

# South Dakota High School Activities Association

## 2019-2020 Basketball

### Newsletter No. 5

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#### Crunch Time

February/March is crunch time for basketball. The teams are fighting for conference championships and high seeds for the state play-offs. Each of the remaining games takes on more importance.

Teams want to be at their best and so should we as officials. Our concentration and game calling skills should be at optimum. We must give 100% each and every game we officiate. It is important that officials concentrate on being consistent in calling violations and communicating appropriately what you are seeing.

There is no excuse for making errors on rules enforcement and not using proper positioning and proper mechanics. We have to get in the best position possible to clearly see the play which minimizes our chances significantly to getting it wrong. We must use our proper NFHS mechanics to communicate with the timer, our crew members, coaches, and fans. We cannot allow laziness or lack of respect to deter us from performing to our maximum.

If you prepare yourself, know the game, know how to apply the rules, use proper positioning, and mechanics and give 100% every game, you and your crew members can feel proud of your achievements. Remember, we only cheat ourselves when we do not give our very best.

Seek out the game management prior to the game to review strange or confrontational situations that can happen. The pressure of February/March makes more of an opportunity for the unusual. Never be surprised by anything that happens on or off the floor!!!

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#### Video Review

The SDHSAA is excited to bring a new opportunity to help progress basketball officiating in our state. The SDHSAA has found that the most effective training tool for promoting consistency and improved officiating is through video review. With the help of SDHSAA coaches and official Duane McPherson, the SDHSAA has developed these videos.

The SDHSAA is hoping the plays will allow discussion areas of mechanics, crew communication and rules study with football officials on high school mechanics and rules. The plays are not meant to pick on any one official, crew or team. These plays are meant to be a learning tool to help promote what we all want to see from our officials. Take ideas from these plays that you find helpful and apply them to your officiating. This week's video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3djVSWn4eI8>

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## End of Season Resolutions

- Enforce “freedom of movement”.
  - Review NFHS 4-24 as it relates to legal and illegal use of the hands/arms. Know when to enforce illegal contact inhibiting a player’s freedom of movement.
- Communicate with one another.
  - Are you maintaining good “eye contact” with your partners at all times? Do you verbalize clearly at the spot of the foul (or violation). Make sure to drop the whistle and sell things that need selling—loud enough to be heard by all.
- Officiate every possession hard
  - Think officiating in chunks of “2 minutes” at a time and never take a break on a possession. Work hard and be in the right spot to make the proper ruling – “every time.”

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## Enforce The Rules

Emphasis in calling illegal contact on a ball handler, (hand check) is an “automatic foul” and should be called when it occurs.

The automatics (hand checks) include:

- Placing two hands (front/back) on the ball handler/dribbler
- Placing an extended arm bar (forearm that is away from the body) on the dribbler
- Placing and keeping a hand on the dribbler
- Contacting the player more than once with the same hand or alternating hands

Coaches must teach players to get into a legal guarding position (two feet on the floor facing the opponent inbounds) and move their feet to maintain the legal guarding position in order to not be whistled for a foul. The expectation of the SDHSAA official is these fouls will be called consistently from the beginning of the game until the end of the game. These fouls should be called until the end of the season.

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## Stay Focused

Officials must stay focused throughout the remainder of the season. It is important that the style of play not dictate how the game is to be called. The game must be officiated by the rules as written and the players and the coaches must adjust.

1. Officials must be in position to see clearly whether there are fouls on REBOUNDS. SEE THE WHOLE PLAY AND NOT JUST THE END RESULT. Hold your whistle and officiate possession/consequence on all rebounding fouls. Be consistent on each end of the floor.
2. During the game contact is not necessarily a foul but contact that disrupts the RHYTHM, SPEED, BALANCE, OR QUICKNESS of an offensive or defensive player is a foul. Do not let body bumping and hand checking disrupt movement. Make sure you allow offensive players the opportunity to START, DEVELOP, AND FINISH plays to the basket.
3. Post play must be address early in the game and must be called the entire game. Make sure you do not let an OFFENSIVE player dislodge a legal defender to gain an initial position. Conversely, if the OFFENSIVE player is legally posted up DO NOT ALLOW the defender to shove, displace, or “pull around” a legal post player.
4. We must officiate screens more accurately. First of all make sure you are in the proper position to see if the screen is legal or illegal. If the screener is LEGAL do not allow the defender to run through the screen. If the screen is legal the defensive player must stop

on contact and go around the screen. Likewise, do not allow the screener to move on the screen. The screener must be stationary.

