

# 2019-20



## **Basketball Coaches Manual**



It's that time of year again and this Coaches Manual is probably more important than ever. So many new head coaches have taken over programs and with less and less items being mailed to coaches, this online version is key to understanding the many administrative rules as well as the playing rule *changes* and points of emphasis for the new year. The OHSAA continues to do its part doing to "Go Green" by eliminating the hard copy printing and mailing of this extensive guide and making it available online, but we still encourage you to print and provide it to your assistant coaches. OR, at least provide the link to this manual for easy access. It is important that we work together to insure 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 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 2019-20 season starts on October 25 (Girls) and November 1 (Boys) and concludes with the state basketball tournament at St. John Arena on March 12-14 (girls) and March 19-21 (boys) at the Schottenstein Center.

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 my weekly posting of "Rebounders Report" on our website ([www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)). 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.

Yours in High School Sports,

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 16 – 9:00am  
**First Day of Coaching:** Friday, October 25, 2019  
**Regular Season Contests May Begin:** November 22, 2019  
**Sectional/District Tournament Draw:** Sunday, Feb. 2, 2020  
**Sectional Tournament:** February 10 – 22, 2020  
**District Tournament:** February 24 – March 29, 2020  
**Regional Tournament:** March 2 – March 7, 2020  
**State Tournament:** March 12 – 14, 2020  
**No-Contact Period:** August 1 – 31, 2020

### Boys

**First day for Online Rules Meeting:** Wed, October 16 – 9:00am  
**First Day of Coaching:** Friday, November 1, 2019  
**Regular Season Contests May Begin:** November 27, 2019  
**Sectional/District Tournament Draw:** Sunday, Feb. 9, 2020  
**Sectional Tournament:** February 17 – March 29, 2020  
**District Tournament:** March 2 – March 7, 2020  
**Regional Tournament:** March 9 – 14, 2020  
**State Tournament:** March 19 – 21, 2020  
**No-Contact Period:** August 1 – 31, 2020

## 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 Basketball Sports' Regulations:** <https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports/Basketball-Boys/bbkgilts.pdf>

**OHSAA GENERAL Sports' Regulations:** <https://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports/GeneralSportsRegulations.pdf>

**Basketball Uniform Regulations:** <https://www.ohsaa.org/SchoolResources/uniform/basketball>

**NFHS (Rules, Court Diagrams, etc.):** <http://www.nfhs.org>

**Coaches' Education:** <http://www.ohsaa.org/EducationAcademy/Coach/default.htm>

**Ohio High School Basketball Coaches' Association:** <http://ohiobkcoaches.com/>

**The OHSAA Foundation:** <https://www.ohsaa.org/aboutohsaa/ohsaafoundation>



## State Tournament Ticket Applications

### State Tournament Ticket Rotation for 2020

Though all school Principals, Superintendents, Head Coaches and Athletic Administrators receive ticket applications for 'lower bowl' seating, the rotation for seats by District for the 2020 Boys' Tournament is:

**Northwest**  
**Central/East/Southeast**  
**Southwest**  
**Northeast**

## Looking Ahead to Tournament Time

The OHSAA sponsors Boys' and Girls' Tournaments in 4 divisions. Each of the state's District Athletic Boards are empowered by the OHSAA Constitution to organize and conduct the boys' and girls' basketball tournaments at the Sectional and District levels. Despite the original 'issues' with reporting of EMIS numbers, they were corrected and adopted by the Board of Directors in the fall. The 4 divisions are determined by the EMIS reports from the established October 2016 count. Beginning with the 2018 tournament EMIS numbers will be utilized for a 2 year period with "Competitive Balance Roster Numbers" used annually from the previous season's required submissions. As a result, enrollment numbers will change annually and divisional alignments will change annually instead of the 2 year cycle used for several years. Divisional alignments listed below utilize Competitive Balance numbers from the 2017-18 roster submissions and are in effect for the 2019 Tournament.

<u>Division</u>	<u>Boys Enrolled</u>	<u>Total Schools</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Girls' Enrolled</u>	<u>Total Schools</u>
I	356 and more	197	I	331 and more	197
II	208 - 355	197	II	192 - 330	207
III	129 - 207	196	III	111 - 191	197
IV	128 and less	201	IV	110 and less	198

### Tournament Draw Dates

The draw date for tournaments is established by the Board of Directors. The approved dates for the 2020 Tournament are:

**Girls' Sectional/District Draw: February 2, 2020      2:00 p.m.**

**Boy's Sectional/District Draw: February 9, 2020      2:00 p.m.**

### State Tournament Dates

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

**St. John Arena, Columbus**

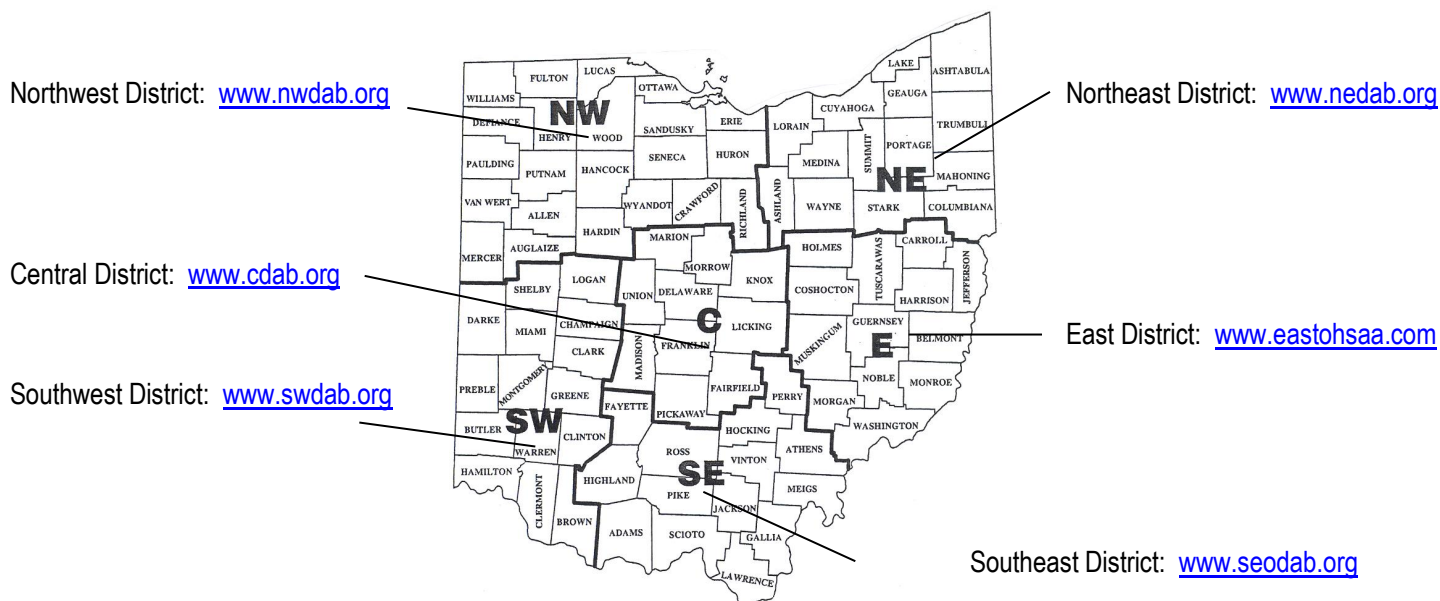
**Boys' State Tournament:      March 19 – 21, 2020**

