign the appropriate roles/positions
  - e. Click the “INVITE NEW STAFF” button
3. The invited staff member (you) receives an email from [info@myohsaa.org](mailto:info@myohsaa.org) . **The invite is ONLY GOOD FOR 10 DAYS!**
4. Once the new staff member (you) opens the email,
  - a. Click the link inside and follow the prompts to either ‘login’ or ‘create an account’

Once you login to your myOHSAA profile, click on the “Rules Meetings” tab and then ‘Find a State Rules Meeting’. Please note that all screens of the presentation must be viewed for attendance credit to be provided. PLEASE note that this is NOW INSTANTANEOUS and you can check your myOHSAA account for attendance. Go to the Rules Meetings Tab and “My State Meeting Attendance” on the left-hand side. There will be a date and time stamp indicating completion of the meeting. If you do not see your attendance in your account after completing the meeting, please email us so we can make the proper adjustment.

**The ONLINE Rules Meeting link will be live on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.**

The last day for completion of the online version is **November 26, 2020 at 11:59 pm** or a \$50.00 late fee is charged for access to the online version. The final deadline, with penalty, is Monday, January 27 at 11:59 pm. **AFTER JANUARY 27 at 11:59 pm, THE BASKETBALL RULES MEETING WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE.** Should you not take the Basketball Rules Meeting by this date, you will be removed from the tournament.

## Pre-Season Parent Meetings

Pre-Season meetings are required before every sport season, specifically this year many of these may be done in an online format. Most of these occur in conjunction with other winter sports and it is a great time to inform parents of expectations before the season begins. The OHSA provides several materials to be used at these meetings, one of which is a PowerPoint presentation. Additionally, there are more resource materials on our website under School Resources: <https://www.ohsaa.org/School-Resources>. We also have encouraged coaches to invite local officials to meet with their team during pre-season workouts, early practices or at your pre-season meeting. It allows the officials to meet the athletes and discuss new rules. Again, it provides a forum for healthy discussions and an opportunity for parents to learn more about the game.

## Coach Certification & Education Requirements

As outlined in Ohio Administrative Code, all Coaches of Middle School/Jr. High and High School teams **MUST** possess a “Pupil Activity/Coaching Permit” to coach in Ohio. This includes paid coaches AND volunteer coaches. School administrators are responsible for maintaining records on compliance and most schools provide opportunities for their coaches to obtain the necessary coursework. Information on obtaining your Permit can be found at: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Teaching/Educator-Licensure/Audiences/Coaching-Permits>

To obtain the required certificate through the ODE, one must:



- Have completed a Sports' First Aid Course
- Possess a valid CPR Card
- Completion of the ODH/ODE Sudden Cardiac Arrest Certification
- Have been approved by their local Board of Education or similar governing body
- Complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching course
- Complete 1 of the 2 approved Concussion Recognition/Management Courses





## 2020- 2021 Rules Information

### Rules Changes

**TIMER'S DUTIES** 2-12-5: The intent of the rule change is to avoid gamesmanship and ensure the time for replacement remains within the rules. This rule change makes 2-12-5 consistent with 2-12-4 "second horn" requirement.

**FORFEITURE, PROTEST, INTERRUPTED GAME** 5-4-1, 2: When a coach has been removed, this rule clarifies that if no other coach or school personnel are available, then the game is forfeited unless state association rules determine otherwise.

**HEAD COACH'S RULE** 10-6-Penalty: To clarify that officials are not required to issue a warning prior to issuing a technical foul. However, they may issue a warning when the offense is judged not to be major.

### Points of Emphasis

*Points of emphasis are specific rules that need more attention by players, coaches and officials. Generally, when a "Point of Emphasis" does not show significant improvement, rule changes result to further correct an identified issue. The "Points of Emphasis" for Coaches and Officials for 2020-21 are listed below with an explanation of each.*

#### BLOCK/CHARGE

By definition, "a **block or charge** foul" occurs when a defender impedes his/her opponent to stop him/her from going in that direction. If he/she does not obtain a legal defensive position and contact occurs, it is a blocking foul.

The obtaining and maintaining of a legal guarding position on a player 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 initial legal 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 within six feet.

2. Once the initial legal 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.

#### **C. Guarding a player *without* the ball.**

Time and distance are the key factors here. 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.

## Use of proper signals and the reporting area

One of the most important tenets of good officiating is good communication. The easiest and quickest way for officials to establish credibility is to effectively communicate with players, coaches, spectators, and the scorer's table during a high school basketball game. When officials properly and effectively communicate with all stakeholders during a contest, their judgement is less questioned, their confidence is heightened, and their over-all game management is improved.

Good communication centers on the use of proper signals and mechanics. Signals are verbal and non-verbal means of communication by officials and are required by rule. Each time the whistle is sounded in a basketball game, there is an accompanying signal. Virtually all NFHS Basketball-related publications contain the approved list of signals officials should use. Meanwhile, mechanics are the methods or procedures used by officials while officiating the game that help put the official in the best possible position to provide proper court coverage and to provide effective communication to the table officials.

Officials shall be professional in the use of approved signals and mechanics and should not attempt to draw attention to themselves by the use of unapproved, emphatic, or theatrical signs. Adherence to prescribed NFHS signals and mechanics presents an environment where the officials are in charge and the game is well-officiated.

Whether calling a violation or a foul, anytime an official blows his/her whistle, he/she shall also raise his/her hand to stop the clock. If a violation is being called, the official will extend one arm above the head with an open palm/fingers extended, while if a foul is being called, the official will raise one arm high above the head with the fist clenched.

When a violation is observed, an official shall complete the following after blowing his/her whistle and stopping the clock:

- Move towards the area of the violation.
- Signal the nature of the violation.
- Signal the direction for the throw-in and the team to make the throw-in by stating the jersey color.
- Indicate the throw-in spot.

All officials are responsible for contact rulings and all fouls. It is imperative that the following procedure be used in this order after an official blows his/her whistle and raising his/her arm to stop the clock:

- (if necessary for player clarification) Delay and extend the other hand, palm down toward the fouling player's hips (i.e., "bird dog").
- While holding the foul signal, move toward the play and fouling player, stop, and verbally inform the player he/she fouled by stating the jersey color and number.
- Lower the foul signal and indicate the nature of the foul by giving a preliminary signal using the approved NFHS signal.

- Indicate what will follow as a result of the foul (throw-in, free throws, made basket, etc.).
- After signaling what will result, wait for players to separate, particularly if they are in close proximity to one another, and then move to the reporting area to announce the foul to the scorer. In general, the reporting area is a rectangular area that runs from the middle of the top of the free throw circle on each end of the floor to an area approximately 10' towards the scorer's table.
- Once in the reporting area, the official will come to a complete stop before communicating with the official scorer.
- Slowly state the color of the jersey of the player who fouled. Visually indicate the number of the player who fouled using a two-handed signal (right hand shows the ten's digit and the left hand shows the single's digit) while verbalizing the number to the scorer.
- Indicate the type of foul committed.
- Indicate what activity should follow (throw-in, free throws, etc.)

For a complete description of all 2-person and 3-person mechanics, please refer to the NFHS Basketball Officials Manual.

### **Palming/Carrying**

Across the country, more and more players are being allowed to illegally dribble the basketball. Likely, a combination of increased viewing of other players doing this act and poor enforcement of the rules by officials has led to this decline in proper fundamentals.

The dribble begins by pushing, throwing or batting the ball to the floor before the pivot foot is lifted. (4-15-3) The act of palming/carrying is when the dribbler allows the ball to come to rest in one or both hands and then continues dribbling. (4-15-4b) This causes the dribble to end and is a violation.

### **Clarification of Intentional and Flagrant Fouls**

There is a distinct difference between an Intentional Foul and a Flagrant Foul. A foul should be ruled an Intentional Foul when a player, while playing the ball, causes excessive contact. It should be called away from the ball when it's a non-basketball play. These are considered either personal or technical fouls.

A Flagrant Foul is violent in nature or a noncontact play demonstrating unacceptable or uncivil behavior. The penalty for a Flagrant Foul is immediate ejection.

There is a concern that there is lack of enforcement for Intentional Fouls. Fouling has become a strategic part at the end of game and officials need to understand the differences between common fouls, Intentional Fouls, and Flagrant Fouls and have the conviction to make the correct call. Was it a basketball play or simply an attempt to stop the clock? As an official, getting the first foul is critical and will help prevent the game from becoming more physical.

## Intentional Foul

**4-19-ART. 3** An Intentional foul is a personal or technical foul that may or may not be premeditated and is not based solely on the severity of the act. Intentional fouls include, but are not limited to:

- Contact that neutralizes an opponent's obvious advantageous position.
- Contact away from the ball with an opponent who is clearly not involved with a play.
- Contact that is not a legitimate attempt to play the ball/player specifically designed to stop the clock or keep it from starting.
- Excessive contact with an opponent while the ball is live or until an airborne shooter returns to the floor.
- Contact with a thrower-in as in 9-2-10 PENALTY 4.

