

# South Dakota High School Activities Association

## 2019-2020 Basketball Pre-Season Newsletter

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### The Basketball Season Will Soon Be Starting

The SDHSAA hopes everyone is excited for another basketball season and beginning to prepare for the 2019-20 basketball season. During this time of the year, the excitement of a new season and the opportunities that it provides gives all of you a re-energized focus to apply and implement all of the offseason development areas you may have addressed over the past months.

What can you do this year to better position yourself for success? Maybe it is a new level, more games or the elusive postseason assignment you have been working toward over the last several seasons.

Those who are looking to distinguish themselves in 2019-20 should look no further than the topic of “team officiating.” The best officials at all levels have the ability to know when to help the crew, the game and making others around you better by doing so.

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### SDHSAA and NFHS Mechanics

Communication and professionalism remain the most important elements of good officiating. It is important for officials to be familiar and comfortable with the proper NFHS officiating mechanics. The primary reasons for utilizing only approved NFHS mechanics are:

1. Effective communication between officiating partner(s)
2. Providing immediate information and feedback to coaches, players, scorers, timers, and knowledgeable fans
3. Foul calling -- with a signal to stop the clock and appropriate eye contact with partner(s) the “double foul dilemma” can be avoided.

The National Federation and the SDHSAA are placing an important emphasis on proper high school officiating mechanics. High School basketball officials are in the business of providing the best possible communication you can through the use of our high school officiating mechanics. The use of proper mechanics is more important at the junior high and high school level than any other level of basketball.

The SDHSAA is challenging each of you to place a high priority on using the proper NFHS mechanics during the 2019-20 basketball season.

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## Do You Have A Plan To Get Ready For The 2019-2020 Basketball Season

- What are you doing to get ready for the 2019-20 SDHSAA basketball season?
  - Rules Knowledge—acquire a reverence for the rules and be guided and inspired by them
  - Current Mechanics—Study and Understand—Right Place—Right Time
    - Be in position to manage and officiate the play
  - Physical Workouts/Health
- Be The Very Best High School Football Official You Want To Be!
  - Going Into The Season--What Are You Going To Work On--We All Have Weakness
    - Build on your strengths
    - You can always get better
- Work On Being Excellent—Be The Best You Can Be—Preparation
- Maintain good communication with all participants
- Decisive—Consistent Decisions and Signals—Same Body Language
- The SDHSAA Expects Your Best

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## South Dakota 2019-2020 Changes

1. Eliminate pre-game handshakes with officials (acknowledged that this was previously adopted, but needs reinforcement) and basketball coaches.  
*Explanation: The elimination of handshakes we are speaking of are the ones when players are introduced prior to the start of the contest and go and shake the hands of the officials and the opposing coach. This came as a recommendation from the BB advisory so coaches, please help by telling your players of this change.*
2. Mandate no more than a 15-minute warm-up for all regular season contests. All postseason contests will include a 15-minute warm-up.
3. Beginning in 2020, adopt NFHS Basketball Rule 2-2-1 NOTE which reads, “A state association may permit game or replay officials to use a replay monitor during state championship series contest to determine if a scored goal at the expiration of the time in the fourth quarter or any overtime period (0.00 on the game clock) should be counted, and if so, determine if it is a two-point or three-point goal”. If a red/LED light is used, the light is the official expiration of playing time (Rule 2-12-7).
4. Winter Moratorium is in effect from December 23 through December 26. No activities allowed during this time.

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## South Dakota Modifications To The NFHS Rules

1. All classes (AA, A and B) in boys and girls will use a 35-second clock.
2. Classics may choose to play contests in 16- or 18-minute halves.
3. Pre-wrap is not allowed as a headband and/or hair control device.
4. Allow multiple manufacturers' logo/trademark on visible undergarments with a logo maximum restriction of 2 ¼ x 2 ¼ inches.
5. Sublimated or printed logos around the collar of the undershirt are permitted.
6. Mercy rule shall be used for all regular season, Region, and SoDak 16 contests. When the point differential reach 30 or more points in the third or fourth quarter, the clock will continue to run. The clock will only be stopped for free throws and

timeouts. Regular timing will be used if the score differential drops back to less than 20 points.

