



2013, Basketball Newsletter: Issue 1, November

“Scores Table or Scores Disaster”

It's hard to believe that it is already time to be back on the court. The NHSOA welcomes you back for another great year of officiating Nebraska High School Basketball! The NHSOA is in its third season with basketball and things are going very smoothly. We want to keep everyone informed of events, points of emphasis, rule changes, and play in general. We will continue to send out a quarterly newsletter to keep on top of items that are happening and being observed across the state.

The NHSOA would like to thank all of the officials that attended one of the NHSOA/NSAA sponsored basketball clinics. The turnout was great at each of the 6 clinics that were held across the state as we were close to 150 officials. If you are not an NHSOA member you can become one by completing the NHSOA membership application form that was included in your basketball packet from the NSAA. Please be sure to attach your NHSOA patch on the left shirt sleeve approximately an inch above the hem on a short sleeve shirt.

Also please utilize the Cliff Keen National Alliance Program. The NHSOA and NSAA have signed a contract with them to offer wholesale pricing on officiating apparel to the members of the association. Please log on to www.nhsoahome.org to obtain the account number for Cliff Keen. Feel free to contact any of the NHSOA basketball committee members if you have a scenario or a unique situation that should be included in the next newsletter for all officials to learn from. Last but not least go out and have a great season!

1st Quarter – Mentor beginning officials and preparation is key

Officials please take a chance to help a younger official out this year. One goal of the NHSOA is to mentor younger officials. Do not be afraid to take a beginner to a game with you so they can sit in on your pre-game, watch you work, and sit in on a post-game. We challenge you to help others get better.

Please make sure that your crew goes through a pre-game. This can and will eliminate problems or circumstances that may arise in the game. The pre-game is especially important before the first game of the season since everyone involved, your crew, coaches and the teams you are officiating, are all participating in something that they haven't done in a while. Communication amongst your crew is a must along with coaches, players and site personnel. There is a pre-game sheet on the NHSOA and NSAA website that can be downloaded for you and your crew. Professionalism is needed from the time you walk on the court until the time you leave after the clock has expired. The biggest challenge officials have is to maintain focus for the entire game. Get together and talk about situations during timeouts if needed.

Conducting a post-game is also very important. It is a perfect time to evaluate yourself and your crewmembers. For example crews can breakdown situations that arose during the game. Face it, we will make some mistakes on the court, but by mentally preparing yourself with a pre and post-game we can eliminate a lot of mistakes. We all want to become better officials, and by challenging yourself each night you work to try to improve on one part of your game you can accomplish this goal!

2nd Quarter -- Rule Changes

Rules Changes for the 2013-14 Year:

1. The use of electronic devices is permitted during the game.
2. A single visible manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference is permitted on the team jersey, not to exceed 2 and $\frac{1}{4}$ square inches with no dimension more than 2 and $\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The manufacturer's logo may be located no more than 5 inches below the shoulder seam on the front of the jersey, or 2 inches from the neckline on the back of the jersey; or in either side insert.
3. A team shall not:
 - Use a megaphone of any electronic communication device at courtside, or electronic equipment for voice communication with players on the court.
 - Use electronic audio and/or video devices to review a decision of the contest officials.
4. The head coach may enter the court in the situation where a fight may break out or has broken out to prevent the situation from escalating.
5. The coaching boxes shall be outlined outside the side of the court on which the scorer and timer's table and team benches are located. The area shall be bounded by a line drawn 14 feet from the end line towards the mid-court. 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. From this line go another 14 feet toward the mid-court, then a line drawn towards the bench becomes the end of the coaching box closest to mid-court, and then a line drawn towards the bench becomes the end of the coaching box closest to mid-court. The coaching box is 14 feet long places in the middle of the regulation 42 feet long half court. These lines shall be located off the court and be 2 inches wide. These directions should be followed on the opposite side of the scorer's table as well.

3rd Quarter - 40 Point Differential Running Clock Rule

A running clock will be used for all regular season games and tournaments and all NSAA sub district, district, and state tournament games whenever a 40-point differential in score is reached after the first half of play. The clock will run continuously except at the following times: during a called time-out, during a break between the third and fourth quarters, and for safety reasons such as injuries. The clock will re-start with the procedure that would normally re-start these instances. Once the 40-point differential is reached, normal clock operating and time procedures will **NOT** be resumed even if the point differential falls below 40 points.

***Reminders

#1. Online Rules meeting (no charge) – October 26 to November 10.

#2. Online Test Part 1 (taken every year) – due November 20.

#3. Online Test Part 2 (taken every 3 or 5 years) – December 11-16.

#4. Post Season applications – due December 18.

#5. Submit online varsity schedule – as soon as possible; please
make changes as needed.

4th Quarter -- Mechanics Changes

NFHS added a tip signal to begin in the 2013-14 season. The signal should be shown high to the side of the head and only 1 time. This increases the official's ability to immediately communicate with players, coaches, and fans on whether or not the defense tipped the ball into the backcourt. Also, it allows the offensive team to know whether or not it can recover the ball without penalty. By not giving a signal, the defense has an unfair advantage because it does not need to know which team caused the ball to enter the backcourt. It can recover the ball without penalty regardless.

Three-Person Mechanics Change

- A foul is called in the back court going to the front court with no free-throws to administer:
 - The calling official should move to the foul reporting area and give appropriate information of the player and then signal.
 - The official will then move to a position that is moving forward to a position tableside in most instances.
 - In other words in the past we have reported the foul (usually a charge) and moved back to where we came from this is no longer happening.

Overtime -- Scenarios... Answer the Questions

INADVERTENT WHISTLE--- Yes it does happen to almost everyone at sometime in their career, the dreadful inadvertent whistle... Now what do we do?

Case Book 7.5.3 Situation. An official sounds his/her whistle inadvertently: (a) while A1 is dribbling and in player control; (b) while the pass is in flight from A1 (in A's backcourt) to A2 (in A's frontcourt); (c) while A1's unsuccessful three point try attempt is in flight; or (d) while A's successful try attempt is in flight. **Ruling:** The ball is put in play at the point of interruption. In (a), Team A is awarded a throw in at the nearest out-of-bounds spot to where the ball was when the whistle was inadvertently sounded. In (b), since the ball is being passed among teammates and is in flight, it retains the same location as when it was last in contact with A1 in Team A's backcourt. Therefore, Team A is awarded a free throw-in at the nearest out of bounds spot to where A1 was when the whistle was sounded. In (c) and (d), the ball does not become dead until the try ends. In (c), since there is no team control when the ball becomes dead, the ball is in play by the team entitled to the throw-in using the alternating-possession procedure at a spot to nearest where A1 was last in contact with the ball when the whistle was sounded. In (d), since Team A has scored a goal, the ball is given to Team B for a throw-in anywhere along the end line.

Case Book 3.3.7 Situation A: B1 is directed to leave the game because of excessive blood on his/her uniform jersey. Team B's manager has failed to pack any extra jerseys. (a) The coach asks one of the substitutes to give their jersey to B1; or (b) Team A is able to find a jersey, which B1 can wear although it is not exactly the same color or style of the Team B jersey. The jersey will, however, clearly identify B1 as a member of Team B and will not be confusing to either team or the officials. **RULING:** Acceptable

procedure in both (a) and (b). In both situations the scorer will make necessary changes in the scorebook without penalty.

The NHSOA would like to thank you for taking your time to read through our quarterly newsletter. Listed below are the basketball committee members if you have any questions please contact someone from your district. If you are a beginning official and want advice on how to get games or have questions the basketball committee members will be a great resource for you.

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