## Flagrant Foul

**4-19-ART.4** A flagrant foul may be a personal or technical foul of a violent, savage or uncivil nature, or a technical noncontact foul which displays unacceptable conduct. It may or may not be intentional. If personal, it involves, but is not limited to violent contact such as: striking, kicking and kneeing. If technical, it involves dead-ball contact or noncontact at any time which is extreme or persistent, vulgar or abusive conduct. Fighting is a flagrant act.



### State Adoptions Permitted by NFHS Rules

The National Federation has identified specific items that may or may not be adopted by each state association. These are found on page 69 of the NFHS Rules Book. The following State Adoptions are permitted to be made and either “adopted” or “not adopted” in the state of Ohio. **Just as a matter of reference, the much-talked about “Shot Clock” is NOT offered as a “State Adoption”.**

#### Determining ball size for junior high boys’ competition – Adopted in Ohio

**Comment:** The NFHS Playing Rules permit states to determine on a state by state basis what ball is best suited to be used at the Junior High level. The OHSAA has determined with input from many different groups that the ‘smaller’ COMPOHIO285CB is the best for players that age.

#### Authorizing use of replay equipment at the conclusion of a state championship series contest – Adopted in Ohio

**Comment:** This will be used at the state tournament Final Four. The NFHS Rule permits it on a state by state basis, however it may only be used at the end of regulation (or overtime) and only to determine if an attempt was released in time AND whether or not it was from behind the 3-point line or not. So far, this has not come into play...though it has been tested and the use of a minimum of 3 camera angles has shown that it CAN be utilized without flaw.

#### Authorizing rule exceptions to provide reasonable accommodations– Adopted in Ohio.

**Comment:** The NFHS allows reasonable accommodations to be made to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique and extenuating circumstances. If the permission is granted, you will keep that to show officials prior to a contest.

#### Authorizing use of a running clock when a specific point differential is reached – Adopted in Ohio for TOURNAMENT ONLY.

**Comment:** Though we get many inquiries and some states DO permit this, there is no ‘mercy rule’ adopted for regular season games in the state of Ohio at the Junior High OR High School level. **However, it is adopted for the OHSAA post-season tournament. Any time a score differential reaches 35 points during the second half, a running clock shall be utilized. After the 35-point score differential has been met but the score drops below 30 points, the clock reverts to regular NFHS timing. (This eliminates timing issues in a faster paced contest). The clock shall be stopped only for an injured player on the court or when there is any unusual delay deemed necessary by the officials.**

#### **Determining the number of electronic media time-outs – Adopted in Ohio.**

**Comment:** This is primarily a concern at the state tournament level since it is the only level in which LIVE television is permitted. At the state tournament level, the number of “TV Timeouts” is carefully reviewed with finalists prior to the state tournament.

#### **Authorizing use of one commemorative/memorial patch on the jersey – Adopted in Ohio.**

**Comment:** The patch shall not exceed 4 square inches, shall not be a number and must be located above the neckline or in the side insert.

### **Rawlings & Game Ball Information**

The Rawlings Basketball (see below) is required for use **during the OHSAA tournament.** Rawlings continues to be the official ball provider for boys’ and girls’ basketball as well as supporting the OHSBCA with various products.

Official OHSAA Girls’ Tournament Ball: **COMPOHIO285CB (“Contour”)**

Official OHSAA Boys’ Tournament Ball: **COMPOHIOCB (“Contour”)**

The smaller basketball (28.5 – 29” circumference and 18-20 oz.) is **mandatory** for use in girls’ basketball grades 7-12 and **also** in boys’ basketball for grades 7-8.

Please note that a **PINK BASKETBALL IS NEVER PERMITTED FOR USE.**

### **Uniform Requirements**

to



Many websites allow players and coaches to design uniforms, which has increased the need to pay close attention to uniform regulations. Uniform regulations are developed as part of the National playing rules by the National Federation (NFHS). NBA and Olympic team uniform styles seldom meet the NFHS regulations, so I encourage you to review these uniform regulations when ordering new uniforms. The NFHS has detailed uniform diagrams here: <https://www.nfhs.org/media/1020279/2020-21-basketball-uniforms.pdf>

A few key points of the Uniform Regulations are listed below:

- Numbers must be centered horizontally and vertically on the front and back with at least a 6” number required on the back and a 4” number on the front.
- Approved uniform numbers shall not include BOTH “0” and “00”. One or the other is permitted...not both.
- Home team uniforms MUST BE WHITE while visiting team uniforms must be a contrasting dark color. **The ‘dark’ color of away uniforms should be the darker of the school colors.** This would eliminate gray, orange, or yellow/gold for away uniforms in most instances. This is not mandated for sub-varsity teams (but eventually will).
- The American flag may be worn on the team shirt provided it does not exceed 2 x 3 inches and does not interfere with the visibility of the player’s number
- A visible manufacturer’s logo/trademark is permitted on the jersey and the short but is not permitted on the undershirt
- A player’s team jersey designed to be worn inside the pants shall be tucked inside the pants and the pants shall be above the hips and worn properly. A player not conforming to this uniform policy shall be directed to leave the game.

- A commemorative/memorial patch may be worn on the jersey provided it is not a number and must be worn above the neckline or in the side.

### SHOOTING SLEEVES

“Shooting Sleeves” are addressed in the NFHS Rules Book in Rule 3, Section 5, Article 3. A simplified document on the legality of sleeves, tights, compression shorts, etc., can be found at: [https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports/Basketball-Girls/Uniform\\_Rules12-11-15.pdf](https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports/Basketball-Girls/Uniform_Rules12-11-15.pdf). Arm Sleeves, knee sleeves, lower leg sleeves, compression shorts and tights are permissible:

- Anything worn on the arm and/or leg is a sleeve, except a knee brace and shall meet the color restrictions.
- The sleeves/tights, compression shorts shall be black, white, beige or predominant color of the jersey and the same color sleeves/tights shall be worn by all teammates
- All sleeves/tights, compression shorts shall be the same solid color and must be the same color as any headband or wristband worn
- Meet all logo requirements (only 1 manufacturers logo OR school logo with size limitation of 2 ¼ square inches and shall not exceed 2 ¼ inches in any dimension)



Legal



NOT Legal



NOT Legal



NOT Legal

### WRISTBANDS – HEADBANDS – HEADWEAR – OTHER EQUIPMENT

Nearly all equipment issues are addressed in Section 5 of the NFHS Basketball Rules in Rule 3. Some important items:

**Braces, casts, splints, etc. are NEVER PERMITTED TO BE WORN on the elbow, hand, finger/thumb, wrist or forearm, EVEN if it were covered with padding. Simply NOT permitted.** Many find this difficult to understand and often will provide a ‘physician’s note’ that indicates it is necessary. However, even if a physician DID provide a medical note – it is still NOT permitted. This is basically due to the risk of eye injury to others on the court.

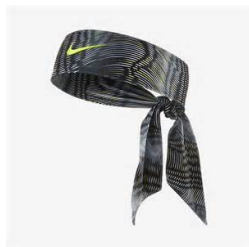
NOT Legal



**Wristbands and Headbands must meet the following requirements outlined in Rule 3 Article 4 of the NFHS Playing Rules:**

- Headbands and Wristbands must be a single solid color of **white, black, beige or the predominant color of the jersey**. Headbands and wristbands that are worn must be the same color for each item and all participants and must be the same color as any sleeve or tight that is worn.
- Only 1 wristband may be worn on each wrist with it being no more than 4 inches wide. It must be worn on the arm **below the elbow** and must be unadorned (no writing of any kind on the wristband).
- Rubber, cloth or elastic bands may be used to control hair but hard items (such as but not limited to) beads, barrettes and bobby pins are not permitted.

- Only 1 headband may be worn and it must be worn on the forehead/crown. It must be unadorned and can be **no more than 3 inches wide**.
- The Headband that became popular that ties in the back is **NOT LEGAL – since it the tie in the back hangs down below 2 inches**.



**ALL of the Headbands shown above are NOT LEGAL**

Head decorations are prohibited.

**REMINDER:**

**Head Decorations and Headwear Refer to the National Playing Rules of the particular sport to determine what head decorations or headwear are permissible.**

Exception: In the event a head coach represents to the referee in advance of the start of the competition that a player wishes not to expose his/her uncovered head, the referee shall approve a covering or wrap which shall not:

1. Fundamentally alter the sport;
2. Be abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other participant;
3. Be attached in such a way that it is likely to come off during play, and
4. Be deemed to be unsporting/offensive. For other exceptions not addressed above, school administrators and/or head coaches shall contact the OHSAA sport administrator via email well in advance of the competition date to discuss if a waiver is available and, if so, the details of the waiver process.

