



Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc.

2006-2007 Basketball Preseason Bulletin

Rules, Revisions, and Interpretations

**October
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List of NFHS Basketball Rule Changes and Editorial Changes

Rule Changes:

Rule 3-5-3: Changed the guidelines for headbands and sweatbands.

Rule 3-6: Added that a school logo/mascot is also permitted on the pants, compression shorts, sweatbands and headbands.

Rule 5-10-1: The exact time observed by the official may be placed on the clock when a timer's mistake has occurred.

Rule 4-47-4, 10-1-5e New: A fourth warning for delay was added for failure to have the court ready to play following any time-out.

Rule 9-2-11, 10-1-5c,d: Changed the procedure for delay warnings to only one warning for any of the four delay situations (previously three).

Signal Chart: Established a new signal for a team control foul. The arm is extended and the fist is punched

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Editorial changes:

Rule 3-3-6: Clarified that a player who has any amount of blood on his/her uniform shall be directed to leave the game until the situation is corrected.

Rule 4-10: Clarified that a closely guarded count is terminated when an offensive player in control of the ball gets his/her head and shoulders past a defensive player.

Rule 4-19-14: Clarified that an unsporting foul can be a non-contact technical foul which involves behavior not in accordance with the spirit of fair play.

Rule 4-34-1,2: Clarified that a player is one of five team members who are legally in the game at any given time except intermission and that during an intermission, all team members are bench personnel.

Rule 5-11-2: Clarified that during a 30-second time-out, no on-court entertainment shall occur.

2006 PIAA Adoptions and Modifications:

- Adopt the 2006-2007 NFHS Basketball Rules Book.
- Adopt Rules 1-13-2 and 1-13-2, NOTE, coaching box and alternate placement of same, at all levels (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition,
- Adopt Rule 5-5 NOTE, running clock, at all levels (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, upon completion of the first half and one team gains a 40-point differential over its opponent, the clock shall be stopped only when an official's time-out is taken, a charged time-out is granted, a period ends, or administering free throws.
- Adopt Rule 10-5-1, the head coach, at all levels (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, may be off the bench in front of his/her seat within the confines of the designated 14-foot coaching box to give instructions to his/her players and/or substitutes.

**NFHS Comments on the Rules Changes:**

GUIDELINES FOR HEADBANDS, WRISTBANDS ESTABLISHED (3-5-3, 3-6): Headbands and wristbands must be unadorned (except for the permissible logo) and be the predominant color of the jersey or white. When wearing headbands and/or wristbands, all players must wear the same color and wear the items as intended. Only a single item may be worn on the head and/or on each wrist. Sweatbands must be worn below the elbow and may be a maximum of four inches. A single headband, if worn, must be no wider than two inches. There may also be one visible manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference or a school logo/mascot on the wristband or headband. The changes were made to enhance team uniformity and eliminate a player from unnecessarily drawing individual attention to him/her self. By permitting the school logo/mascot, school spirit is promoted.

LAG TIME ELIMINATED (5-10-1): This change eliminates the need for lag time or reaction time on the part of the clock operator. The referee may put the exact time observed by an official back on the game clock. The committee felt that with new clock technology and the ability to observe tenths of a second, when an official has definite knowledge relative to the time involved, he/she should have the ability to put the correct time on the game clock.

ADDITIONAL DELAY WARNING ADDED; ONLY ONE DELAY WARNING PER GAME (4-47-4, 10-1-5): A new delay situation was added for failure to have the court ready to play following any time-out. An official will now issue one team delay warning per game for any one of four delay situations. Any subsequent team delay in any one of the four categories will result in a team technical foul. The change will assist with the flow of the game, as well as the administration of the rule by officials and scorers.

TEAM-CONTROL FOUL SIGNAL ADDED (Signal Chart): A new signal has been added for a team-control foul. The arm is extended forward and the fist is punched. The new signal will eliminate confusion at the scorer's table and with players, coaches and fans. The signal will communicate that the ball is going the other direction and no free throws will be attempted. The player-control foul signal has not changed (hand behind the head); both signals should be preceded by the stop clock for a foul signal (arm extended over head with the fist).

NFHS Points of Emphasis for Officials & Coaches:

Concussions: If you suspect that a player has a concussion, you should take the following steps:

- Remove athlete from play.
- Ensure athlete is evaluated by an appropriate health care professional. Do not try to judge the seriousness of the injury yourself.
- Inform athlete's parents or guardians about the known or possible concussion if possible.
- Allow the athlete to return to play only with permission from an appropriate health care professional. (Written permission and keep a copy for your own protection).

