



2023-24 Basketball Newsletter # 6

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The SDHSAA HS Basketball Tournaments are just around the corner...here is some food for thought.

Officials have one job and one job only...Enforce the rules as written so one team does not have an unfair advantage over the other. That's it!! Sounds simple...but judgment is involved and to err is human. I have never seen an official miss a free throw or turn the ball over yet officials are blamed way too often. Give officials a break and the next time you want to criticize them...maybe praise them on a tough call. Look in the mirror and ask yourself "would I be good enough or tough enough to do that job." For those who are smarter than the officials I can only encourage you to sign up, take the test, study the rules, work on your mechanics, go to camp, leave your family 3-4 nights/week, have tough skin, shut out the crowd, see every play perfectly and put air in the whistle 60-90 times per game and be right every single time. AND don't forget to collect your \$85 check for the game. We watch officials work 3 or 4 games a night just to cover the games. Without officials it's just recess. Show some sportsmanship and sportsmanship starts with RESPECT.

FOCUS AREAS AND OBSERVATIONS

- It is not required for the administering official to blow the whistle to resume play for the after the time-out if we are shooting FT's. Just step in indicate that there is 1, 2 or 3 FT's and step back. One of the observers told a crew that they had to blow their whistle before administering the FT.
- Last second shot Officials manual page 111. The official opposite the table, Trail or Center, has the last second responsibilities. That official should communicate that message and responsibility to both partners by signaling with a hand-on-chest signal when the game clock is near 15 seconds. Such communication should be repeated on any change of possession.
- At the end of the game leave the ball alone and get off the court together. Do not leave anyone behind.
- Officials Pre-Game positions: Officials Manual page 86 Section 5.1 Officials shall arrive on the court at least 15 minutes prior to game time and be positioned on the side of the court opposite the scorer's table. This time is to observe the teams during warm-ups and not visiting with the crowd or anything else. Look for illegal equipment on players checking the floor etc.
- A technical foul is nothing more then a foul. If you give a technical during the game get with one of your partners before reporting it. This gives you time to calm down and also to make sure we get the procedure right when you report it. That way we are all on the same page.



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NOTES FROM THE SDHSAA

Region, SoDak 16, and State Tournaments will be starting soon and here are a few things to remember:

- a. No banners - no signs - no noisemakers to include but not limited to - plastic hand shakers, thunder sticks, as well as all sorts of projectiles. Megaphones are prohibited except when used by a cheerleader. Fathead signs are prohibited.
- b. Mercy rule is in effect for Regions and SoDak 16 Only.
- c. A coach may include as many players on the list or roster as he/she wishes. However, only 15 players may dress for any tournament game. The actual players making up the 15 may change from game to game, day-to-day, etc.

Legal guarding position

When a player has established or obtained a legal guarding position, he or she may move backward, laterally or obliquely and maintain that legal position. After the initial guarding position is obtained; The guard may have one or both feet on the playing court or be airborne, provided the guard has inbound status.

- [NFHS rules tools...](#)
- [NFHS Basketball Quiz 1: Misunderstood Rules Questions and Answers \(phillyref.com\)](#)
- [Basketball Training Videos – SDHSAA](#)