Note: If there are any concerns about head decorations or headwear well in advance of the start of competition on that day, contest officials shall approach the head coach (or assistant coach if the head coach is not available) to address the issue

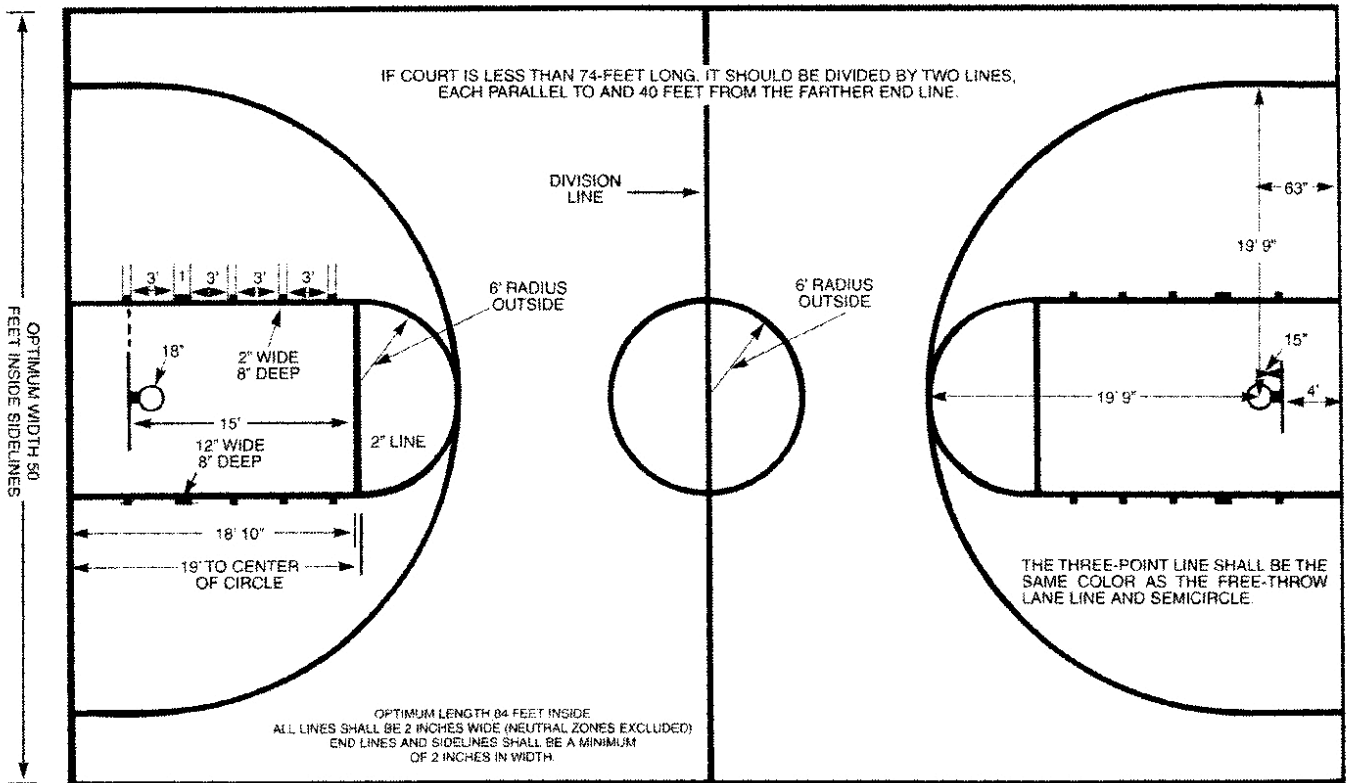
**“Running Clock” – Score Differential**

**NFHS Playing Rules permit the use of a running clock when a specific point differential is reached by STATE ADOPTION**

Beginning with the **2017-18 Tournament**, this state adoption will be adopted in Ohio that will authorize a running clock anytime the score reaches a 35 point differential in the second half. This will be addressed in detail in tournament regulations as well as coach communications prior to the Sectional/District tournaments.



## The Court & Related Information



Left End Shows Rectangular Backboard 72-Inches Wide

**MINIMUM OF 3 FEET**  
 Preferably 10 feet of unobstructed space outside. If impossible to provide 3 feet, a narrow broken 1-inch line should be marked inside the court parallel with and 3 feet inside the boundary.

Right End Shows Fan Backboard 54-Inches Wide

### Important Note Regarding "Buffer Zones" (From NHS Rule Book)

More and more schools are placing chairs near the court to use as the 'team bench' instead of the front row of the bleachers. Though it is certainly acceptable to do so, special note should be made to the Playing Court Dimensions (Rule 1, Section 1) and the Supplement to the Court Diagram. This rule and supplement require a **minimum** of 3 ft. of unobstructed space outside boundaries (sidelines and end lines) between those lines and the seating. The **preferred** amount of space is 10 ft. This simply means that IF you utilize chairs for bench seating, you **MUST** insure adequate space (3 ft.) from those chairs to the sideline. The design of many older courts does not permit this and players' feet and/or chair legs are within a foot or so of the sideline, which is not permissible.

## Out of Season Coaching

### **Sport Regulation 7.5 – Coaching Out of Season**

School coaches are permitted to coach non-school (AAU, AYBT, GYB, etc.) outside the season with players from your school teams on it. Before you start thinking you can coach and have voluntary practice outside the season (such as in September or October) read further:

First, there are 3 regulations that must be followed:

1. The No-Contact Period must be followed. It still exists and that STILL means that during those 2 periods of time you will NOT be permitted to coach.
  - a. See Sport Regulation 11 (Mandatory No Contact Periods)
2. The regulations that limit any non-school team to only 2 players that played for the same school team still exists. That has not changed and there is no plan TO change it. Whether a school coach or a non-school coach is coaching a non-school team, the “50% rule” applies.
3. There can be no rotating players from your school teams from one non-school game to another. In other words, your permission to coach a team that consists of 2 players from your school does NOT give you the permission to use 2 different players in each and every game you play in. This is true whether you are coaching the non-school team or not, rotating players to ‘get around’ the 2-player limit is not permitted. You simply cannot have 3 or more on a non-school roster and only play 2 in each game.

## Regulation Reminders

### **Weight Lifting Permitted During No-Contact Periods:**

Be clear on this – WEIGHT LIFTING is permitted during No-Contact Periods. Conditioning, open gym, individual instruction is NOT. Weight lifting takes place in the *weight room*. Weight lifting **taking place in a weight room** is now permitted during No-Contact Periods. Many schools were able to utilize ‘strength coaches’ while schools that did not have that luxury could not. This puts everyone on a more even playing surface.

### **Suspended Players as a Result of Ejections may now Sit on the Bench and Travel with the Team**

This regulation was revised to add language that now includes penalties for student-athletes ejected from a scrimmage. Ejection from a PRE-season scrimmage or a Preview will now result in suspension from the FIRST REGULAR SEASON CONTEST in addition to all remaining contests the day of the ejection. Ejection from a scrimmage held *during the season* will now result in suspension from the next regular season contest (1) or OHSAA Tournament contest. This also includes a **major** change that now WILL permit a player to be in the locker room area and the ‘bench area’ during the time of suspension; language was also added to carefully articulate that players are **not permitted to participate in pre-game warm-ups of any fashion during the time of suspension**. This does NOT change any of the consequences of an ejection for a coach.

### **Sports Regulation 7.3.1, Non-School (Non-Interscholastic) Programs or Teams**

Language was added to this General Sports Regulation to identify that a student who played for a different school the previous year, then transfers, will now be counted in the 50% limitation of team members permitted on the same non-school team. This came about as a result of significant number of transfers in basketball. Previous language had defined player limitations for the 50% limitation to be *those that played for the school team the previous season*. However, with the transfer of starters, all-district players, or even all-state players to a school, those players *used to be able* to play on that same school team and NOT be counted as part of the 50% until they played in their first game or scrimmage for their “new” school. NOW.....as soon as that student-athlete transfers, he/she WILL be counted in the 50% limitation of players from the same school team IF he/she participated in basketball at their previous school. It closed a significant loophole that did not surface until the ‘transfer bylaw’ was modified.

### **No Contact Period**

This is now during the month of August each year in addition to the 28 days following the last contest.

## Helping with Military Appreciation Night

As you may know from last year, we designated a Friday night in January (January 15, 2021 for this year) that ALL Schools across the state ban together for one consistent theme night – Military Appreciation Night. Your school will hear more about this through various communications; however, we are asking YOUR HELP as the head coach to encourage participation in this night. Last year was an incredible success. YOUR leadership will go a long way into making this a successful night that last year was recognized **nationally**. THANK you for your encouragement to your student leaders.

## All-Star Games for Players

This ‘change’ (actually just better defined) to reflect what other non-interscholastic regulations already permit. “All-Star” game is nothing more than a “Non-Interscholastic” event – no different than an AAU game/tournament – if it is not a regular season/tournament OHSAA game then it is a NON-INTERSCHOLASTIC game. Therefore, ANY grade level is permitted to play in these so-called “All-Star” games. But, as with all non-interscholastic events, if it is not taking place in June or July, there is a limit of 2 per team that played for the same school teams the previous season. A school coach could coach up to two of their players on an all-star team. Seniors would not count in that limitation. There is no such limitation by the NCAA or the OHSAA of permitting a player to only play in ‘2’ of these. They can play in as many as they wish. *\*\*Coaches may coach their student-athletes in these games, even if they occur during the 28-day no-contact period.*



## OHSAA Sports' Regulations

Regulations governing the sport of basketball are divided into two basic categories: **GENERAL Sports' Regulations** and **BASKETBALL Regulations (sports specific)**. These are reviewed annually and approved by the OHSAA's Board of Directors.