Signs observed by Coaching Staff:

- Appears dazed or stunned.
- Is confused about assignment.
- Forgets plays.
- Is unsure of game, score or opponent.
- Moves clumsily.
- Answers questions slowly.
- Loses consciousness.
- Shows behavior or personality changes.
- Can't recall events prior to hit.
- Can't recall events after hit.

Symptoms reported by Athlete:

- Headache.
- Nausea.
- Balance problems or dizziness.
- Double vision or fuzzy vision.
- Sensitivity to light or noise.
- Feeling sluggish.
- Feeling foggy or groggy.
- Concentration or memory problems.
- Confusion.

Uniforms: Last season the NFHS Basketball Rules Committee was concerned with the use of uniforms in unsporting ways. Although there has been a marked improvement in this area, there is still a need to enforce the proper wearing of the uniform, especially as it relates to keeping the jersey tucked in and the shorts pulled up above the hips. In addition, in a rules change for 2006-07, the committee also established guidelines for the wearing of headbands and sweatbands. Other concerns relating to the uniform that need to be addressed are:

Undershirts: Illegal undershirts are increasingly being worn. If visible, undershirts shall be similar in color to the torso of the jersey and shall not have frayed or ragged edges. If the undershirts have sleeves, they shall be the same length and must be hemmed. Visible markings, including manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference or the school's mascot/logo are not permitted.

Compression Sleeves: There has been an increase in players wearing sleeves for various reasons. Compression sleeves worn for medical reasons are legal. Decorative sleeves made of cotton or other non-supportive materials are prohibited.

Time-outs: Proper procedures for requesting and granting time-outs have become an area of concern.

Granting Time-outs: Coaches attempting to call a time-out during playing action are a continuing problem. When player control is lost, officials must concentrate on playing action while attempting to determine if a time-out should be granted. Coaches should recognize that a request for a time-out does not guarantee that a time-out will be granted until player control is clearly established. Officials should not grant a time-out until player control is clearly established.

30-Second Time-outs: The length of a 30-second time-out has increasingly been improperly extended. Failure to return to the court at the warning signal, continually cleaning up spilled water, and cheerleaders or other on-court entertainment are prime examples. Officials shall indicate to the benches when the warning signal has sounded. Coaches should immediately prepare players to return to the floor so that the game may promptly begin when the second horn is sounded. Hydrating players should be done near the team benches and off the playing surface. Delaying the resumption of play after any time-out due to water clean up may result in the issuance of a team warning. Lastly, cheerleaders or other on-court entertainment are not permitted on the court during a 30-second time-out.

Intentional Fouls: The committee continues to be concerned about how games end. While there has been some improvement in the application of the rule, there is still need for further understanding and enforcement. An intentional foul is a personal or technical foul that neutralizes an opponent's obvious advantageous position. Contact away from the ball or when not making a legitimate attempt to play the ball or player, specifically designed to stop or keep the clock from starting, shall be intentional. Intentional fouls may or may not be premeditated and are not based solely on the severity of the act. A foul also shall be ruled intentional if while playing the ball a player causes excessive contact with an opponent.

NFHS Points of Emphasis for Officials & Coaches (cont'd):

Fouling is an accepted coaching strategy late in the game. There is a right way and a wrong way to foul. Coaches must instruct their players in the proper technique for strategic fouling. "Going for the ball" is a common phrase heard, but intentional fouls should still be called on players who go for the ball if it is not done properly.

Additionally, in throw-in situations, fouling a player that is not involved in the play in any way (setting a screen, attempting to receive the in-bound pass, etc.) must be deemed intentional. Far too often, officials do not call fouls as intentional when the act clearly meets the criteria.

Rules Enforcement and Proper Use of Signals"

The committee has seen a movement away from the consistent application of rule enforcement and use of approved mechanics/signals.