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## **BLOW THE WHISTLE**

After the eight weeks of competition the question has been posed - are officials going to call the off ball fouls? Players are ending up on the floor with nothing being called. Points of emphasis at the rules meetings were for officials to "blow the whistle" not only in situations in the open court (hand-checking) but also away from the ball. Any time there is contact with affects a players speed, balance, rhythm or quickness it is a foul, whether the player has the ball or not. Be a good off ball official - blow the whistle. Players will adjust if the crew is consistent in their enforcement.

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## **Freedom of Movement**

Players moving without the ball cannot be impeded illegally. They must be given an opportunity to stop, and or change direction without being chucked, pushed, or held. Officials should concentrate, look off ball, watch the play develop, and call fouls when needed.

Freedom of movement is critical to the game of basketball. Freedom of movement is just as important to the defensive team as it is to the offensive team. Offensive teams can commit illegal acts that hinder defensive freedom of movement as well. Specifically, illegal screens.

Players without the ball who are "cutting" to the basket are the basic part of many offensive schemes that involve a great deal of "movement." Defenders like to reroute cutters to upset the timing of the offensive set and change passing lane angles.

In the three-person officiating system officiating cutters is often the responsibility of the Center official. If the center official is a "ball watcher" and doesn't focus on what is happening in his/her primary the offense is often put at a disadvantage and the game gets rougher and more physical.

Not all cuts originate from the weak side, so leads and trails have to be aware of cuts from the strong side as well. The back cut, from the strong side, is often defended by a grab or hold by a beaten defender.

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## **SLOWER/PATIENT WHISTLES**

Develop the ability to have a "patient whistle". Officials must allow the entire play to finish before we make a decision on blowing the whistle. When officials let the play happen before they put air in the whistle, the percentage of calls they get right goes up. You must see the play from start to finish, evaluate all the contact or lack thereof and decide if a whistle is warranted. Hold your whistle! At least for a second. You'll get more plays right.

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## **State Tournament Officials**

Just because you do not get selected to officiate a state basketball tournament does not mean you are not a good official. The SDHSAA cannot award everybody with a state tournament. It is a numbers game as there are only so many slots available. There are a number of SDHSAA basketball officials that are capable of officiating state basketball tournaments. Be supportive of the officials who are selected to officiate a state basketball tournament.

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## **Officials Quiz**

**Question 1:** A1 has the ball four feet from the basket just outside the free-throw lane. A1 dribbles *initiating* contact with B1 in an attempt to move toward the basket. While

defending A1, B1 has his or her hands out in from to protect from A1's contact. A foul is ruled on B1 for placing two hands on A1. Is that the correct call?

**Question 2:** A3 jumps into the air from the three point area and begins his/her throwing motion to the basket. The ball has not been released and the lead official blows the whistle for a foul by B4 in the lane area. A3 continues the throwing motion and scores. Do you count the basket?

**Question 3:** During the pregame practice period, the visiting team properly uses the east goal and the home team the west goal. The officials, by mistake allow the jumpers to face the wrong direction to start the game. A1 controls the tap by tapping the ball back to A2. A2, realizing that he/she had warmed up at the basket behind A1, dribbles to that basket and scores an uncontested basket. Do you count the basket?

**Question 4:** A pass, a tap or a try for field goal by A1 is in flight when the horn sounds indicating the expiration of time in the third quarter. The ball subsequently comes down several feet in front of the basket, strikes the floor without touching any player and bounces into the basket. Does the basket count?

**Question 5:** Team A is taking the ball out of bounds on the baseline. They have the full court to go with 8 seconds left in the half. There is no pressure by team B. A1 has the ball out of bounds for a spot throw in. A1 sets the ball down on the ground out of bounds between his/her legs and rolls it onto the court. A2 picks up the ball about 15 feet onto the court and begins dribbling. Is this legal?

**Question 6:** After A3's dribble, he can't find an open teammate to pass the ball. So A3 bounces the ball off (a) B2's leg, (b) an inbounds official's leg, (c) the opponent's backboard, or (d) team A's backboard. In all cases, A3 secures the ball and starts another dribble. Do officials have a double dribble violation?

**Question 7:** A1's dribble is "interrupted" when the ball deflects off his/her shoe. A1 or a teammate asks or signals for a time-out as the ball bounces toward: (a) the sideline; or (b) the division line. Is a time-out granted to Team A?