### General Sports' Regulations

These “General” regulations address regulations that affect *all sports* governed by the OHSAA. They include, but are not limited to, such things as Instructional Programs outside the window of the season, Physical Fitness (Conditioning) Programs, Open Gym Regulations, No Contact Periods, Player and Coach Ejection Policies. These are important and *most* areas of concern can be addressed simply by reading through these Regulations or contacting your Athletic Administrator. They are easily accessed via the web by navigating to the “Basketball” webpage (boys’ or girls’) and clicking on “General Sports’ Regulations” on the left hand side or directly going to <https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports/GeneralSportsRegulations.pdf>. I **strongly encourage** you to take the time to read these to familiarize yourself and your staff with the various rules approved by our Board of Directors that govern all sports. Though there are far too many to list in this manual, a *few* of the more common ones that affect basketball squads are:

### The “Individual Instruction” Regulation – General Sports Regulation 8.3.1

The addition of this regulation now permits school coaches the opportunity to provide individual skill instruction outside the season of play AND outside the June 1 – July 31 period that was the previous limitation. It is written with the intent of providing SKILL INSTRUCTION to individuals and is not intended – nor written – to permit any addition to the “team days” (10) permitted during June and July. Additionally, it is intended to provide an affordable alternative to ‘private’ instructors. This regulation clearly limits the number of individuals (regardless of age or gender) present while the instruction is taking place to FOUR. This regulation was first proposed by the Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association and the organization lobbied long and hard for its acceptance. ALL coaches, whether paid OR volunteer, must follow the guidelines established within this regulation. It is built upon the assumption that ANY individual that works with individuals in a school has a Pupil Activity Coaching Permit and falls under these guidelines. Special attention should be given to the Ohio Ethics Law as it relates to school individuals using school facilities outside the normal work environment. (See your school administration on the Ohio Ethics Law and how it relates to you as a coach).

## **Pre-Season Conditioning/Training & Weight Lifting Programs – General Sports Regulation 9**

This references training for strength, cardiovascular, flexibility/agility but does NOT include specific sport skills training or instruction. Specifically, these programs may:

- Be conducted anytime and are not a violation of the OHSAA bylaws and regulations so long as no coaching and instruction of sports techniques and skill is provided
- Be supervised by any individual approved by the Board of Education (or governing body) including coaches, providing the oversight by coaches does not occur during a designated no-contact period.
- NOT include the use of any equipment used in the playing of that sport
- Include the use of mats for safety purposes only

## **Open Gyms at Member Schools - General Sports Regulation 10**

- Open Gyms (or facilities) are clearly defined in Rule 10 of the OHSAA Sports' Regulations. An abbreviated version states:
- A school may open its athletic facilities for **unstructured free play** provided the activity is supervised by a school employee who may remove participants or spectators for disciplinary reasons.
- The school may designate the sport or sports that will be played during the free play period, but **may not limit participation** to a select group of students from within the school. Participation **may** be limited to students enrolled in that specific school.
- There can be no designation of who will play on which team or who will play whom. Only those students participating may be involved in the selection of teams.
- No individual invitations, written or oral, are permitted.
- A coach, paid or volunteer, violates the provision of these regulations when the coach requires, suggests or in any way implies that a student's chance to be selected for an interscholastic squad is contingent upon participation at an open gymnasium or facilities program.
- Mandatory attendance at open gyms is **not permitted**.
- Transporting athletes to a school or non-school open gym is a violation for any member of the coaching staff, paid or volunteer.
- Coaches **may participate** in the unstructured free play in the open gym/facilities.
- Schools MAY restrict individuals from observing the open gym activity.

## **Basketball Specific Regulation Explanations**

Aside from the "General Sports Regulations" covered above, each sport has SPECIFIC regulations affecting that specific sport. These 'specific' sport regulations are reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors for every sport the OHSAA sponsors. These address areas such as (but not limited to) the number of contests (game, scrimmage or preview) that are permitted for each sport, season start and end dates, out of state travel, etc. All coaches should familiarize themselves with these regulations. Coaches should familiarize their entire staff with the importance of these Regulations as they directly affect the eligibility of student-athletes. Upon approval, they are submitted for printing to the annual OHSAA Handbook (which every administrator has been provided). These are also available through the boys' and girls' basketball web pages at <https://www.ohsaa.org/sports/girlsbasketball> or <https://www.ohsaa.org/sports/boysbasketball>. Basketball specific AND the General Sports' Regulations are found on the left side of the page. A few of the Sports' Regulation **highlights** are listed but you are encouraged to read the entire regulations at the above listed website.

### **Game/Quarter Limitations**

Maximum Number of Games Permitted for Teams 9-12:	<b>22 games</b>
Maximum Number of Quarters Permitted for Players PER DAY:	<b>6 quarters/day</b>
Maximum Number of Quarters Permitted for players (Regular Season) grades 9-12:	<b>120 quarters</b>

### **Additional Game/Quarter Limitations**

#### **Sub-Varsity (Freshmen & JV):**

Any freshmen or JV level tournament **must count in the 22 total games permitted**

Scrimmages/Previews: Maximum of **5** scrimmages and **1** preview

Length of Quarters: 8 minutes for Varsity. Freshmen and Junior Varsity (max. of 7 minutes)

Length of Overtime: 4 minutes for 8-minute quarters; 3 minutes for 6 or 7-minute quarters

### Junior High School/Middle School (7-8) Game & Quarter Limitations

Maximum number of games permitted: **16**

**Note:** Teams are permitted to play in **1** Post-Season tournament in addition to the 16 games **not to exceed 4 games**.

**Post-Season Tournaments** are defined as any tournament in which the last game is the last game of the season for that school OR any league/conference sponsored tournament. Any "Christmas Tournaments" or "Holiday Tournaments" or other in-season tournament must count in the not included in this permission.

Maximum number of Quarters permitted for Players PER DAY: **6 quarters/day**

Maximum number of Quarters permitted per player per season: **75 quarters/season\*\***

**\*This does not include the number permitted in a post-season/conference tournament**

**# No player may participate in more than 1 post-season/conference tournament**

Scrimmages/Previews (7-8): Maximum of **2** scrimmages plus **1** preview

Length of Quarters: **6 minutes**

Length of Overtime: **3 minutes**

### Quarters Permitted & Penalty for Violation

Any player is not permitted to participate in MORE than **FIVE** quarters during any one day. Any part of a quarter is considered a full quarter. Any overtime is considered an extension of the fourth quarter. Players are permitted a total of **110 quarters** (high school) or **70 quarters** (Junior High) for the season plus any played in post-season tournament play.

**Penalty for Violating Quarters/Day:**

**If detected DURING a contest:** team shall be assessed a technical foul by the official and the player shall be disqualified from the game. All quarters shall be counted toward his/her maximum allowed for the season.

**If detected AFTER a contest:** All quarters shall be counted toward his/her maximum allowed for the season. There is no further penalty or suspension.

### Non-Interscholastic Competition

A member of an interscholastic basketball squad sponsored by the Board of Education **cannot participate in a non-interscholastic Basketball program** (such as 'club, AAU, or 'travel'), which includes tryouts, practice and contests as an individual OR a member of a team in the sport of Basketball anytime during the school team's season. A student-athlete becomes a member of the school team when he/she participates in a scrimmage, preview OR regular season or tournament game as a substitute OR as a starter.

A member of an interscholastic basketball team sponsored by the Board of Education **MAY** participate in non-interscholastic basketball (such as 'club', AAU, or 'travel') **PRIOR TO** and **AFTER** the school season under the following conditions:

- The number of interscholastic basketball players from the same school on a non-interscholastic team is limited to **TWO on the roster** of that non-interscholastic team. This number includes all players that played on the school team in the previous season from grades 9-11\*.  
**Participation in organized '3 on 3 tournaments' (such as but not limited to "Gus Macker Tournaments) is NOT a violation of this 2 player restriction.**
- A player may continue to play with a non-interscholastic squad in a national qualifying tournament only in excess of the two player limit until the squad is eliminated but no later than Labor Day.
- A player may play in non-interscholastic basketball **ONLY WHEN** the student's team has completed its season.

\*Graduating seniors are exempt from this particular player limitation.

Also, keep in mind, Sport Regulation 8.2.1 that permits individual instruction does not conflict with the non-interscholastic regulations. **It does not change the number permitted on a non-school team out-of-season.** That number for basketball remains as "2".

### Videotaping Regulations

The improvement of various electronic devices, especially cell phones, has drawn much attention to the rules regarding recording basketball contests. Complete regulations are available in the OHSAA Handbook or through the General Sports Regulations on the web at <https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports/GeneralSportsRegulations.pdf> under Section "A" of the Media Regulations. A few highlights of this include but are not limited to:

- It is **not permissible for a school or school representative to videotape or photograph regular season contests, scrimmages, previews, OR tournament contests of other schools** without the written consent of the schools participating in the contest.
- The NFHS Playing Rule Regulations have addressed the use of Electronic Devices during contests themselves for use by the school team. Please pay special attention to this rule that actually DOES permit the use of electronic devices on a limited and defined basis for coaching purposes during a contest (NFHS Rule 1-19 and 10-2-3).