Rules Enforcement: Officials need to be aware that personal interpretations of the rules have a negative impact on the game. The rules are written to provide a balance between offense and defense, minimize risks to participants, promote the sound tradition of the game and promote fair play. Individual philosophies and deviations from the rules as written negatively impact the basic fundamentals and tenants of the rules. Officials must be consistent in the application of all rules, including:

- **Contact:** Contact that is not considered a foul early in the game should not be considered a foul late in the game simply because a team "wants" to foul. Conversely, contact that is deemed intentional late in the game should likewise be called intentional early in the game.
- **Closely Guarded:** Officials must properly judge the six-foot distance and begin a closely-guarded count when a defender obtains a legal guarding position. Failure to properly judge the six-foot distance and require the defender to be within three or four feet of the dribbler before beginning the closely-guarded count puts the defensive player in an unfair position. The count terminates when the dribbler gets head and shoulders past the defender.
- **Coaching Box:** In states that authorize the use of the optional coaching box, the head coach is the only person on the bench that is permitted to stand and must remain in the coaching box. All other bench personnel must remain seated at all times except when a team member is reporting to the scorer's table, during time-outs or intermissions, and to spontaneously react to a play.

Proper Signal Use: Signals are a means of communication by officials to scorers, players, coaches, spectators and media. Deviation from approved NFHS signals is unacceptable.

PROPER SIGNAL USE:

One of the points-of-emphasis this year is the use of proper signals. It could not come at a better time since a great number of officials either ignore the proper use of signals, are too lackadaisical or do not respect the high school game when it comes to proper mechanics.

There is no excuse for using improper signals. The High School game and the College game have a few different rules. Officials do not have problems delineating rules differences when in both arenas and they should not have problems delineating mechanic differences in each arena. The differences are few. It has to be a lack of concentration or a lack of respect for the proper mechanics in each venue.

One could understand a mistake very early in the game if an official makes the transition in successive nights from one venue to the other. However, to continually make improper signals throughout the game is a sign of laziness, indifference and a lack of respect

PIAA Exceptions to NFHS:**Mechanics:**

1. Switching
 - a. PIAA switches on all fouls (shooting or non-shooting).
 - b. In both 2-person and 3-person mechanics, we do make the "long switch" when a foul occurs.
2. Throw - In
 - a. If the ball goes out of bounds or there is a common foul committed in the bench area, move the ball right or left of the bench area for the throw-in.
3. Last Shot
 - a. "C" is responsible for the last shot whether he/she is on tableside or opposite side.

Uniform:

1. Officials Shirt
 - a. The official's shirt may have a collar or may be v-neck as long as all contest officials are dressed alike.

Disqualification:

1. If a player is disqualified for a flagrant personal or technical foul, that player must sit out the **rest of the day** and the very next game at the level in which the player was disqualified.
2. If a coach is administered a flagrant technical foul, he/she must also sit out the rest of the day and the very next game at the same level.

Note - The second technical is always considered flagrant.

Sportsmanship:

1. It is mandatory that both head coaches attend the pre-game meeting with the captains and officials.
2. PIAA requires all registered sports' officials to enforce the sportsmanship rule for the coaches and contestants. The statement is located on the back of the official identification card as well as the Pre-Season Basketball Bulletin and must be read to the **head** coaches and captains at the pre-game meeting.

SELECTIVE RULE ENFORCEMENT:

It has been brought to our attention that some officials are not calling or recognizing certain rules because they do not like them. **We cannot have selective rule enforcement**. Whether we like a rule or not, we still must enforce it. An illustration of this is the **3-second violation**. There are some officials who will say quite openly, I do not call 3-second violations. This is unacceptable. We cannot pick and choose what rules we enforce. We must enforce all of them. These type of actions and attitudes cause a breakdown in the game and develop an inconsistency in rule enforcement contest to contest and official to official. Please remember, it is our responsibility as officials to ensure that both teams have an equal opportunity to win or lose the game. To accomplish this, we must keep the rules enforcement consistent and equitable. Taking the 3 second violation as an illustration, if you allow a player to camp in the key, eventually, his/her team will get him/her the ball. Usually, the player camping in the lane is a tall player or a skilled post player. Now the opponents either foul the player, or that player scores an easy goal. These type of actions are certainly putting the defense at a distinct disadvantage. If a violation occurred it should have been their ball. Instead, the opponents get charged with a foul, or a basket was scored and a foul was called against them. This is unfair and causes the opponents to believe there is an unequal treatment of the rules. Therefore, don't do it. With all this being said, this does not in any way indicate we do not do preventive officiating at both ends of the court. The difference is when an infraction occurs, we must and shall, call it.

Another area of concern is **players wearing their uniform properly**. Players will wear the uniform as they please, unless we enforce the rule. It is our responsibility and duty to enforce all the rules of basketball regardless of our personal attitudes.