**Jerome Schottenstein Center, Columbus**

### 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**

Tom Barrick

## **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**

Scott McVeigh, Perkins

### **District 7**

Dave Boyce, Perrysburg

### **District 8**

Jason Vermillion, Arlington

### **District 9**

Kris Spriggs, Kenton Ridge

### **District 10**

Scott Davis, Reynoldsburg

### **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**

Dave Schlabach, Hiland

### **Districts 6 & 7**

Jon Dawson, Willard

### **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 2019-20 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 2019-20**. 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 insure 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. When you access the Rules Meeting, **MAKE SURE that you enter the email address associated with your myOHSAA profile**. 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.

#### **For Officials:**

Officials should access their myOHSAA account. Once in the system, there will be a link for the OFFICIALS online Rules Meeting. Simply log in, completing the required fields and complete the course. Please note that **all screens of the presentation must be viewed** for 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 16, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**

The last day for completion of the online version is **Wednesday, November 21, 2019 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. 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 OHSAA 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. Another **very useful** tool for these meetings is the NFHS offering of “**Positive Sport Parenting**”. This is available **FREE** at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com).

## 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





## 2019- 2020 Rules Information

### Rules Changes

**1-12-1c:** It shall have a deeply-pebbled, granulated surface, with horizontally shaped panels bonded tightly to the rubber carcass.

**Rationale:** The additional words give manufacturers a better sense of what a deeply-pebbled cover should look like.

**9-9-1:** A player shall not be the first to touch the ball after it has been in team control in the frontcourt, if he/she or a teammate last touched or was touched by the ball in the frontcourt before it went to the backcourt. EXCEPTION: Any player located in the backcourt may recover a ball deflected from the frontcourt by the defense.

**Rationale:** To ensure that a team is not unfairly disadvantaged on a deflected pass.

### 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 2019-20 are listed below with an explanation of each.*

1. Head Band and Hair Control Devices: These items are often thought to be interchangeable. They are not. Each item has different guidelines to be followed as outlined in the rules book. Coaches and players need to be aware of the differences between the two items, so players are not found in violation of the rules.

- A headband is defined as any item that goes around the entire head, it must be circular in design without extensions. The headband must be unadorned, nonabrasive and be no wider than 3 inches. Headbands have color restrictions. 3-5-4a, b
- A hair control device is defined as an item that goes around the hair such as rubber, cloth, or elastic bands. Hair control devices have no color restrictions. 3-5-4dSMAC

2. Medical Bracelet: It is the coach's role to know what the rules allowances and restrictions are, and insure the players are properly informed. The head coach, by rules, must not permit a team member to participate while wearing an illegal uniform, illegal equipment, illegal apparel, etc. It is, therefore, incumbent on the coach to be sure the rules and restrictions have been reviewed by the team, including, and especially, allowable accessories.

Yes, it is also the officials' role to monitor the players, the uniforms and accessories. However, the head coach must be very much involved. The officials should not be placed in a position where they are often viewed as "being picky/searching for" illegal uniform and apparel items.

By rule, the medical alert medal or bracelet must be taped to the person securely while the medical information is visible. Regardless of the type of material the medical alert bracelet is of, it must be taped to the arm securely with the medical information visible. 3-5-7

3. Throw-in Violations: The throw-in and the throw-in count begin when the ball is at the disposal of a player of the team entitled to it.

The throw-in ends when:

- a. The passed ball touches or is touched by another player in-bounds.
- b. The passed ball touches or is touched by another player out-of-bounds. except as in 7-5-7.
- c. The throw-in team commits a violation.

The designated throw-in spot is 3 feet wide with no depth limitation and is established and signaled by the official prior to putting the ball at the thrower's disposal. Pivot foot restrictions are not in affect for a designated throw-in. The thrower must keep one foot on or over the designated spot until the ball is released.

- Violation - To leave the designated throw-in spot prior to releasing the ball
- Violation - To not pass the ball directly into the court so it touches or is touched by another player (in-bounds or out-of-bounds) on the court before going out of bounds untouched.
- Violation - To pass the ball so it goes directly out of bounds prior to touching another player.
- Violation - To not release the ball on a pass directly into the court before five seconds have elapsed.

After ruling and signaling a violation, team-control foul, player-control foul held ball or time-out, it is vital that the ruling official, at the site of the ruling, indicate the designated throw-in spot (see Manual page 65, diagram 5-6).

4. Pre-Game Meeting with Administrator on Supervision and Crowd Control: It is a necessity to have game an administration representative to meet with the official crew. This meeting will allow for communicating the expectations of each group. The contest officials are there to manage the contest which includes the players and coaches. It is the expectation that school administration will manage the student body, parents and all other spectators.

Game administration is responsible to be proactive in crowd supervision and control. Administration should address inappropriate spectator behavior before it escalates.

Spectator behavior remains a critical concern. Too often, spectators are using abusive language toward coaches, players and officials. Spectators are also approaching the court, team areas and locker rooms - places that used to be "off limits" - to confront participants.