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## SDHSAA Supervised Test

### Supervised Test Date—Wednesday, December 4, 2019

- To move from “registered” classification to “certified” classification, officials must take and pass the supervised test (closed book)—score at least 75% to pass.
- The supervised test will be offered at Aberdeen Central, Brookings, Faith, Mitchell, Pierre - SDHSAA Office, Rapid City Central, SF Lincoln, Watertown and Yankton.
- **If you want to take the supervised test, you need to contact Marsha Karst at the SDHSAA office to ensure we have a supervisor, and a test available at the location you wish to attend.**
- An official may stay in the “registered” classification indefinitely.
- Registered officials are restricted to working only regular season contests.

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## Basketball Rules Information

### SDHSAA Web Page Officials—Basketball

Basketball officials and coaches will need to review the basketball rules information posted on the SDHSAA web page. The information can be found on the Officials Page—Basketball.

- **Rules Changes:** Information on Basketball Rules Changes – 2019-20; Rationale for rule changes
- **Rules Interpretation:** Game Situations and Rulings for basketball rules; Rule Book Corrections and Case Book Corrections
- **Points of Emphasis:** Points of emphasis gives extra attention to issues where most needed. 2019-20 Points of Emphasis include—Head Band and Hair Control Devices; Medical Bracelet; Pre-Game Meeting with Administration on Supervision and Crowd Control;
- **SDHSAA 2019-20 South Dakota Changes:** South Dakota changes for the upcoming 2019-20 season. SDHSAA modifications made to the NFHS Rules.

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## Contact Information

You recently received your 2019-20 SDHSAA basketball rules books, online testing and online rules meeting information and other important information for the 2019-20 basketball season. Review the information carefully.

Please note your contact information. You must notify the SDHSAA of any change of address, E-mail address, phone numbers, etc. It is very important to keep your mailing address and E-mail address up to date with the SDHSAA Office.

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## Eligible for Basketball Tournaments

Only certified officials are eligible to officiate sub-state and state athletic games providing all requirements are met.

For the sub-state contests, the requirement is that an official must work 7 regular season varsity girls' games to be eligible for girls' sub-state games. An official must work 7 regular season varsity boys' games to be eligible for boys' sub-state games

To be eligible for state tournaments, officials must work during the current school year a minimum of 12 regular season varsity contests (non-gender specific) to be eligible to officiate any state contest.

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## Shot Clock

For the 2019-20 basketball season, a 35-second shot clock is to be used for all classes of SDHSAA basketball contests.

Basketball officials and coaches will need to review the Shot Clock Information found on the SDHSAA web page. Officials Page -- Basketball

- Duties of the Shot Clock Operator
- Shot Clock Situations
- Shot Clock Training PowerPoint: This presentation is for officials, coaches and for those who will be operating the shot clock on the procedures of using the shot clock.

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## SDHSAA Basketball Jamborees

- NEW officials must attend a jamboree once in the first two (2) years of registration, then, must attend one jamboree during the next three (3) years.
- REGISTERED officials, after the first five years, must attend a jamboree every five (5) years. Registered officials may stay at “registered” classification indefinitely, but must meet the requirement of one jamboree every five years.
- CERTIFIED officials must attend a jamboree once every three (3) years. The jamboree requirement may be satisfied by jamboree attendance or acting as a clinician.
- Officials must attend their initial jamboree prior to officiating any sub-state or state event.
- Jamborees will be held Saturday, December 7, 2019. Your region coordinator has scheduled a mini-jamboree. Check with your region coordinator for more information.
- DO YOU NEED TO MEET JAMBOREE REQUIREMENT?—Check your officials information on SDHSAA web site. Listed is the year you will need a jamboree.

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## 2019-20 Basketball Region Meetings

You have received a list of basketball region dates for all eleven regions. Mark the dates for the region meetings in your area on your calendar.

Basketball officials will need to attend TWO basketball region meetings to be eligible to officiate sub-state and state basketball games and tournament. With the rules and mechanics meetings online, this will be your opportunity to have face-to-face discussion with other officials in your region.

