



Jo Auch
Assistant Executive Director
South Dakota High School Activities Association

THE FINAL STRETCH

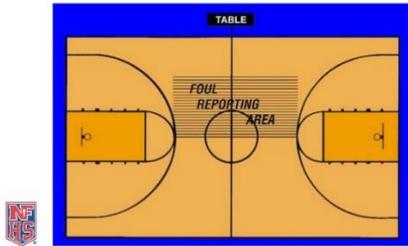
As we come closer to the end of the season, officials need to continue to work hard to stay consistent with the enforcement of rules and continue to be good communicators. As we draw closer to post season we need to keep in mind that we all are participating in educationally based activities. Unsporting behavior should never be tolerated and we all need to remember what role each person plays in the contest. If we all do our job to the best of our ability, the game goes so much better!



If a coach has a legitimate question, officials should try to answer that question. If you have fans in the stands that are continuing to “help you officiate,” so much that you are not able to do your job as an official, then you need to get the school administrator involved and keep an eye on the situation for you. February is the time of the basketball season when officials really need to concentrate on “blowing the whistle”. As the regular season comes to a close, the teams are trying to position themselves for the post-season. Officials cannot become complacent. Do not let games get out of control early, call fouls, get in position and see the play. The game must be officiated by the rules as written and the players and coaches must adjust. This time of the year there is a lot on the line with every game, kids are playing hard and sometimes out of control. One area in particular to concentrate on is rebounding – watch for undercutting fouls, and the pushing to get position. See the whole play not just the end result. Get shooters to the floor. Do not let body bumping and hand checking disrupt movement. Post play must be addressed early in the game and must be called the entire game. Do not let offensive players dislodge a legal defender to gain and initial position. If the offensive player is legally posted up, do not allow the defender to shove or displace a legal post player. Officiate screening action; do not let the screener move on the screen, the screener must be stationary. Find the defensive player on block/charge situations and determine if they are in a legal guarding position – then find the offense – who initiates contact? Coaches must not teach players to use illegal tactics, and if players use illegal tactics, they should expect to have a foul called on them. Unsporting acts by players and coaches must be addressed immediately. Letting them linger throughout the game and then trying to penalize at the end of the contest helps no one.

CALL THE FOUL – TELL THE STORY – THEN REPORT IT

Foul Reporting



Signals are a primary form of communication. When calling a foul, get to the foul reporting area. Do not “walk & talk” when reporting a foul to the table. Good rule of thumb is this: If your FEET are moving — your LIPS should be still. When your FEET stop — your LIPS can start talking. This simple but effective technique will make you look so much better when reporting fouls, time-outs, etc. to the table.

The same is true of your foul calling sequence at the spot of the foul.

1. Sound your whistle with a single sharp blast while raising one hand, fist clenched, straight and high above the head.
2. While holding the foul signal, move toward the play and near the fouling player, stop and verbally inform the player that he/she fouled by stating jersey color and number.
3. Lower the foul signal and indicate the nature of the foul by giving a preliminary signal.
4. Indicate throw-in spot or indicate the number of free throws to the shooter and the other officials.
5. Do not rush to leave the playing floor. Attend to the dead ball situation at the point of the play before leaving to report to the scorer.
6. GET TO THE FOUL REPORTING AREA by moving around the players, not through the players.
7. Come to COMPLETE STOP and retell the story. Get eye contact with the scorer and slowly state the color of the jersey, visually indicate the number of the player who fouled with two-handed signal with arm extended straight out, shoulder height, and verbalize the number as “twenty four”, not “2”-“4”

OFFICIALS POSITIONS ON THE FLOOR

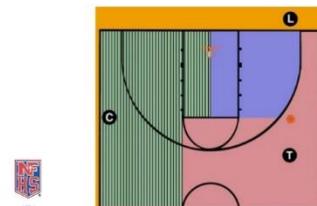
I have seen several contest where we seem to be working too deep on the floor as a trail or center official. We should NEVER have two TRAIL officials. It is better to have two Center officials than two Trail officials. When the lead officials starts to close down when ball goes from strong side to weak side, the trail needs to start moving toward the “C” position and ready to be in position to make calls. Adjust your position on the floor to get the best possible look every time. Having an open look on a play is crucial, closed looks will only get you in trouble and cause officials to “guess” at what they just saw. Move to improve, adjust your position by taking a step one way or the other. If the ball goes one direction, move to improve your view. You do not want to see backs of the players; you want to see between the players to get the best look. Go where you need to go to see the play. Be on the move every time the ball moves. Move to improve!

JEWELRY

What is the penalty if a player is found in the ball game with jewelry on?

Primary Coverage Areas

Both C and T should close down on shots



Rule 3-5-7 states that jewelry is prohibited. Religious and medical alert medals are not considered jewelry. A religious medal shall be taped and worn under the uniform. A medical-alert medal shall be taped and may be visible.

Casebook 3.5.7 Situation: Substitute A6 is beckoned and enters the court to replace A1. A6 is wearing (a) a bracelet, (b) an earring covered with tape or (c) earhold spacer. **RULING:** The items in (a), (b) and (c) are ILLEGAL and considered jewelry and A6 will not be allowed to participate while wearing the items. **NO PENALTY is involved. A6 simply cannot participate until the illegal items are removed.**

CHECK THE BOOK

As the referee, you are to check the book PRIOR to the 10 minute mark, so you might catch any discrepancies that one might have prior to penalizing. Keep in mind that it is one technical foul at the ten minute mark for not having your team listed in the book with the starting 5 designated AND one technical foul AFTER the 10- minute mark if you:

- a. have to change a starter,
- b. add a name to the team member list,
- c. require the scorer to change a team member's or players' number in the scorebook,
- d. require a player to change to the number in the scorebook
- e. **have identical number on teams members and/or players.**

Casebook play 3.2.2 Situation B states: Three minutes before the game starts, it is discovered (a) two Team B members have wrong numbers in the scorebook; or (b) two Team B team members are wearing the same number. **RULING:** In (a), if either or both team member's number is changed in the scorebook, one technical foul is charged to Team B. If there is no request for change or if neither becomes a player, thus avoiding the change, there is no penalty. In (b), a technical foul is charge tot Team B upon discovery of the identical numbers. Only one team member may wear a given number; the other must change to a number not already in use before participating (10-1-2)

We can be lenient on identical numbers in the JV or lower level contests, but when it comes time for the varsity contest, we CANNOT have identical numbers in the book. If you can address it with the coach PRIOR to the 10-minute mark and they take the player off the roster, no penalty would be assessed, but if it is after the 10-minute mark, we must penalize with a technical foul.

SCORER

By rule 2-11-12 under SCORER'S DUTIES it states: The official scorer is REQUIRED To wear a black-and-white vertically striped garment. This helps with the communication to the table for the officials. They then know who they are looking for when they communicate the foul. Likewise, athletes know who they are checking in to the ball game with as well. Officials, please be sure the official scorer is wearing that garment.



If you have any questions feel free to contact me @ jo.auch@sdhsaa.com.