## Scrimmage Regulations

In addition to the scrimmage limitations for teams mentioned throughout this guide, the following are important:

1. Scrimmages may be used ANYTIME throughout the season, including tournament
2. Any practice with another school is considered a scrimmage by definition
3. Any scrimmage between two schools must be considered a scrimmage for BOTH schools. In other words, if Team A counts it as one of their 5 permitted scrimmages, it must be counted as one of the 5 permitted scrimmages for Team B as well. It cannot be counted as a 'scrimmage' for one school and a 'game' for another school.
4. Each player is prohibited from participating in more than 5 scrimmages (4 if playing in a Foundation Game). This prohibits a JV player from playing in 4 "JV Scrimmages" and 1-5 Varsity Scrimmages.
5. All scrimmages are limited to 3 hours of scrimmage time.
6. Admission may NOT be charged for any scrimmage, regardless of who is conducting the scrimmage.
7. Scrimmages vs multiple teams are permitted. If they are on the same day, they count as one scrimmage, but there is a limit of 3 total hours of scrimmage participation.

## The Summer "10 Day Rule"

Nearly all coaches realize today a regulation established in the early 1990's – each coaching staff is permitted 10 days of team instruction (identified as more than 4 players together) between June 1 and July 31. However, many do not actually realize an exception that exists in this regulation. This exception – Exception 1 of General Sports Regulation 7.5.1 states:

*A paid or unpaid school (interscholastic) coach employed by a Board of Education or other governing board **may coach students from his/her school teams without limitation from June 1 through July 31 so long as the 50% limitation is observed.***

This means that (in basketball) provided there are 2 or less individuals on a 'summer basketball team' that played for the same school teams the previous season – NONE of those days would count against the 10 permitted to a coaching staff. MANY are not aware of this and merely believe there are 10 days provided regardless of how many from a school are on the same team.

## Interrupted Game/Scheduled Game Not Started

Any game interrupted for any reason, shall be resumed from the point of interruption. Any scheduled regular season game which is not started due to unforeseen circumstances *including but not limited to* failure of a team to arrive is considered a "NO CONTEST".

Games not played are not included in won-lost statistics.

## Freshmen Basketball Squads

The number of contests permitted for Freshmen teams is:

- **22** total contests; any tournament game played by a freshman team must be counted in the total of 22 (mentioned above)
- **5** scrimmages and 1 preview
- **120** total quarters of participation during the regular season. Should a freshman be 'moved up' to the Varsity for tournament time, those quarters do not count toward their 120 permitted.

Freshmen may 'move up' to a JV or Varsity team and back down again at any time. The individual must simply stay within the 110 total quarters permitted to him/her. Please check the penalty for exceeding quarter limitations.

Freshmen teams may NOT combine with 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade players nor may they scrimmage or have contests vs. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams.

A minimum of one OHSAA Class 1, 2, or 3 official is required and it is recommended that all other officials be Class 1, 2, or 3 officials.

A freshmen team's "No-Contact Period" begins at the conclusion of the Freshmen season and lasts for 28 days. If a player 'moves up' to JV or Varsity after the freshmen season, the no-contact period for that individual(s) would begin upon the conclusion of his/her season. **Any Games in a Freshman Tournament – regardless of when that tournament is held – MUST be counted in the teams' 22 game total!**

## Middle School/Junior High Basketball Squads

The number of contests permitted for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams is:

- **16** total contests **plus** one **post-season/conference** tournament not to exceed 4 games.
- **2** scrimmages PLUS 1 Preview
- **75** total quarters of participation plus any in a **post-season or league/conference** tournament. (No player may participate in more than 1 post-season/conference tournament. So, if a 7<sup>th</sup> grader participates in any part of an 8<sup>th</sup> grade post-season or league/conference tournament, he/she would be ineligible to participate in a 7<sup>th</sup> grade post season or league/conference tournament for the school.

Scrimmages for Junior High teams are limited to TWO hours of competition time.

**Special Note About 7<sup>th</sup> graders on 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams and vice versa:**

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders are permitted to play together, just as 9-12 graders are permitted to play together. Therefore, it is permissible for a 7<sup>th</sup> grader to play on an 8<sup>th</sup> grade team and they may play on BOTH teams but are limited to 6 quarters per day and 64 on the

season. And...an 8<sup>th</sup> grader may play on a 7<sup>th</sup> grade team as OHSAA rules do not prohibit this. **BUT....** since most 7<sup>th</sup> grade games are contracted just as that; 7<sup>th</sup> grade games.... the opposing school contractually has agreed to play against 7<sup>th</sup> graders. Since our regulations do not prohibit 8<sup>th</sup> graders from 'playing down', due to contractual obligations, you should ALWAYS get the permission of the opposing school and redraw a contract.

### **Protests/Appeals**

Bylaw 8, Section 3(1) of the OHSAA Constitution and Bylaws reads in part, "*Protests arising from the decisions of interpretations of the rules by officials during the game will **not be considered**.* Their decisions and interpretations are final." This means that correctable errors must be corrected during the game and within the time established by playing rules.

**Ejections are NOT Appealable (Sports Regulation 14.1 & 14.2)**

### **Officials' Jurisdiction**

Officials' jurisdiction begins a minimum of 15 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the game. National Federation (NFHS) rule 2-2-2 and the OHSAA's Board of Directors "*recommends that officials in Varsity high school basketball games arrive on the floor when the first team appears on the floor for pre-game warm-up*"





## Rating & Voting for Officials

As many of you know, there has continually been an issue with inaccurate and inconsistent data being sent from AribiterSports to the system developed to rate officials. As a result, a decision was made by the OHSAA Executive Director that until the situation is 100 percent rectified, we are temporarily removing the rating of game officials with this current system. However, and this is **important**, we still need and value the input of head coaches to ensure officials selected for the OHSAA tournament have the important input of coaches. We are currently re-designing the rating form to continue to provide coaches the opportunity to provide their input. This new interface should be ready midway through the fall season. We will email all athletic department staff and coaches when this new interface is available.

It is important to understand this move is being made to better serve everyone, make the process error free **but still provide for the important data input from coaches.**

Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time of transition to serve our schools better.

**Athletic Administrators receive separate instructions for VOTING** for officials at the conclusion of the season. Additional individuals that VOTE for officials include:

1. Approved OHSAA Assignors
2. Local Officials' Associations
3. District Athletic Board Members
4. OHSAA Commissioners

### **Please Note:**

Officials' ratings/voting are used for the NEXT season. The officials you rate during the season THIS YEAR, will be assigned pools for NEXT YEAR'S tournament.

## Official Specific Information

Tournament selection and contracting is done through ArbiterSports. Officials will no longer be contracted through myOHSAA. Contracts for tournament contests are issued electronically through the *ArbiterSports* system. District Athletic Boards are given the responsibility of assignment of officials at the Sectional/District level; the OHSAA office is responsible for Regional and State assignments. Being an OHSAA tournament ELIGIBLE official is **not a guarantee** of an OHSAA Tournament assignment.

## State and Local Meetings

A section on State Rules Interpretation meetings exists previously in this manual. Additionally, a list of OHSAA Local Association Meetings is available on your myOHSAA account.





## Coaches' Code of Ethics



### From the NFHS Basketball Rules Book

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each student should be treated with the utmost respect and his or her welfare should be considered in decisions by the coach at all times. Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by the NFHS Board of Directors.

**The Coach** shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.

**The Coach** shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. IN all personal contact with students, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.

**The Coach** shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.

**The Coach** shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct the program in harmony with the total school program.

**The Coach** shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.

**The Coach** shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster clubs, and administrators.

**The Coach** shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.

**The Coach** should meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after the contest.

**The Coach** shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give students special consideration.

**The Coach** shall not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the league and/or state high school athletic association.



## Officials' Code of Ethics

(From [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and the OHSA Handbook for Officials)

Our member schools have entrusted officials to assist them in the education and development of their youth through athletics. This requires officials to be independent, impartial, and responsible to the people they serve. In recognition of these expectations there is an established **Code of Ethics** and **Code of Conduct** for all officials. The purpose of the code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all officials.

**An Official** must devote time, thought and study to the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to carry out these rules so that one may render effective and credible service in a fair and unbiased manner.

**An Official** must work with fellow officials and the state association in a spirit of harmony and cooperation despite differences of opinion that may arise during debate of points or rules at issue.

**An Official** must resist every temptation and outside pressure to use one's position as an official to benefit oneself. Under all circumstances, officials must avoid promoting the special interest of any person or group of persons other than the athletes we serve.

**An Official** must constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the avocation in all personal conduct and relations with the student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public, to be a worthy example to the athletes under one's jurisdiction.