Be the official to step up and be a presenter at a region meeting. This will give you the opportunity to research a topic for discussion, which will make you a better official. Be involved in your region meetings. Dedicate yourself to getting better—become the best official you want to be. Ask questions at region meetings!

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## Off Season Rules/Mechanics Study

This time of year is the perfect time to learn the rules not just read the rules. When the season is going and you are constantly on the go from games to family to job to more games, there is not enough time to dive into deep rules study. However, that time is available now.

Vow to master the rules. Be the smartest person on the court regarding knowledge of the rules. Learn rules, study casebook plays and analyze new rules to help instill confidence in your officiating. It is your responsibility to KNOW the rules.

You get paid to know the rules. Learn from your mistakes—don't wait for the mistake to repeat itself before you take the time to find the proper ruling.

Study the mechanics manual and apply the mechanics in every one of your games. A few minutes of rules study each week is more important than reading the books once in a single sitting.

## Understand The Intent Of The Rule Not Just The Rule

### Fundamentals Are Key

Knowing the rules of the game is only one of the many facets needed to be a successful official. The rules are based on a few fundamentals. If you can master the fundamentals, rules comprehension will be much easier.

The NFHS rules book Page 76 has the list of basketball rules fundamentals. Mastery of the fundamental statements will permit proper application of the rules during a game. Mastery of the rules thus becomes an exercise in reasoning, not in the immediate recall of isolated statements.

### Statements to Think About When Preparing For the Season

- Don't ever think you're so good you can't get better.
- Be the very best high school basketball official you want to be—You are somebody—You are a high school basketball official.
- Make this season the best—start getting ready now—what areas of your officiating do you need to work on?
- Never think you are as good as you can be - Be A Little Better!
- You as an official have special skills that many people do not have.
- Need to have a passion for the game to get better
- How you act when nobody is watching is as important when people are watching.
- Be a good listener to partners, the players, the coaches.
- Respect primary area of coverage.
- Learn the art of managing people—deal with people.
- Ask yourself the question "How hard do I have to work to be the best?"
- Preparation gets you there!
- Criticism comes with officiating. Plan on it. You have to learn to love it when they BOO!

Officials or Coaches If you have a question about a rule interpretation, a play situation or a mechanic question that officials or 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 basketball bulletins.

Send your concerns to Buck Timmins at

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

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## **Officials Resolutions for the 2019-2020 Basketball Season**

- **I resolve to get in shape physically**
  - Walking, jogging or running goes a long way to bringing the heart rate to levels approaching those necessary to run effortlessly up and down the court for the next four months
- **I resolve to get in shape mentally**
  - Reacquaint yourself with the rulebook and the officiating manual. Studying both the literal application and spirit of the rules. Enforcing the spirit of the rule is possible when you use good common sense.
- **I resolve to replenish my supply of officiating equipment and take an inventory of everything in my officiating bag.**
  - Check your referee clothing for holes, soiled or faded spots, broken zippers and frayed shoestrings. You get one chance to make a good first impression.
- **I resolve to arrive at the game site on time.**
  - To be on time is to be late. To be early is to be on time. Don't cause the game administration undo worry.
- **I resolve to conduct a meaningful pregame conference.**
  - The content of the conference is important—spend time talking about primary coverage areas. Take the lead! Make your pregame meetings timely, tactical and tactful. Study rules during the week. Don't wait for things to happen—be prepared.
- **I resolve to use proper mechanics.**
  - Follow the mechanics and signals as designed in the NFHS Officials Manual.
- **I resolve to strive for total concentration.**
  - You cannot afford to let your mind wander during the course of the game. Discipline yourself to focus on the players, coaches, and your partners. Anticipate situations before they happen and react to them with poise and confidence.
- **I resolve to have fun.**
  - Strive to work hard, but understand it is a game. Enjoy the fulfillment of officiating.
- **I resolve to act in a professional manner.**

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## **Are You Ready For The Season?**

You can't come into the season cold and expect success. Spend the proper amount of time reviewing the rulebook, casebook and mechanics manual so you are prepared for game situations.

Get in shape before the season so you are ready to keep up with the players and to lessen the chance of being sidelined by injury. Make sure your uniform is clean and in good condition.

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**The time you spend preparing to step on the court  
is vital to your success on the court.**

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