Game administrators must create and follow security procedures and support efforts to have offending spectators removed from the premises. Proactive policies lead to fewer problems. It is the game administrator's ultimate responsibility to provide a safe environment for coaches, players and officials. Do not wait for the official to point out the problem.



## 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 and size of 28-ft (Maximum) coaching box – Altered length NOT adopted in Ohio

**Comment:** Many simply tape the ‘coaches’ box’ on the floor, but it MUST be marked. The actual language from the NFHS Rules Book (Rule 1-13, Article 2) regarding the “Coaches’ Box” reads as follows:

*“...The area shall be bounded by a line drawn 28 ft. from the end line towards the division line. At this point, a line drawn from the sideline toward the team bench becomes the end of the coaching box going towards the end line.*

**Note:** State associations may alter the length and placement of the 28 ft. (maximum) coaching box.

### 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 use of supplementary equipment to aid in game administration – NOT adopted in Ohio

### 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. Please send a written request to [lprochaska@ohsaa.org](mailto:lprochaska@ohsaa.org). 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**. Many calls are received requesting this for use at "Foundation Games" or "Coaches vs Cancer" games and a "Pink" basketball does NOT have the NFHS Stamp for use.

## Uniform Requirements



The advent of websites to design uniforms has drastically 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. We do post these uniform regulations on the OHSAA website and can be viewed directly by going to <https://www.ohsaa.org/SchoolResources/uniform/basketball>. The NFHS has detailed uniform diagrams here: [https://www.nfhs.org/media/1018788/2018-19\\_basketball\\_uniforms.pdf](https://www.nfhs.org/media/1018788/2018-19_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.
- **GRAY UNIFORMS MAY NOT BE WORN AS A HOME UNIFORM**

## 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.



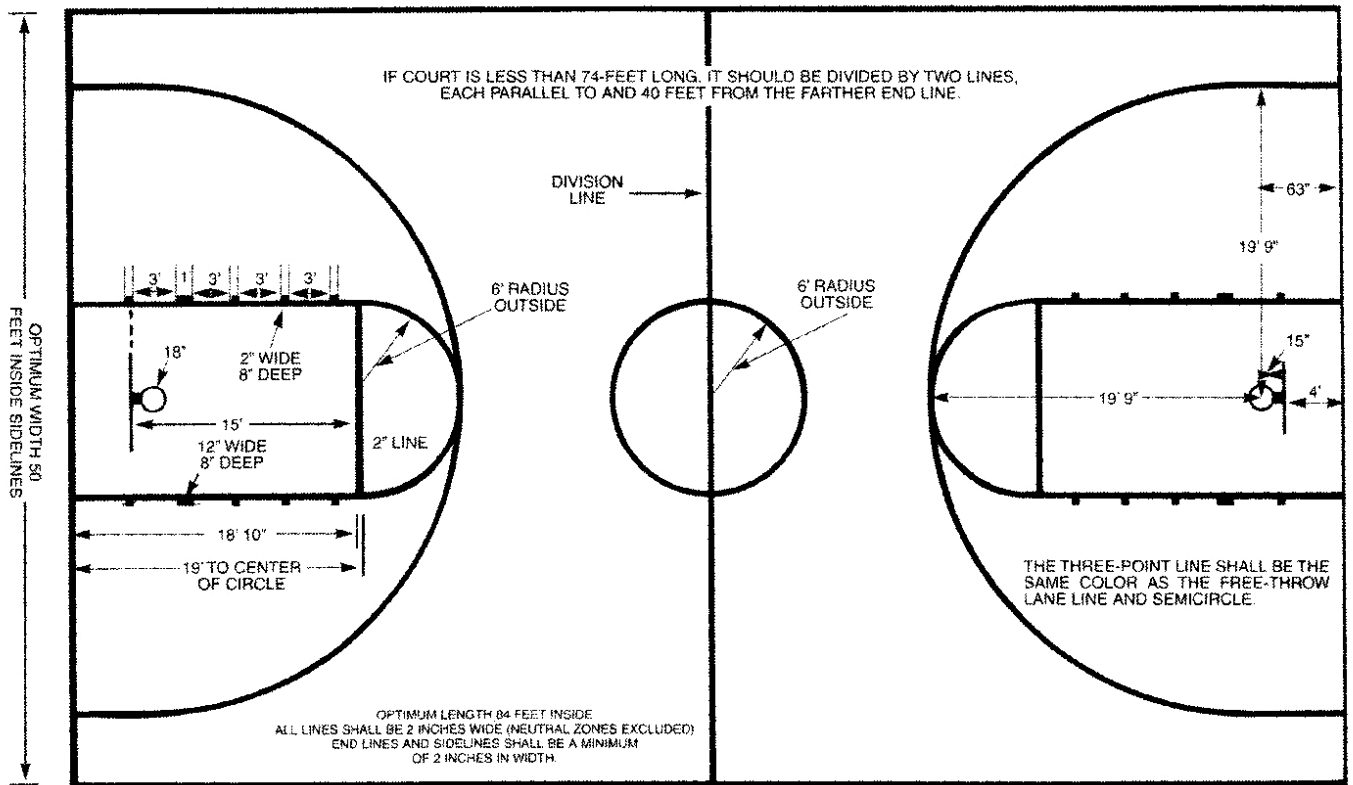
**ALL of the Headbands shown above are NOT LEGAL**

**Head decorations are prohibited.**

The item below (a headwear made for soccer) is being used more and more by players. Though not specifically addressed in the NFHS Playing rules, it does meet all the requirements of 'protective equipment' and is permitted. This is not an endorsement of the product, merely an indication that it does meet rule requirements and does not need any special permission.



## 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.



## Review & Reminders of Recent Changes



Each year, there are a few changes to the Administrative Regulations governing Ohio High School Basketball. 3 years ago, the most notable was the addition of the “4 – Player Rule” (OHSAA General Sports Regulation 8.2.1) that will permit coaches to provide individual instruction outside the season of play. Below are a few reminders for a few previous regulation changes. Their significance is worthy of a continued reminder.