**An Official** will be prepared both physically and mentally, dress accordingly to expectations and maintain a proper appearance that is befitting the importance of the game.

**An Official** shall avoid the use of **tobacco and related products** at the contest site.

**An Official** must remember and recognize that it is important to honor contracts regardless of possible inconvenience or financial loss.

Every member of the officiating profession carries a responsibility to act in a manner becoming a professional person. The conduct of any official influences the attitude of the public toward the profession in general as well as toward the official in particular.

Sports officials bear great responsibility for engendering public confidence in sports. They are critical to the health of athletic competitions. Officials ensure games are played fairly, by the rules, within the spirit of the rules and in a safe manner. Officiating takes a great deal of preparation, continuing education and commitment of time.

Respect  
THE  
GAME

## Ejection of Players or Coaches

This “change” in policy was addressed earlier that now has consequences for ejections from a scrimmage. Also, players who are ejected may now be on the bench (NOT IN UNIFORM OR WARM-UP) and may travel with the team to away contests.

### Player Ejections

Whenever a player is ejected, he/she is to remain on the bench under the jurisdiction of the coach. It is easier to understand this when we realize we do not want an ejected player ‘running loose’ in the locker room, school bus, or anywhere else in the school building unsupervised. Any player ejected is suspended from any and all contests the remainder of the day and from **all contests** until 2 (or 4 if ejected for fighting) contests at the level of the ejection are completed. In other words, a player ejected from a Varsity game is not eligible in any freshmen or JV contest until 2 VARSITY games are complete. Ejected players MAY now ride the bus to and from away contests during the period of suspension AND they may sit on the team bench or in the bench area but they may not **under any circumstances be in warm-ups, uniform OR participate in any part of the warm-up before the game or at halftime.**

**Even if the ejecting official is negligent in submitting the Official’s Report, all consequences of an ejection are to be followed!**

### Coach Ejections

Ejected coaches MUST leave the premises. Any coach ejected from a contest is ineligible to coach all contests the remainder of the day and until 2 (or 4 if ejected for fighting) contests at the level of the ejection are completed. Ejected coaches are permitted to attend a contest during the suspension **but is not permitted to sit on the bench or team area and may not give instructions to the players at any time during the contest, including quarter breaks, halftime and postgame.** A suspended coach may not travel with the team to an away contest. Any suspended coach must also:

1. Pay a \$100.00 fine to the OHSAA’s “Respect the Game” program, and,
2. Register and complete the “Teaching and Modeling Behavior” course through the NFHS at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com)

Upon any ejection, schools are required to enforce all consequences of an ejection – regardless of whether the official submits the required report. Officials receive fines/suspensions for failure to follow THEIR procedures.

### Coach and/or Player Ejections From Scrimmages

This regulation was revised to add language that now includes penalties for players or coaches ejected from a scrimmage. Ejection from a PRE-season scrimmage or a Preview will now result in suspension from the FIRST REGULAR SEASON CONTEST in addition to all remaining contests the day of the ejection. Ejection from a scrimmage held *during the season* will now result in suspension from the next regular season contest (1) or OHSAA Tournament contest.

### **Why Ejections Cannot Be Appealed or Overturned**

Though EVERY ejection has a valid story...appeals are not heard or filed. Ejections are like any other call made by an official that is permitted by NFHS Rule. No call made can be overturned; whether it is a traveling call, a basket interference call, a Technical Foul, OR two Technical Fouls, resulting in Ejection

### General Sport Regulation Change:

- **Any student or coach ejected from a contest for fighting will now be ineligible for 4 games** (rather than the previous penalty of 2 games). Fighting is defined by the NFHS as any attempt by a player or non-player to strike or engage an opponent in a combative manner unrelated to basketball. Such acts include, but are not limited to, attempts to strike an opponent(s) with the arm(s), hand(s), leg(s) or foot (feet).

## Ejection Protocol

Following a contest in which an ejection takes place, the official shall contact the Athletic Director or Principal of the violator's school to advise the administration of the ejection. Contact shall be made with the offender's principal/athletic director no later than the **first school day** following the ejection. An official failing to follow the ejection protocol and/or failing to file the Officials' Report may be penalized in accordance with Section VIII of the Officiating Handbook.

- **Officials shall file the Electronic Ejection Report with the OHSAA office whenever a coach or player is ejected.**
- Officials are to submit the electronic Officials' Report Form" located on the Officials' portal of their myOHSAA account. The report shall be filed with the OHSAA within 2 business days of the ejection.
- The report is automatically sent to the Athletic Administrator of the coach's school; however, the official must still make the required phone contact with the school administrator.
- In the event of an ejection of a coach, the coach is ejected/suspended for ALL GAMES for the remainder of the day of the ejection PLUS **all contests until** two games at the level of the ejection are completed. The coach must leave the premises and an approved assistant coach or administrator must assume coaching duties. In the event there is no assistant coach OR administrator present, the contest shall be considered a forfeit at that point.
- Ejected coaches are not permitted to travel with the team or being in the locker room/bench area any time during a contest while suspended. They may continue to practice with the team.
- Ejected coaches must also pay a \$100.00 fine and complete the National Federation of State High School Association's (NFHS) "Teaching and Modeling Behavior" course within 30 days of the ejection. This information is provided electronically to the school Athletic Director and requires a "school response" from the Athletic Director.
- In the event of an ejection of a PLAYER, the player is ejected/suspended for ALL GAMES for the remainder of the day of the ejection PLUS **all contests until** two games at the level of the ejection are completed. The player must remain on the bench under supervision for the remainder of the contest.
- During the 2 suspended contests, the suspended player MAY travel with the team, MAY sit on the bench but absolutely cannot be in uniform OR on the ice for ANY participation in warm-up or pre-game events. They may continue to practice with the team.
- **In the event an official does NOT contact the school, the ejection still stands and all consequences of a coach/player ejection must be adhered to by the school and coach. Failure to do so will result in further suspension, forfeiture of contests and fines.**
- **ALL EJECTIONS ARE FINAL AND NOT PERMITTED TO BE APPEALED** per the OHSAA's Board of Directors.

### General Sport Regulation Change:

- **Any student or coach ejected from a contest for fighting will now be ineligible for 4 games** (rather than the previous penalty of 2 games). Fighting is defined by the NFHS as any attempt by a player or non-player to strike or engage an opponent in a combative manner unrelated to basketball. Such acts include, but are not limited to, attempts to strike an opponent(s) with the arm(s), hand(s), leg(s) or foot (feet).

# Sportsmanship

## Sportsmanship is **EVERYONE'S** Responsibility!



### NFHS Sportsmanship Mission Statement

Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all activity disciplines. Individuals, regardless of their role in activities, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship.

### The OHSBCA & Sportsmanship



The Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association stands tall in its commitment to good sportsmanship. The school-based experience is one that affords tremendous opportunities to student-athletes that they will remember for a lifetime. Those experiences are dependent on the role model the head coach provides. The OHSBCA encourages all coaches to exhibit behavior that serves as a role model for the student-athletes we serve. In conjunction with the OHSA's Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity (SEI) Committee, the OHSBCA annually selects a recipient of the SEI Award that is recognized at the boys' and girls' state tournament.



### The Official's Role in Sportsmanship

The National Association of Sports Officials (NASO) conducted a survey of 550 sports officials and asked "what is the number-one problem in our games today?" Not too surprising, the number one response was "Poor Sportsmanship". As a result, the NASO brought together some of the best and brightest in youth, high school, collegiate and pro sports to examine the issue and explore the official's role in promoting positive onfield/oncourt behavior. The results were published in the book at the right and identified 3 critical ideas:

1. What exactly is at Stake
2. What is Expected of Officials, and,
3. What steps need to be taken



As a result, the following are important results of this study and publication:

1. 65% of respondents indicated their respective associations do not do *enough* to help improve sportsmanship.
2. 89% of officials responding consider themselves PARTNERS with players, coaches and administrators in improving sportsmanship.
3. 54% of officials responding indicated they felt the DO have the training, authority and knowledge to make an impact.

### Sportsmanship for Parents

The NFHS has made a NO COST online course available to PARENTS...to help them understand their role in their son/daughter's athletic career. The course is titled "The Role of the Parent in Sports" and is easily accessible through the "Learning Center" at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com). And, again...it is FREE and a good tool for coaches to use in dealing with parents.

As we prepare for the upcoming seasons, the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSA) wishes to emphasize to each of you the importance of your leadership role in the promotion of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. The professional manner in which officials and coaches conduct themselves prior to, during and following a contest unquestionably impacts the behavior of others who may be involved.

The OHSA has joined the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) in its quest to improve sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. We are involved in an ongoing campaign in every sport to do just that. Printed below is the mission statement of the NFHS concerning sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity. Please take the time to read and digest this statement and then carefully consider your impact upon students, officials, coaches, and fans. Thank you and have a great season!

The Ohio High School Athletic Association challenges all of us in the basketball community to take positive steps toward the goal of attaining the high ideal of good sportsmanship. It is the responsibility of each of us to serve as a positive role model and set high expectations for others.