Finally, the **coaching box** needs consistent enforcement. It is not fair when one coach is remaining in the box and the other is allowed to "coach" outside the box. Both coaches must remain in the box. There is no need to warn a coach for being outside the box. They know the rule. However, if they are outside the box coaching and you give them a warning the first time, the next time it is a technical foul. You cannot continue to warn and you cannot ignore it. If they are outside the box and are not coaching, it is a technical foul. This is to be a coaching box. It is not an officiating box, or a yelling box, or a gesturing box. These types of actions are unacceptable behaviors and the proper penalty enforcement of these actions is a technical foul.

CORRECTABLE ERRORS:

Now that the penalty for team-control fouls has been changed to a throw-in in all cases, we may have situations where we should not have awarded a free throw and we did. We may also have situations where a free throw should have been awarded and we failed to do so. It is more imperative that we understand correctable errors and the time frame to make any adjustments.

There are five correctable errors and four of them occur while the clock is stopped. The fifth may occur while the clock is running. To correct any of the four while the clock is stopped, the correction must be made **during the first dead ball after the clock has started**. If the clock is running when the fifth one occurs, erroneously counting or canceling a score, **it must be corrected before the second live ball**.

If an error is corrected, play shall resume from the point of interruption unless it involves awarding a merited free throw and there has been no change of team possession. In this case, you would continue from the free throw(s).

The five correctable errors are:

1. **Failure to award a merited free throw.**
 - a. Player is entitled to a free throw but does not receive it for whatever reason.
2. **Awarding an unmerited free throw.**
 - a. Player is not entitled to a free throw but receives one anyway.
3. **Permitting a wrong player to attempt a free throw.**
 - a. Official puts the wrong player on the line.
4. **Attempting a free throw at the wrong basket.**
 - a. Officials and players get confused and proceed to the opponent's basket.
5. **Erroneously counting or canceling a score.**
 - a. Indicating two points for a three point score.
 - b. Calling basket interference on the defense and not counting the score.

CORRECTABLE ERRORS SITUATIONS:

SITUATION: Team B commits its seventh foul. Officials are not notified by the scorer and the ball is given to Team A for a throw-in. A1 throws the ball to A2 who dribbles for several seconds and then the horn sounds. Scorer informs officials that it is B's seventh foul.

RULING: Since there was no change of team possession, put the shooter on the free throw line, line up the players along the lane and continue from that point.

CORRECTABLE ERRORS SITUATIONS (con't)

SITUATION: Team B commits its seventh foul. Officials are not notified by the scorer and the ball is given to Team A for a throw-in. A1 throws the ball to A2 who dribbles behind a screen and scores a three point field goal. As soon as the ball passes through the net, the horn sounds and the coach of Team A is at the table for a correctable error. He/She indicates that the last foul was B's seventh foul. The scorer agrees.

RULING: Put the proper shooter on the line to attempt a 1 plus 1. Do not line up the players at the lane. The ball will remain dead if made or missed. B's ball for a throw-in anywhere along the end line.

COMMENT: Points scored and time consumed prior to the recognition of the error **shall not be nullified**.

SITUATION: Team A commits a team control foul. It is the seventh team foul on Team A and the officials erroneously award Team B a 1 plus 1. B1 makes both free throws. Team A takes the ball out and eventually tries for a field goal at their basket. The shot is missed and B gets the rebound and proceeds toward their basket. They work the ball for approximately a minute or more and attempt a field goal which is also missed. Team A gets the rebound and heads toward their basket. They are working for an opening when Team A player is called for traveling. Coach from Team A is at the table for a correctable error.

RULING: The error is correctable. Remove the two free throws from B's score and continue from the point of interruption. Give Team B the ball closest to the spot where Team A traveled.

COMMENT: Even though several minutes have transpired since the free throws were attempted and made, that is the first dead ball after the clock had started.

SITUATION: Team A commits a team control foul. It is the team's tenth and the officials erroneously award Team B's player two free throws. The player makes both. Team A takes the ball out and drives down to their basket and scores. Team B takes the ball out and drives down to their basket and scores. Coach from Team A is at the table for a correctable error.

RULING: It is too late to correct the error.

COMMENT: The error could have been corrected after A scored. That is the first dead ball after the clock had started. Even though the coach was right about the error, it cannot be corrected since the time frame for correctable errors has run out. Charge the coach with a 60 second time-out. If he/she doesn't have any 60-second time-outs left, you may charge him with a 30. If he/she has no time-outs left, it is a technical foul for an excessive time-out.