### Out of Season Coaching

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

This is a significant change AND all coaches were provided this information in late July – a change that will now permit all school coaches to coach non-school (AAU, AYBT, GYB, etc.) outside the season with players from your school teams on it. You read that correctly – school coaches will now have permission to coach players from their own school on non-school teams (such as AAU) outside the season of play and not just during June and July. BUT, **hold on....**

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 have not changed:

1. The No-Contact Period addressed above. It still exists and that STILL means that during those 2 periods of time you will NOT be permitted to coach. Good...we have established that. Now read on.
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. And for the record, whether a school coach or a non-school coach is coaching a non-school team, the “50% rule” applies and there are no plans to change it.
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.

So....take the above and it is now easier to understand; the change in this regulation DOES now permit school coaches this opportunity, but other regulations remain unchanged that will not permit any coaching of any kind during the No-Contact Period AND will never permit you to coach a team that has more than 2 individuals on it (except during June and July). Incidentally, we ‘opened this up’ a year ago at the Middle School level with few repercussions.

And, keep in mind – this permission to coach players is in ‘competitions’, it does not permit you to practice with them. The Individual Instruction regulation permits that.

### “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.

### Regulation Reminders

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

Be clear on this – WEIGHT LIFTING is now 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.

### **Addition of 1 scrimmage for Junior High Teams**

Junior High teams may now schedule TWO scrimmages PLUS 1 Preview.

### **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.

### **Junior High Quarters of Participation Increased**

This was increased a year ago to permit an individual to participate in 70 total quarters on the season.

### **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 17, 2020 for this year) that ALL STUDENT SECTIONS across the state ban together for one consistent theme night – Military Appreciation Night. Your school AND your student groups 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 and much of this theme taken into the Friday night state tournament. 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-intercholastic regulations already permit. Most veteran coaches recall the 'age-old' regulation that permits seniors only to participate in "All-Star" contests **and** permits them to play in only 2 of them. But, "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-intercholastic 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.



## 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.
- Regulation timing of games is not permitted.
- Written scorekeeping is not permitted.
- 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>5 quarters/day</b>
Maximum Number of Quarters Permitted for players (Regular Season) grades 9-12:	<b>110 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 or **4** scrimmages and **1** OHSAA Foundation Game (Preview still permitted)

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: **5 quarters/day**

Maximum number of Quarters permitted per player per season: **70 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".

### **Out of State Travel**

A basketball team may travel out of state to compete in scrimmages, previews and games in states OR provinces in Canada that border Ohio regardless of distance. This would include the states of Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania and West Virginia and the province of Ontario in Canada. A team may travel out of state **one time to state or province that does NOT border Ohio but only if there is no loss of school time.**

**Adopted Penalty for Violation: Exclusion from the OHSAA Tournament.**

### **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).

**Please Remind your Parents and Your Assistant Coaches that videotaping an opponent and providing to ANY member of the team or coaching staff is strictly prohibited.**

### **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
- **110** 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 110 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
- **70** 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 5 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*”.



# The Coach Memos

As a continued attempt to communicate issues of importance, important changes as well as answer common questions to assist coaches and officials, two periodic communications will continue. First, ‘weekly’ memos will be sent directly to all head coaches during the season (and at selected other times throughout the year) Coach memos are posted on the OHSAA’s ‘basketball’ web page the following day after being emailed to coaches.

## Weekly Coaches’ Memos

To: All Boys & Girls Head Basketball Coaches  
From: Jerry Snodgrass, OHSAA Assistant Commissioner  
Emily Gales, OHSAA Program Coordinator  
Lauren Prochaska, OHSAA Program Coordinator  
Date: June 27, 2016

As you know, last season we began communicating directly with head coaches via a direct email. Though we are a long way from the start of the season, the “Summer Session” has taken on a life of its own. As a result, we felt it would be helpful to communicate a few current items to you know. Another will reach you in late July just prior to the start of the “no-contact period”. We hope you find this helpful and also hope you have a productive summer while getting away from it all for a while.

### The Summer’s Most Common Questions

More than any other question, we are asked if 10 graders can play on a JV/Primary team during the summer at a team tournament, shootout, etc. The answer is YES. Any of the hundreds of events that take place in the summer or ANY time outside the season are NOT school athletic contests that we regulate. So, we do not regulate who plays with who at these events. Only during the actual season of play do we prohibit 10 graders from practicing or playing with 9-12 players. 10th with transfer students. Though more and more schools will only permit students enrolled in their school to participate in summer events, we have no jurisdiction over that – that there is no violation of any regulation if a transfer student plays with your team during the summer months.

### “What” Change in the OHSAA’s No-Contact Rule

As you know, the OHSAA’s No-Contact Period was established to give kids (and coaches!) a break and to permit fall sports to get a start without the pressure of fall sport athletes to participate in open gyms, fall leagues, etc. And, that “no-contact period” has always run for a period starting 28 days prior to Labor Day. At the time this was created, fall sports actually began about 28 days before Labor Day. However, over the past few years, fall sports actually start on August 1. So it would only make sense that the no-contact period would start at that same time. The OHSAA’s Board of Directors actually agreed with this and beginning the 2016-17 school year, the No-Contact period will now be the month of August – starting on August 1. And yes, realize it adds 3 days to the previous 28 days. Sorry, it just makes more sense.

### Another Significant Change in the OHSAA’s Sports Regulations

Another change that we were able to have our Board of Directors approve was a significant change in the out of season TEAM Coaching regulation. Currently, school coaches may not coach individuals in any team play (identified as anything involving more than 4 individuals) anytime outside the season of play except for 10 days during June and July. That regulation has been in place for some time and even prohibits any parent from coaching his/her son/daughter in any team (AAU, Travel, etc.) team play outside the season. However, we felt strongly there are more and more parents coaching at the Middle School/Junior High level. In fact, they cannot coach their son or daughter in AAU ball in April or May. We felt they school coaches (and just parents) – I did not want to get into OHSAA involving MHS coach players from their school in team play outside the season of play – with the 8th limitation will in effect – AT THE JUNIOR HIGH LEVEL ONLY. So, as a school coach, if you wish to coach a group of 7 or 8, though these limitations are strong barriers on this – 10 quarters for a 10 game regular season schedule for 7th grade, 10 games and 10 weeks approved by our Board of Directors to increase this to 10 quarters for 7th graders beginning next season. Please keep in mind this permission is designed to help team coaches 7th and 8th grade teams to provide a life flexibility in using players more. It was NOT designed not in the event to take the next LeBron James you have at the 7th grade and move him/her up to the 8th grade team. That’s not a life flexibility. It’s only going to be an 8th grade next year athlete and would only be eligible at the 10th grade level the next year athlete. That’s not a life flexibility either. We will have this and other changes addressed in the Rules letter meeting in the fall.