### **ADMINISTRATORS**

Athletic departments are comprehensive, pre-eminent teaching departments with a subject matter all their own: self-confidence, leadership, teamwork, discipline, perseverance, respect for others, strategic thinking, dedication, the importance of rules, and sportsmanship. These are true life lessons and participation in athletics provides another forum for learning. Coaches and Officials are responsible for promoting sportsmanship and positive behavior on the field. Administrators, we need your continued assistance in promoting sportsmanship and controlling fan behavior in the stands! Let the parents and fans know what you expect!

### **COACHES**

Your athletes will demonstrate the attitudes and behaviors they have learned from you, either through direct instruction or through observation of your actions. ***Never underestimate the influence you have on your players!*** You must:

- Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Set a good example for players and spectators to follow.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will serve to create a positive impression of you and your team.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- Develop a program that rewards participants and spectators for displaying proper sportsmanship and enforces penalties on those who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.

It is difficult to develop a great shooter, a great rebounder or a great free-throw shooter. That is true. However, your greatest challenge is to develop mature young adults who will become great citizens and role models in your community.

### **OFFICIALS**

Your job is not an easy one, but the official must be aware that they are an important component in the educational development of students. To carry out this responsibility, you must:

- Know the rules and mechanics of our sport and the philosophy behind them.
- Get fit and stay fit. An official with all of the rules and mechanics knowledge and people skills in the world does no good if he or she cannot physically keep up with play.
- Maintain professional and ethical relationships with athletic administrators, especially in the area of fulfilling game contracts.
- Work cooperatively with fellow officials during games and within the referees' association to improve members' performances.
- Maintain at all times and when interacting with all participants, an attitude of civility and professionalism.
- Practice effective preventive officiating as much as possible before, during, and after a match. The quiet word, proper signals, timely verbal instructions, a simple thank-you to a player for avoiding an unsporting act, and well-thought-out pre-game conferences with the teams and other game officials will result in an improvement of sportsmanship by eliminating the chance for things to go wrong.

## STUDENT-ATHLETES

You serve as a role model for your younger siblings, young fans in the stands, your teammates, and your classmates. Set high expectations for everyone and help them follow-through! You must:

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and the community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with others. This will assist everyone in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
- Treat opponents as you would like to be treated.....with respect.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will serve to create a positive impression of you and your team.

## CONCLUSION

Good sportsmanship is everyone's responsibility. It is the essence of interscholastic athletics. Remember...some may question an official's call or a coach's substitution, but no one can question the value of good sportsmanship.

### OHSAA Resources

On our website ([www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) – click on “Sportsmanship” on the right side of the screen) you will find **Fair Play Codes** for athletes, coaches, and fans, as well as additional information regarding **parents’ role in interscholastic athletics**. The sportsmanship page also includes information about the Harold A. Meyer Sportsmanship Award, the newly adopted “Respect the Game Challenge” and the Archie Griffin Sportsmanship Award. Please feel free to contact us with any additional questions.

### Comments to Media – Think First!

#### Please read this carefully!

Blame it on professional sports, blame it on the media. It doesn't matter WHO is to blame – **think first before comments are given to media.** This is covered in the Rules Interpretation Meeting as well. You may not agree with the officiating; you may use the overused “I fear for my kids’ safety” statement. Regardless.... comments to the media (including Social Media) regarding officiating or unsporting comments about an opponent are **strictly prohibited**. Think twice before speaking. Fines are administered for violations of this OHSAA Board of Directors adopted regulation and are not appealable.



#### Cautions on Social Media

*Regardless of your age, every coach today knows the power of social media, especially in the sports' world. Players, coaches & officials need to exercise extreme caution with remarks on social media sites. I urge coaches to have this repeated discussion with players throughout the season.*

### “Special Event” Contests

“Coaches vs Cancer”, the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund, and other events through the National Basketball Coaches Association have become part of many school’s basketball contests. These “Game for a Cause” often desire to have uniforms not permitted within the NFHS uniform regulations. Obviously, the OHSAA supports these events and schools/coaches efforts to become involved in the “OHSAA Foundation Service Week” was instituted with this concept in mind, giving schools through the sport of basketball the opportunity to generate support and funds for **local** charities. We continue to support the OHSAA’s Foundation in that endeavor and continue to encourage student-athlete involvement for support that stays within the local communities, while applauding coaches’ efforts to orchestrate these events.

In the event schools choose also to be part of an event in which exceptions are requested to NFHS Basketball Uniform Regulations, the request may be made to wear an alternate uniform color (pink for example), headbands, wristbands, etc. (no request is needed for shoe lace or shoe colors). However, number requirements (size, location) must still meet NFHS Uniform Requirements. If you wish to do this, after working out details with the opposing school, please utilize the Waiver Request Form at the end of this Coaches’ Guide and email to Emily Gates, Director of Sport Management, at [egates@ohsaa.org](mailto:egates@ohsaa.org). This is also located online on the “Basketball” web pages. Upon approval, please then make contact with game officials

**A PINK (or other alternate color) BASKETBALL IS NOT PERMITTED for use during any basketball contest.**



# Concussion Management

## Implementation of State Law and NFHS Playing Rules Related to Concussion and Concussed Athletes and Return to Play Protocol

It is important for all individuals involved in interscholastic athletics to recognize the potential for catastrophic injury and even death from concussions. Thus, it is extremely important that each coach, administrator, contest official and medical support personnel review their responsibilities in protecting students. Further both students and parents have responsibilities in this area as well.

**Note:** It has always been the ultimate responsibility of the coaching staff, in all sports, to ensure that students are only put into practice or contests if they are physically capable of performing. However, all individuals involved in the conduct of interscholastic competition have responsibilities in this endeavor.

In January 2011, the OHSAA Board of Directors adopted a sports regulation which incorporated the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) playing rules related to concussion recognition and management. On April 26, 2013, legislation adopted by Ohio's General Assembly on concussion and head injuries in youth sports became effective. On February 14, 2013, the OHSAA Board of Directors mandated that these regulations become effective on April 26, 2013, for the remainder of the spring sports season and thereafter. This OHSAA regulation, as amended to incorporate this recent legislation, now reads:

Any student, while practicing for or competing in an interscholastic contest, who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the practice or contest by either of the following:

- 1) The individual who is serving as the student's coach during that practice or competition.
- 2) An individual who is serving as a contest official or referee during that practice or competition.

### RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOL

If a student is removed from practice or competition due to a suspected concussion or head injury, the coach or referee who removes the student shall not permit the student, **ON THE SAME DAY THE STUDENT IS REMOVED**, to return to that practice or competition or to participate in any other practice or competition for which the coach or contest official is responsible. Thereafter, which means no earlier than the next day, the coach or contest officials shall not permit the student to return to practice or competition until both of the following conditions are satisfied:

- 1) The student's condition is assessed by either of the following:
  - a. A physician, who is a person authorized under Chapter 4731 of the Ohio Revised Code (OCR) to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine or surgery (M.D. or D.O.)
  - b. Any other licensed health care provider that the school district board of education or other governing authority of a chartered or non-chartered nonpublic school, authorizes to assess the student who has been removed from practice or competition.
- 2) The student receives **written authorization** that it is safe for the student to return to practice or competition from a physician or other licensed health care provider authorized to grant the clearance. Click here <http://ohsaa.org/medicine/AuthorizationToReenter.pdf> to retrieve the OHSAA's Medical Authorization to Return To Play (RTP) form.

A school district board of education or governing authority of a chartered or non-chartered nonpublic school may authorize a licensed health care provider who is NOT a PHYSICIAN to make an assessment and grant authorization for a student to return to participation ONLY if the provider is acting in accordance with one of the following as applicable to the provider's authority to practice in Ohio:

- 1) In consultation with a physician;
- 2) Pursuant to the referral of a physician;
- 3) In collaboration with a physician, or
- 4) Under the supervision of a physician.

**Note:** A physician or other licensed health care provider who makes an assessment or grants clearance for a student to return to participation may be a volunteer.

## **COACHES REQUIREMENTS**

All coaches, paid and volunteer, must possess a current Department of Education-issued Pupil Activity Program/Coaching Permit. When renewing this permit, the coach will be required to complete an online concussion education course as stipulated in the section entitled **Approved Online Concussion Education Course**. This course is valid for three years and expires at the time the Pupil Activity Program/Coaching Permit expires.

## **CONTEST OFFICIALS REQUIREMENTS**

**New legislation signed into law by the Governor provides that no school “shall permit” an individual to referee interscholastic athletic contests unless the individual holds a Pupil Activity Program/Coaching Permit or has successfully completed within the last three years a training program in concussion recognition.** Therefore, all OHSAA licensed officials shall possess either a current Department of Education-issued Pupil Activity Program/Coaching Permit or **show evidence of completing an approved online concussion education course** as stipulated in the section entitled **Approved Online Concussion Education Courses**. This course is valid for three years from the date of completion.