**Question 8:** A1, at the free throw line to attempt a free throw (a) muffs the pass from the official and it rolls forward; or (b) while performing his/her pre-shot routine prior to the release, accidentally allows the ball to deflect off his/her foot into the free throw lane. What the ruling?

**Question 9:** A1 attempts to pass the ball to a teammate who is in the lane area in team A's frontcourt. Post player (a) A4 or (b) B5, who is very near the basket, inadvertently deflects the thrown ball upward such that it cleanly enters and passes through the basket and cylinder from below. The ball is caught by A2 after it passed through the cylinder and returned to the floor. Has any infraction occurred?

**Question 10:** A1 is fouled by B1. It is a non-shooting personal foul. It is Team B's 7th foul of the half, but the official scorer fails to notify the officials and they award Team A the ball out of bounds. After the inbound pass, Team A misses a shot and Team B secures the rebound. Team B then misses a shot at their offensive end, and A1 secures that rebound. A1 requests and is granted a time-out. During the time-out, the officials are informed that Team A should have been awarded a bonus free throw situation on its previous possession.

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## Officials or Coaches

If you have a question about a rule interpretation, a play situation or a mechanic question that officials/coaches statewide should know about or the SDHSAA should know about to help make the game of basketball better for everyone involved in the game of basketball—please send your concerns to be included in the weekly bulletins.

## Send your concerns to Buck Timmins at

- [buck.timmins@k12.sd.us](mailto:buck.timmins@k12.sd.us)
- Cell Phone: 605-933-1493
- Home Phone: 605-996-1486

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**Rule 1:** A1 created the contact and caused B1 to place two hands on A1. A defensive foul should not be ruled. B1 should be allowed to legally maintain his or her position. Freedom of movement should be allowed for all players both offensively and defensively. If A1 causes the contact and displaces B1, while B1 is maintaining a legal guarding position, a player-control foul on A1 is the accurate ruling.

**Rule 2:** Good three point goal and penalize B4's foul. It will be A's ball for a throw-in closest to where the foul occurred if A is not in the bonus. Since the defense committed the foul after the throwing motion began, the basket is counted and the foul is penalized.

**Rule 3:** Score the basket for Team A. The officials should stop the game and emphasize to both teams the proper direction. The mistake is an official's error by allowing A1 and B1 to face the wrong direction; not a correctable error.

**Rule 4:** NO. A try or tap by A1 towards A's basket does not become dead until the try or tap ends, which it does when it touches the floor. Therefore, no points are scored.

**Rule 5:** When the ball touches the out of bounds line when the player puts it on the floor - it is a violation. If the player had put the ball on the floor inbounds and rolled it, there would have been no violation.

**Rule 6:** In (b) and (c), A3 committed a double dribble. The pass against B's backboard was the start of a dribble which ended when A3 caught the ball. A3 has violated, provided A3 is first to touch the ball after it strikes the official or the board. If A3 has not dribbled and throws it off the wrong backboard that is legal and A3 can be the first to touch the ball but cannot start a dribble. In (a) and (d) the plays by A3 are legal.

**Rule 7:** The time-out request cannot be granted in (a) or (b), since A1's dribble has been "interrupted" and the ball is loose.

**Rule 8:** In (a), the official should sound the whistle to prevent any violations and then start the free-throw procedure again. No free-throw violation should be ruled in this situation. In (b), a free-throw violation shall be called on A1.

**Rule 9:** It is a violation for a player to cause the ball to pass through the basket and the cylinder from below. In (a), a violation shall be called on A4 as A4 last touched the ball and thus caused it to pass through the basket from below. Team B shall receive a designated-spot throw in at the spot nearest the violation. In (b) the violation is on B5 for causing the ball to pass through the basket from below, and team A shall receive the designated-spot throw-in nearest the violation. (7-4- 1, 9-4)

**Rule 10:** The error can still be corrected. A1 shoots a bonus free throw situation with no players in the free-throw lane spaces. Team A is then awarded the ball out of bounds nearest the spot where the time-out was requested. Since the error involves the failure to award a merited free-throw(s) and there has been a change in team possession, play shall be resumed from the point at which it was interrupted, after the error has been rectified.  
Rule 2-10-6

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**Master The Rules And Know The Intent Of The Rules**

**Take Time During The Week With Your Favorite Rule Topic That Gives You Troubles.**