### NFHS Rule Change Clarification

There has been a significant amount of confusion regarding a recent rule change by the NFHS for the 2016-17 season involving two items. Actually, there is NO change in that rule as far as Ohio is concerned since it has been enforced that way the past several years. Last year for whatever reason NFHS Rules went back to allowing individuals into the lane on free throws on the release by the shooter. However, if ANOTHER was intended for those in back of the shooter or on the very top of the lane to enter the circle (semi-circle actually) that encompasses the free throw line. The language however, was written that would give me to the ball if a player COULD enter that semi-circle on the release. They CANNOT, and even though the language was written personally, Ohio has maintained enforcement they could not. Now language in the NFHS Rules book states it. The bottom line – since Ohio has enforced it that way anytime, there is NO change in the free throw rule. You can read all the NFHS Rule Changes, Editorial Changes and Points of Emphasis at: <http://www.nfhs.org/news/2016/5/basketballRulesAndPointsOfEmphasis.pdf>

### Are you a NEW Head Coach at Your School?

Summer brings a period of time where there are many coaching changes. It also gives rise to many administrative questions for new coaches at a school. And, some often perceived permissions that are usually not factual. Coaches that are new to a school often have many questions – often times assuming they have opportunities to extend the 10 summer days or that the no-contact period does not apply to them (both are NOT true). The document posted at this link is designed to help you with those same questions at your new school, we think you will find it very helpful. <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboudersReport/UnderstandCoachTransitionChanges.pdf>

### Rebouders Report

Many documents are posted on the Rebouders Report webpage at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboudersReport/ReboudersReport.htm>

To: All Ohio Head Basketball Coaches  
From: Jerry Snodgrass, Assistant Commissioner  
Emily Gales, Program Coordinator  
Lauren Prochaska, Program Coordinator

Basketball’s No-Contact Period is on the horizon, beginning August 1 this year (see below). This provides us an opportunity to provide you with several important informational items as many of you will pick up with fall workouts, individual instruction, open gyms, etc. once school begins and after the No-Contact Period ends on September 1.

### Need Answers to Questions?

Seldom do we try this, however, the start of fall practices – transfers, new coaches, as well as the administration of other sports, makes it very difficult to keep up with phone calls and emails for out of season coaches. Though, just like you, we do work incredible hours over the next few months, if you need questions answered, please check out the documents on our “Rebouders Report” page at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboudersReport/ReboudersReport.htm> and check with your Athletic Director first. Thanks in advance for being patient during this period of time.

### The No-Contact Period

Effective the 2016-17 school year, the mandatory No-Contact Period now runs the month of August – from August 1 – August 31. This was sent out via email to all head coaches in late June and restricts coaches from **any basketball related contact** with players that played in your 7-12 program last year. I encourage you to look at the purpose of this long-standing regulation and not different ways to “get around it”. Players need a break, COACHES need a break and this also provides the much needed opportunity for fall sports to get underway. Any questions... check out this document: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboudersReport/BasketballNo-ContactRule.pdf>

### Individual Instruction

As many of you make plans to utilize the permissions in this regulation, I urge you to review the restrictions. This is the 4th year for the Individual Instruction Regulation – originally proposed by the OHSBCA. The purpose of this was to provide coaches the opportunity to provide individual SKILL instruction – NOT team workouts. I would encourage you to read, print and disseminate the updated explanation of this regulation located at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboudersReport/GeneralSportsRegulations/IEExplanation.pdf>

### Open Gyms, Conditioning Programs, Weight Lifting Programs

It has always been my intent to remove any and all misunderstandings as well as address all scenarios permitted within various other sports regulations – most notably those addressing “Open Gyms”, “Conditioning & Weight Programs”. This communication should provide you with answers to many questions and close any loopholes one might often “think exists”. As in the above, I strongly encourage you to read, print and disseminate the explanations of these regulations that can be found on the our “Rebouders Report” page at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboudersReport/ReboudersReport.htm>

### Clarify on Open Gym, Conditioning and Weight Lifting Regulations

Though we stated this in the June coaches’ memo, a very common question from coaches of all sports deals with who can participate in a school’s open gym and whether it is restricted to only 9-12 participating together and 7-8 only participating together. To clarify, **outside the defined season** there is no restriction by the OHSAA on who participates. If your school permits 7-8 graders to play alongside with 9-12 grade students in open gyms, it does not violate any of our regulations. The same holds true with weight lifting programs and conditioning programs.



# Basketball Frequently Asked Questions

The OHSAA receives a *large* volume of calls and email at the conclusion of the season in regard to what coaches 'can and cannot do'. Though this is not inclusive, a few guidelines are listed below to assist you AND your middle school and sub-varsity coaches. Please remove, copy and share this page with others on your staff. Please go through your Athletic Administrator for questions related to the OHSAA's Bylaws and Sports' Regulations. All are contained within the OHSAA's Handbook, pictured to the right and are also available online at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org).

## When does a Team's "No-Contact Period" begin?

**Answer:** There are TWO "No-Contact Periods" for basketball. One begins at the conclusion of THAT TEAM'S Season and runs for 28 consecutive days. For example, if a Middle School team's season ends on Friday, February 11, the 'no-contact period' would begin Saturday, February 12 for players on that team. The other "No-Contact Period" for basketball occurs from August 1 – August 31.

## Can Middle School Players practice or play with High School players DURING the season?

**Answer:** **No.** OHSAA Bylaws prohibit middle school players from practicing or competing with High School players during the season of play in all sports.

## Can Middle School Players participate in Open Gyms at the High School level?

**Answer:** Yes. OHSAA Bylaws and Sports Regulations do not prevent anyone from participating in Open Gyms.

## Can Middle School aged players participate with High School aged players in summer 'team camps' and 'shootouts'?

**Answer:** Yes. Just as above, the OHSAA Regulations that prohibit 7-8 graders from participating with 9-12 graders is only in effect during the season of play. This is not to be taken as an encouragement to do so, however, our regulations do not prohibit it. Summer events or off-season events are not considered interscholastic contests by the OHSAA.