## **STUDENT AND PARENT REQUIREMENTS**

All students and their parents or legal guardians shall review and sign the “Concussion Information Sheet” which has been developed by the Ohio Department of Health and which shall be distributed by OHSAA member schools to all students and their parents prior to each sports season. Students and parents shall review and sign this form each year and should keep a copy of the form. In addition, parents and students are encouraged to complete an approved concussion education course. The Concussion Information Sheet can be found here: <https://www.odh.ohio.gov/-/media/ODH/ASSETS/Files/health/child-injury/Youth-Concussion/Attachment-3-ODH-Concussion-Information-SheetFor-Interscholastic-Athletics.pdf?la=en>.

## **NFHS SUGGESTED MEDICAL CLEARANCE RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOL**

1. No exertional activity until asymptomatic.
2. When the athlete appears clear, begin low-impact activity such as walking, stationary bike, etc.
3. Initiate aerobic activity fundamental to specific sport such as running or skating, and may also begin progressive strength training activities.
4. Begin non-contact skill drills specific to sport such as dribbling, fielding, batting, etc.
5. Full contact in practice setting.
6. Game play/competition.
  - Athlete must remain asymptomatic to progress to the next level. (It is often suggested that an athlete not be allowed to progress more than one level per day.)
  - If symptoms recur, athlete must return to previous level and should be reevaluated by an appropriate health care professional.
  - Medical check should occur before contact. (Final written clearance from the medical professional shall be obtained before the athlete engages in any unrestricted or full contact activity.)

## **NFHS and OHSAA CONCUSSION RESOURCES**

Various NFHS and OHSAA Concussion Resources can be found here: <https://ohsaa.org/concussionresources>.

## Return to Play Form for Schools

Ohio High School Athletic Association  
4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214  
PH:614-267-2502; FAX:614-267-1677  
[www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)

### MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION TO RETURN TO PLAY WHEN A STUDENT HAS BEEN REMOVED DUE TO A SUSPECTED CONCUSSION

Ohio State Law as well as NFHS rules and OHSAA policy require a student who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors associated with concussion to be removed from a practice or contest and **not permitted to reenter practice or competition on the same day as the removal.** Thereafter, **written medical authorization from a physician (M.D. or D.O.)** or another qualified licensed medical provider, who works in consultation with, collaboration with or under the supervision of an M.D. or D.O. or who is working pursuant to the referral by an M.D. or D.O., AND is authorized by the Board of Education or other governing board, **is required to grant clearance for the student to return to participation.** This form shall serve as the authorization that the physician or licensed medical professional has examined the student, and has cleared the student to return to participation. The physician or licensed medical professional must complete this form and submit to a school administrator prior to the student's resumption of participation in practice and/or a contest. **To reiterate, this student is not permitted to reenter practice or competition on the same day as the removal.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, M.D., D.O. or \_\_\_\_\_ (other qualified licensed medical provider) have examined the following  
(Print name of MD, DO or Other)  
student, \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ High School/7-8<sup>th</sup> grade school  
(Name of Student),  
who was removed from a \_\_\_\_\_ (sport) contest at the \_\_\_\_\_ level (V, JV, 9<sup>th</sup>, 7-8<sup>th</sup>) due to exhibition of signs/symptoms/behaviors consistent with a  
concussion. I have examined this student, and determined that the student is cleared to resume participation upon the completion of the directions provided below.

#### PLEASE INDICATE YOUR DIRECTIONS BELOW

- ☐ Return to play protocol for concussion as outlined in Zurich Consensus Statement 2012 or as attached.  
☐ Return to play protocol for concussion required under direction of Licensed Athletic Trainer or other qualified Licensed medical provider as approved in above directive  
☐ Return to play protocol for concussion not required, and the student may return to participation in practice and competition on this date \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Other: (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

#### VALID ONLY WITH ALL INFORMATION COMPLETED

Signature of Medical Professional \_\_\_\_\_  
(MD, DO or other qualified Licensed Medical Provider as Approved in the Above Directive)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information: \_\_\_\_\_

(Print or Stamp) Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to play is also subject to clarification of this document, as deemed necessary, by Licensed Athletic Trainer, other qualified Licensed medical providers authorized by Board of Education or other governing body, or school district administration. Return to play decisions are also subject to recognized principles of conditioning, skill development, mental preparedness, etc.

Parent(s)/Guardian and student are reminded that the initial signature document of awareness of signs and symptoms of concussion and need/requirement to report are still in effect. Parent(s)/Guardian and student have a responsibility to report any further signs or symptoms of a concussion or head injury to coaches, administrators and the student- athlete's doctor. Information regarding signs and symptoms are available from school district personnel or OHSAA website.

#### PRESENT THIS FORM TO THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

**Note: The school must retain this form indefinitely as a part of the student's permanent record. Medical Providers should retain a copy for their own records.**

## **QUICK LINKS FROM THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

### **Ohio Department of Health Concussion Information Sheet**

<http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/~media/HealthyOhio/ASSETS/Files/injury%20prevention/concussion/Interscholastic%20Concussion%20Form%20-%20ODH%20Revised%202.ashx>

### **Online Concussion Management Training**

<http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/concussion.aspx#Training>

### **Ohio's Return to Play Law: Frequently Asked Questions**

<http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/~media/HealthyOhio/ASSETS/Files/injury%20prevention/concussion/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20Updated%20513.ashx>

### **Ohio's Return to Play Law: What Coaches and Referees Need to Know**

<http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/~media/HealthyOhio/ASSETS/Files/injury%20prevention/concussion/Return%20to%20Play%20-%20What%20Coaches%20Need%20to%20Know%20-%20School%20Sports%20-%20Final.ashx>

### **Ohio's Return to Play Law: What Parent/Guardians Need to Know**

<http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/~media/HealthyOhio/ASSETS/Files/injury%20prevention/concussion/Return%20to%20Play%20-%20What%20Parents-Guardians%20Need%20to%20Know%20-%20School%20Sports%20-%20Final.ashxx>

## **ADDITIONAL CONCUSSION RESOURCES**

### **Ohio Department of Health, Violence and Injury Prevention Program - Sports/Recreation Traumatic Brain Injuries**

<http://www.healthyohioprogram.org/vipp/child/tbi.aspx>

### **CDC Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports**

Nationwide Children's Hospital – Concussion Information Toolkit <http://www.nationwidechildrens.org/concussion-toolkit>

### **CDC Materials on Returning to School for Parents, School Nurses and Educators**

<https://www.cdc.gov/headsup/schools/index.html>

### **Ohio Legislative Service Commissioner HB 143 Bill Analysis**

<http://www.lsc.state.oh.us/analyses129/12-hb143-129.pdf>

### **Brain Injury Association of Ohio**

[www.biaoh.org](http://www.biaoh.org)

**Pre-Game Public Address Announcement**  
**Welcome and Opening Remarks**



Ladies & Gentlemen,

The Board of Directors, Commissioner and Staff of Ohio High School Athletic Association welcome you to this OHSAA sanctioned contest. To honor America, please stand and join in the singing/playing of our National Anthem.

*Playing of the **NATIONAL ANTHEM***

As the host of today/tonight's game, the Athletic Department at \_\_\_\_\_ High School welcomes you to today's/tonight's basketball game between \_\_\_\_\_ High School and \_\_\_\_\_ High School and thanks you for your support of high school student-athletes.

The officials assigned to this game have met the requirements set by the Ohio High School Athletic Association and have been approved by both schools to provide their important role in today's/tonight's game.

The officials for this game are:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, and  
\_\_\_\_\_

The athletes, coaches and officials are guests of \_\_\_\_\_ High School and fans are asked to respect the effort each of them has put forth preparing for today's/tonight's contest. We ask all attending to show courtesy and respect for fellow fans, officials, coaches, those administrating the contest and of course – your team and your opponent. And remember to ***"Respect the Game"***.

Now lets' meet the players in today's/tonight's game.

Visiting Coaches and Team - Starters last

Home Coaches and Team – Starters last



## OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214

614-267-2502

FAX 614-267-1677

[www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)

## SPECIAL PERMIT REQUEST-Waiver to Uniform

Please complete and return to Kathleen Coughlin at [kcoughlin@ohsaa.org](mailto:kcoughlin@ohsaa.org)

NFHS Basketball rules and OHSAA regulations permit schools to request a waiver to the Uniform Regulations in Rule 3-4 of the NFHS Basketball Rules Book. The waiver is granted 1 time per season for schools participating in a contest conducted for a specific cause, such as but not limited to "Coaches vs Cancer, Kay Yow Foundation" events. Upon approval, the waiver will permit schools to wear an alternate colored jersey that may include the sponsoring event's logo but will still require all teams to meet the 'number requirements' outlined in Rule 3-4-3 (d). This will permit the one time use of an alternate colored wrist-band/headband but all players must still wear identical colors.

**Name of School Making Request:**

**Type of Event/Sponsoring Organization:**

**Nature of Request (sponsoring agency's logo on jersey, alternate color wristband/headband, etc.):**

**Date of Contest:**

**Opponent:**

**Head Coach's Name:**

**Athletic Director's Name:**

Email request to [kcoughlin@ohsaa.org](mailto:kcoughlin@ohsaa.org)

**Approved By:** \_\_\_\_\_

*OHSAA Administrator/Designee Signature*