



## 2023-24 Basketball Newsletter # 2

**December 18, 2023**

**Justin Ingalls -- Email = [coordinator@sdhsaa.com](mailto:coordinator@sdhsaa.com) -- Cell = 605-201-9721**

**Larry Osborne -- Email = [oz@sdhsaa.com](mailto:oz@sdhsaa.com) -- Cell = 605-381-4108**

### **“Calling for the Cure” Night for Basketball**

**The SDHSAA has designated the dates of January 2- January 16, 2024**

**<https://www.sdhsaa.com/Athletics/BB-CallingForTheCure.pdf>**

### **BASKETBALL OBSERVERS AND OBSERVATION PROGRAM NOTES**

Remember officials need to be open to the observers. There is no need to defend your position, they are telling you what they have observed. Film does not lie. The items below are just a few things they have observed:

- Officials need to use only **NFHS/SDHSAA MECHANICS in SDHSAA games. Everyone, be diligent leaders with the approved high school mechanics**
- Too much contact on the ball-handler. Defenders are still displacing or moving players in different directions with their torso. Just because they are not using their hands does not mean they are not displacing them. Lets make this call.
- Make sure there is possession before awarding the time out. Do not assume possession, know possession status.
- Bench decorum enforcement – stay with it. Use our tools. Keeping coaches in the coaching box and using the bench warning.
- The only way to get the traveling call correct is for us as officials find the pivot foot. We do not want to take away great plays with incorrect calls or allow advantages with a player traveling. Do not guess if it is a travel or not. Ask yourself: Does the pivot foot leave the floor? Yes, Does the pivot foot return to the floor before the ball leaves the shooters hand? Yes, then it is a travel. Page 121 of our current officials manual details the “spin move”. Solid guidance...please review.
- Know and focus on your primary coverage areas. This is a “must know” and then work them. Too much ball watching by the entire crew.
- During the shot C and T are “bailing out”. When the shot goes up the C and T shall step down towards the basket to help with rebounding. We must be in position to see between rebounders.
- Move with a purpose, every step counts when getting and angle. Look to get ball side. Find reasons to rotate.
- When calling out of bounds, do not use “off white, red ball”. Drop the “off white” and just say the color of the team getting the ball and point in that direction. This will eliminate any confusion.

### **TRAVELING – SPIN MOVE FOCUS – comments from region coordinator**

#### **Brian Whetham**

The spin move travel was a point of emphasis for the 2021-22 season and continues to be. As an organization, we have not done a good job of consistently calling the illegal spin moves as violations. Likely not because of our abilities, but in many cases by choice. If we fail to recognize, or set aside, these illegal moves, we are giving a team an unfair advantage and if we choose not to call it because it is an athletic play and/or an accepted part of the game, we are doing a disservice to the game.



## 2023-24 Basketball Newsletter # 2

Traveling, by definition, is moving a foot or feet in any direction more than prescribed limits while holding the ball. The limits on foot movements are as follows (as it applies to the spin move):

**...a player who catches the ball while moving or dribbling may stop and establish a pivot foot as follows: If one foot is on the floor, it is the pivot foot when the other foot touches in a step.**

The spin move starts when a dribbler plants his\her foot then catches the ball. If this catch of the ball (securing it with one or both hands) occurs before the next foot touches the ground and the player proceeds to put the pivot foot back down and jumps off both feet to shoot or pass, he\she has committed a traveling violation. To avoid the violation, the player can shoot off one foot (similar to a layup) or dribble thru the spin (thus changing the pivot foot). In this case, the player can then jump off both feet without committing a travel violation.

It is important to understand and discuss this move in our pregame. Discuss/know primary coverage areas and who will primarily be responsible for this call based on player/ball position. It is imperative we properly rule on the first move of the game to establish credibility and consistency. Focus on the finding the pivot foot and stay strong making this call.

A special thank you to Brian Whetham, for your insights and leadership on teaching correctly, recognizing and calling this move.

### **VERTICALITY – RECOGNIZE IT**

The first and foremost component of the principle of verticality, across all levels of play, is a legal guarding position must be initially obtained or established, and any movement thereafter needs to be legal (Rule 4-45-1). The defender may rise or jump vertically and occupy the space within his or her vertical plane (Rule 4-45-2). The hands and arms of the defender may be raised within his or her vertical plane while on the floor or in the air (4-45-3). So, when a dribbler drives into the lane and is met by an opponent standing at the basket, if the defender jumps straight up to block the shot or impedes further progress of the ballhandler, the defender should not be penalized for leaving the floor vertically or having his or her hands and arms extend within his or her vertical plane (Rule 4-45-4).

We cannot penalize the defense for good verticality and the contact that the offense creates.

### **START AHEAD, STAY AHEAD – PREGAME SETS STAGE FOR SUCCESS**

Done well, it brings confidence to the crew and helps gain the confidence of the participants. Invest the time for a great pregame. Share in the responsibilities of what and how things will be done correctly tonight. We are well into the season, continue towards a strong finish with great pregame discussions throughout the season. There are many versions of pre-game conference outline, some better, but not have a crew pre-game conference is not an option. In our officials manual, starting on page 178 is a comprehensive pregame outline.

### **PRIMARY COVERAGE AREAS (PCA)**

**(Secondary Coverage Areas) (Officials Manual pages 97-111 Section 5.3)**

**Know when to color outside the (PCA) lines. This is a Must!**

Secondary coverage is a kind of tipping point in officiating mechanics. It balances proper management of assigned areas as part of full court coverage against the impression of papering over weak or indecisive



## 2023-24 Basketball Newsletter # 2

play calling. Appropriate secondary coverage is about common sense. Call the obvious foul or violation only after your primary had the chance and didn't or couldn't, as opposed to wouldn't. You control the game as a crew and having each other's backs in this way is an excellent way of affecting that.

### **TECHNICAL FOULS**

#### **HANDLE WITH RULE KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE, NOT EMOTION**

Knowing the definition, application and administration of technical fouls is an absolute. Invest the time reviewing the Technical Foul Summary on page 78 of the Rules book. I am not mentioning this because we are to look to call more technical fouls, but when the situations warrant, we must handle it confidently and correctly by rule.

Technical fouls must be talked all the way through before reporting. Make sure when you have a technical foul, we have a set of eyes that stays on the players, the off official is called in to confer about what they have, the number(s), the players, the shots, the POI or division line, and whose ball it is, plus any possible indirect, and then report, then administer. It takes the entire crew to correctly and confidently adjudicate.

#### **Rule 10- 6 (Note):**

- A single flagrant foul, the second direct technical foul or the third technical (any combination of direct or indirect) charged to the head coach results in disqualification and ejection.

#### **Rule 4-4: (Definition)**

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

### **BE PROFESSIONAL – ALWAYS**

Professionalism is the understanding that each official must be the game's most meaningful ambassador both on and off the court. You represent an entire community of officials. If you're watching the game from the bleachers, keep quiet! Don't make it tougher by commenting on perceived "bad calls" for an official. No need to comment on any of the social media platforms about a play you heard other officials in a group talk about.

**OFFICIALS ARE THE ONLY ONES ON THE FLOOR WHO DO NOT HAVE A VESTED INTEREST IN THE OUTCOME. OUR TWO PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES ARE TO KEEP THE GAME SAFE AND FAIR.**

#### **NFHS RULES TOOLS:**

**[NFHS Basketball Quiz 1: Misunderstood Rules Questions and Answers \(phillyref.com\)](https://www.phillyref.com/)**



## 2023-24 Basketball Newsletter # 2

[Basketball Training Videos – SDHSAA](#)