## Can Middle School players be included with High School players during Individual Instruction permitted by Sports Regulation 8.3.1?

**Answer:** Yes, as long as it is OUTSIDE the season, there is no restriction on age groups relative to this new (2013) regulation. ANY individual receiving instruction must be counted as one of the FOUR (4) permitted in *all combined facilities where the instruction is taking place*.

## Can Players from another school participate with another school during summer "team camps" and "Shoot-outs"?

**Answer:** Yes. The OHSAA does not view "Team Camps" and/or "Shootouts" anytime out of season as any kind of a school event. They are considered "non-interscholastic" and may be attended by anyone. It does NOT waive any of the Bylaw relative to 'Recruiting', however.

## What can we as coaches do during an Open Gym?

**Answer:** Coaches may supervise during an open gym. Coaches may play during an open gym setting. Open Gyms cannot be made mandatory. Open Gyms **must** be 'free and unstructured play, so NO coaching may take place during an Open Gym. Open Gyms are defined in their entirety in Sports' Regulation #10. Language in the "Individual Instruction" regulation (General Sports Regulation 8.6) delineates the permissions in that regulation from those in Open Gyms.

## What can coaches do during Conditioning Programs?

**Answer:** Conditioning programs cannot be made mandatory. Sports' Regulation #10 on page 70 of the OHSAA Handbook defines Physical Fitness/Conditioning Programs. Obviously, conditioning programs cannot be used as a 'disguise' for conducting out of season practices. Language in the "Individual Instruction" regulation (General Sports Regulation 8.6) delineates the permissions in that regulation from those in Conditioning programs.

## What is actually meant by "Coaching"?

**Answer:** "Coaching" refers to ANY organizational or instructional contact with athletes by a basketball coach to basketball players. Specific activities include (but are NOT limited to) practice or other instructional situations in which the coach conducts specific drills, teaches skills, implies and supports an instructional environment without actually doing the coaching (i.e. "captains' practices").

## Is the use of a training aid such as a "Shoot-a-Way" or "The Gun" considered coaching?

**Answer:** Yes. For the purposes of identification, it is expected that some form of instruction would take place while using these items in a school facility. As a result, they are identified in Sports Regulation 8.2 which permits their use – but within the confines of the "Individual Instruction Regulation" (General Sports Regulation 8.2).

## In a "Summer League" if I sit on a bench during a game, does that constitute 'coaching'?

**Answer:** Yes. Sitting on the team bench or in the direct vicinity of the competition in areas reserved for coaches and or delivering instruction to athletes while they are competing IS coaching. Standing on the end of the gym floor at a 'relaxed' environment of a summer league game and barking out instructions.....is indeed coaching. Again, remember that ANY coaching that DOES occur can only occur between June 1 and July 31 outside the season of play.



**Who can volunteer to be a member of the coaching staff?**

Answer: To work with student-athletes in any school program, an individual must receive his/her Pupil Activity Coaching Certificate through the Ohio Department of Education and be approved by the school's Board of Education. Once achieving these requirements, a volunteer falls under all Bylaws and Sports Regulations of the OHSAA.

**Can a player on my team participate in non-interscholastic team(s) at the same time as the season?**

Answer: No. Sports' Regulation #7 prohibits student-athletes from participating in programs such as "AAU", "Club", "Travel" and like programs during the season of play. Coaches should go to great lengths to explain this to players on their teams.

**When CAN a player on my team participate in Non-Interscholastic Basketball?**

Answer: As soon as his/her season is complete. This means a Varsity player may participate as soon as his/her last game (including tournament) is played. Any sub-varsity player may play non-interscholastically when his/her season is complete but it must be kept in mind that he/she cannot return to dress/participate in any OHSAA tournament game. Many Athletic Administrations will safeguard this by allowing no level of player to participate in non-interscholastic basketball until the varsity's last tournament game. Though not entirely necessary, this DOES safeguard all athletes.

**How many players can play together on a Non-Interscholastic team such as AAU?**

Answer: TWO (2). OHSAA Sports Regulations limit the number of participants on any non-interscholastic roster to no more than 50% of those that make up a starting lineup of a team. In basketball, that magic number is 2. The only exception to this is explained on page 67 in Sports' Regulation 7.31 in which all members of the non-interscholastic squad are siblings (by blood or adoption) and no other player from the same school squad is a participant on the non-school team.

**Can our team participate in a fundraiser game against a faculty or a team of local/area celebrities outside the season of play?**

Answer: Yes they can, however, any event such as that between the end of the season and June 1 that has more than 2 players from the same school would be in violation of Sports Regulation 7.31 that limits the number on any one team out of season. So, it CAN be done, but there is a limit of 2 individuals that played for the same school 9-12 teams the previous season. Graduating senior would not count in this total.

**If our school has 2-8<sup>th</sup> grade teams, are we permitted to have 4 total players from our school on a non-interscholastic team (AAU/Travel)?**

Answer: No, UNLESS your 2 separate 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams are in 2 separate middle schools. For example, if you have Jones Middle School and Smith Middle School, you COULD have 2 from "Jones" and 2 from "Smith" on the same non-interscholastic team. If you have both 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams in the same building, you are strictly limited to the 2 from that particular school, regardless of how many teams you have.

**Is the above true for 3 on 3 Tournaments such as "Gus Macker" (and like) tournaments?**

Answer: No. Effective with the 2011-12 school year, players may participate in organized '3 on 3 TOURNAMENTS' (such as Gus Macker Tournaments) in excess of the 50% limitation (2 in basketball). The permission is now written into the Basketball Sports Regulations in Regulation 4.4 and reads: "*Participation in "3 on 3" tournaments (such as but not limited to "Gus Macker" tournaments) is not a violation OHSAA non-interscholastic Team Sports Regulation 7.5 for student-athletes*".

**How are players 'classified' when in Middle School/Junior High and High School relative to playing on non-interscholastic teams?**

Answer: Players are considered middle school/junior high until the beginning of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year and are considered separate as it relates to participating on non-interscholastic teams. For example; 2 - 8<sup>th</sup> graders could participate on an "AAU" (non-interscholastic) team along with 2 - 9<sup>th</sup> graders from the same school. They are considered separate. Please keep in mind this cannot occur during the season of play.

**During the summer, how many days are we permitted to coach our players?**

Answer: TEN (10) **anytime there are more than 2 individuals (players from last year's team).** From June 1 – July 31, a coaching staff is permitted to coach a total 10 days, known as 'instructional days'. These days are designed as "Team Instructional Days" and are afforded to coaching staffs for that reason. The newly implemented (2013) General Sports Regulation permitting INDIVIDUAL instruction was added to provide an opportunity for individual skill instruction while leaving the "Team Instruction" time intact.

**Does a day of my own summer camp count toward these 10 days?** Answer: Yes, as long as there are more than 4 present *in all the combined facilities where the instruction is taking place*. Any day of individual instruction or team instruction is considered one of the 10 totals permitted between June 1 and July 31 if *more than 4 individuals are present in all combined facilities where the instruction is taking place*.

**How about if I coach a team that consists of only 2 players from my school team (during June and July)?**

Answer: The OHSAA does not view that as an instructional day, school coaches MAY coach players from their school teams in non-school basketball such as "AAU". However, the 50% rule is still in effect AND no coaching of any kind may take place during the no-contact periods.

**Does each member of my staff receive 10 separate days?**

Answer: No. Obviously, if this were to occur, a school could have upwards of 40 and 60 days of permitted instruction. The 10 days permitted are per staff.

**Do Volunteers count in the 10 day total?**

Answer: Yes. As mentioned earlier, all volunteers fall under the Bylaws and Sports Regulations of the OHSAA. The 10 days permitted to a staff are inclusive of paid and volunteer coaches.

**If my son or daughter plays on an AAU or Non-Interscholastic team, can I coach them if I am a school coach?**

Answer: Yes, as long as it is outside of the Basketball school season, and not during the "No Contact Period". You are still limited to 2 players, as defined in the 50% rule.

**Can a school coach coach players in from their school teams in non-interscholastic basketball (such as "AAU") outside the season of play?**

Answer: Yes...Beginning the 2017-18 school year, school coaches MAY coach players from their school teams in non-school basketball such as "AAU". However, the 50% rule is still in effect AND no coaching of any kind may take place during the no-contact periods.

**We have incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders that want to play in a fall basketball league. What rules affect them?**

Answer: None of the OHSAA Sports Regulations regulate 7<sup>th</sup> graders until they establish themselves as a member of a school basketball team. As a result, they may play on teams without regard of the "50% limitation".

**On non-interscholastic teams, can 2 boys from a school play along with 2 GIRLS from the same school and still meet the requirements of the "50% Rule" (Sports Regulation 7.3) when players participate in non-interscholastic basketball?**

Answer: Yes. Since boys' and girls' teams are separate, the 50% limitation (Sports Regulation 7.3) separates boys' teams from girls' teams.

**We have a "home schooled" player who lives in the district and would like to play for our school. Can he or she?**

Answer: Yes, effective August 2013. STATE LAW now affords a home schooled individual the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities at the school where he/she resides. Nothing in the law exempts them from required "physical forms", attendance at required pre-season meetings or tryouts.

**We have a PRIVATE SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL who lives in the district and would like to play for our school. Can he or she?**

Answer: Yes, but ONLY if that private school does not sponsor basketball at their school.

**We have a PUBLIC SCHOOL INDIVIDUAL who lives in the district and would like to play for our school. Can he or she?**

Answer: **NO.** Regardless of whether the public school sponsors basketball or not, the public school individual may NOT play for any other school.

**We have a Foreign Exchange Student who would like to participate on our basketball team. Can he or she do this?**

Answer: Again, it depends. All foreign exchange students must have their eligibility approved through the Commissioner's office. No foreign exchange student is eligible until approved by the Commissioner. Approval should be sought by your school administration with the OHSAA.

**During the season, are 2 teams (from different schools) permitted to practice together?**

Answer: Commonly asked today; it IS permissible but we carefully define that any practice with another school's team MUST be counted as one of the 5 scrimmages permitted in basketball.

**Complete BASKETBALL Regulations may be found at the following link:**

<http://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports/Basketball-Boys/bbkrglts.pdf>

**Complete GENERALSPO RTS REGULATIONS may be found at the following link:**

<http://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports/GeneralSportsRegulations.pdf>



## Rating & Voting for Officials

As many of you know, there has continually been an issue with inaccurate and inconsistent data being sent from ArbiterSports 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 OHSAA 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 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 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



## 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.

# 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 OHSAA'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 (OHSAA) 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 OHSAA 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.*

## Saluting the Flag

I have placed this in each of the past few “Pre-Season Manuals” in the attempt that COACHES instruct players in their Educational role HOW to honor the flag prior to each game. The following flag code appears in Title 36, Chapter 10 of the United States Code.

*During rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed, all present except those in uniform should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note. When the flag is not displayed, those present should face the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed there.*

Though the above addresses those in the stands; as coaches, let’s also ‘get back to basics’ with our own student-athletes and teach our players to respect the flag also during the National Anthem and ELIMINATE the ‘holding hands’, the “rocking back and forth”, etc. I ENCOURAGE coaches to TEACH players the proper respect for the flag during the playing of the National Anthem. Keep in mind how many younger players imitate what high school players do!



## “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.**



## The OHSAA Foundation Game

*“Making It Happen!”*



The OHSAA Foundation was created several years ago as a 501c(3) organization to provide resources for enhancing educational opportunities and services for Ohio’s student-athletes. The OHSAA and the OHSAA Foundation are separate non-profit organizations. The structure of the “Foundation” has changed in the past year. The Executive Director of the ‘Foundation’ receives **no salary or benefits**. Mike Richards, the current Superintendent of the Allen East Local Schools **voluntarily** serves as the “Foundation’s” Executive Director.

The OHSAA Foundation continues to sponsor the OHSAA “Foundation Game” for schools, emphasizing community service initiatives by students in the member schools. The OHSAA Foundation encourages COACHES to be involved – play a Foundation Game to highlight the service by students in your school. No doubt, your players are often busy with practice, games, and academics; but other students in your school have great causes they are volunteering for. We encourage you to “Get Involved” – help make it happen for those volunteering in your school. There are 2 options for you this year:

### **Playing the OHSAA Foundation Game as an Exhibition Game**

Schools still have the option of participating in an “OHSAA Foundation Game” in addition to the 22 regular season schedule permits. Those choosing to participate would count this game as an “Exhibition Game” in which all regular game rules apply, but the win-loss does not appear on either team’s record. Teams that conduct a “Foundation Game” as an Exhibition Game would do so in place of 1 of their 5 permitted scrimmages. (4 scrimmages + 1 Foundation Game + 1 Preview). There remains a \$250.00/team Contribution required for conducting a “Foundation Game” as an exhibition game. You may charge admission for this event and the proceeds are required to go toward a charity or ‘cause’ of your choice. Also, changed for this year: You may conduct the “Foundation Game” as an Exhibition game anytime from your last pre-season scrimmage until your first Sectional Tournament game. As you can see, this provides a great deal of flexibility to conduct this and support the community volunteering efforts of the students in your school.

### **Playing the OHSAA Foundation Game as one of your Regular Season Contests**

Since a “Foundation Game” is now permitted to be played anytime between the last pre-season scrimmage and the first Sectional Tournament game, schools now have the option of dedicating one of their regular season contests as a “Foundation Game”. We encourage this and the OHSAA Foundation would assist with providing publicity for your event. There would be a \$250.00 game fee/team for schools conducting a game in this way.

**All monies generated from participation in an OHSAA Foundation Game are dedicated to the OHSAA Student Leadership Conference currently held at The Ohio State University**

# 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.**

## Communicable Disease Procedures

Though most schools have a Certified Athletic Trainer present at Varsity contests and all coaches are required to maintain a valid Pupil Activity Certificate through the Ohio Department of Education that includes a Sports' First Aid component, it is important to keep up to date on the remote risk that blood borne infectious diseases can be transmitted during basketball practice and contests. For example, Hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as other bodily fluids. Procedures for reducing the potential transmission of these infectious diseases should include, but should not be limited to the following:

1. The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform, it must be changed before the athlete may participate.
2. Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous-membrane exposure when contact with blood and other body fluids is anticipated.
3. Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
4. Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes.
5. Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels and other sharp instruments or devices.
6. Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
7. Athletic trainers/coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic care until the condition resolves.
8. Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of/disinfected.
9. Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling dressings, mouthguards and other articles containing body fluids.

You are encouraged to log on to the OHSAA's website at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and refer to the Sports' Medicine dropdown menu for additional information.

## H1N1 Influenza Policy

The OHSAA's Board of Directors approved the following policy with advice from the Ohio Department of Health and shall observe this policy at tournament time in the event of an H1N1 Influenza outbreak.

1. The Ohio Department of Health has advised that it will be the decision of each local health authority in Ohio as to whether or not to close a school or university due to an influenza outbreak; however, at this time the Centers for Disease Control are not recommending closures except in extreme circumstances.
2. In the event schools remain open, competitors and teams shall be expected to play tournament contests on the dates scheduled.
3. In the event schools are closed, the OHSAA, in conjunction with our District Athletic Boards and tournament personnel, shall reschedule the tournament contest for the schools thus affected.
4. Please watch the OHSAA web site home page at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and the specific sport page on the web site for more information.

**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) or Fax to 614-267-1677 Attn: Kathleen Coughlin

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_  
OHSAA Administrator/Designee Signature



## 2019-20 Foundation Service Week *"DARE 2 BE GREAT"* Foundation Game Application

Per the OHSAA Basketball Regulations, each team is permitted a maximum of FIVE scrimmages plus one Preview. Member schools may elect to participate in a Foundation Service Week game by substituting one of their five allotted scrimmages for participation in a "Foundation Game". A few simple regulations:

- "Foundation Games" may be played anytime from the team's last pre-season scrimmage until the first Sectional Tournament game.
- If conducted **outside the normal 22 games permitted** by OHSAA Regulations, "Foundation Games" are considered to be "Exhibition" in nature; conducted under all normal playing rules but the win/loss does not count toward the team's record. Donation to the OHSAA Foundation is \$250.00/team
- Teams may elect to dedicate a regular season contest as a "Foundation Game". The OHSAA Foundation will help publicize the event and provide uniform waivers for the special event. Donation to the OHSAA Foundation is \$250.00 total when conducted as one of the team's regular

### "Foundation Game" Information

**Host School:**

**Host Athletic Director:**

**Host Athletic Director Email Address:**

**Host Athletic Director Office Phone Number:**

**Opponent School:**

**Opponent Athletic Director:**

**Opponent Athletic Director Email Address:**

**Athletic Conference(s) involved:**

**Date of "Foundation Game":**

Conducted as Regular Season Game or "Exhibition" Game? (Indicate which):

Boy's \_\_\_\_\_ Girl's \_\_\_\_\_ (Indicate which):

**Location of Game:**

**Game Time:**

**Admission Price:**

**Sponsor for OHSAA Contribution (if applicable):**

**Service Project:**

Please explain the community service project your school is involved in and is dedicating the proceeds from the event toward.



# FOUNDATION GAMES

## 2019-20 FOUNDATION GAME APPLICATION

☐

Enclosed is \$250 for EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL

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Payment of \$250 for each participating team will be sent after the Foundation Game.

PO Number (if available): \_\_\_\_\_

Payment will be sent by:

☐ Each School (\$250 each)

☐ The Host School (\$250 per participating team)

☐ The Visiting School (\$250 per participating team)

☐ One School (\$500 full amount)

**Have you notified your opponent this is a Foundation Game?** \_\_\_\_\_

All Foundation games must be approved and played within the following dates:

**Girl's – November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Boy's -- November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Note** – If more than two competing schools are involved, please provide the name and contact information for each school on the application.

**Payment of a Foundation Game is mandatory upon completion of the approved and scheduled game.**

If one school is paying the full \$250 per team, the only signature required is the Athletic Director of the paying school. If not, a signature is required by the Athletic Directors from each participating school.

Host AD signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Visitor AD signature: \_\_\_\_\_