TEAM CONTROL FOULS:

It appears that some officials are misinterpreting this rule. The new definition for a team control foul has been changed to a throw-in in all cases. The ball will be awarded to the offended team at a spot nearest to where the foul occurred. **The rule only applies when a foul occurs by the team in control.** That means that the team that has possession is penalized with a foul. If the opponents foul, (team not in possession), we always shoot if we are in the bonus.

It is imperative to understand that, during a live ball, one team is always in team possession until the other team gains possession. Merely touching the ball, batting the ball or deflecting the ball does not constitute possession. There are only three occasions when a live ball is not in either team's possession:

1. **Jump Ball.**
2. **Shot or Tap.**
3. **Throw-in.**

If either team is in the bonus and a foul occurs during one of the three situations above, the player on that particular team will go to the free throw line. It cannot be a team control foul.

SITUATION #1: A1 is dribbling the ball in his/her front court. A1 ends the dribble and attempts a pass to A2. B1 bats the ball away before it gets to A2. B1 and A1 chase after the ball which is headed toward the sideline or into A's back court. In the attempt to retrieve the ball, A1 pushes B1 and is whistled for a common personal foul not intentional. Team B is in the bonus.

RULING: It is Team B's ball for a designated throw-in closest to where the foul occurred.

COMMENT: This is a team control foul. Even though B1 batted the ball, that does not constitute control. B1 would have to pick up the ball or get to it first and start dribbling before control is established. Team A still has team possession while that ball is bouncing, or rolling, along the floor.

SITUATION #2: Team A has the ball in its front court. A2 attempts to set up a screen for A1, but is whistled for a moving screen foul. Team B is in the bonus.

RULING: Team control foul. It is Team B's ball for a designated throw-in closest to where the foul occurred.

SITUATION #3: Team A is on a fast break with a three on two advantage. A1 passes the ball to A2 and while the ball is in the air, A1 charges into B1 who was set in a good defensive position. The official calls a charging foul on A1. Team B is in the bonus.

RULING: This is a team control foul. It is Team B's ball for a designated throw-in closest to where the foul occurred.

SITUATION #4: A1 has the ball out-of-bounds for a throw-in. In an attempt to get free to receive a pass, A2 pushes off B2 and is whistled for a common foul. Team B is in the bonus.

RULING: B2 goes to the free throw line for a 1+1.

COMMENT: This is not a team control foul. There is no team control during a throw-in.

SITUATION #5: A1 has the ball out-of-bounds on the end line. A1 passes the ball to A2, who is standing near the division line. The pass is high and A2 cannot control the pass and it deflects off his hands and goes into the back court. A2 and B2 chase after the ball and A2 pushes off B2 and is whistled for a common foul. Team B is in the bonus.

RULING: B2 goes to the free throw line for a 1+1.

COMMENT: There is no team possession on a throw-in until a player on the court establishes control. Merely touching the ball does not constitute control.

SITUATION #6: A1 has the ball in-bounds near the end line. A1 throws the ball to A2 who is near the top of the key. A2 cannot control the pass and the ball deflects off his/her hands and is bouncing toward the division line. A2 and B2 chase after the ball and A2 is whistled for a common foul

RULING: Team control foul. Team B's ball for a designated throw-in closest to where the foul occurred.

COMMENT: Even though the ball is loose, Team A still has team possession until Team B gains possession.

SITUATION #7: A1 has the ball in his/her front court. A screen is being set up for A2 who attempts to go around the screen to receive an open pass. Defender B2 holds A2 as he/she tries to move around the screen and is whistled for a common foul. Team A is in the bonus.

RULING: A2 goes to the free throw line for a 1+1.

COMMENT: When in the bonus, we always shoot when the team not in possession fouls.

2006-2007 PIAA District Rules Interpreters:

District 1	Donald T. Taylor	District 7	Regis A. Giles
District 2	Joseph F. Lalli	District 8	Raymond D. Morton
District 3	David D. Hancock	District 9	Dennis J. Geitner
District 4	Martin Maurer, Jr.	District 10	Rick Fletcher
District 5	Ronald Koppenhaver	District 11	Joseph Catanzaro
District 6	Richard L. Young	District 12	James P. Moore Sr.

Questions regarding rules interpretations or play situations should be directed to the chapter interpreter. If questions still remain, chapter interpreters should then contact their District interpreter for additional clarification.

PIAA 2006-2007 Basketball Schedule:

First Practice Date	Monday, November 13
First Inter-School/Scrimmage Date.....	Saturday, November 18
First Regular Season Play Date.....	Friday, December 1
Last Regular Season Contest Date.....	Saturday, February 24
District Championship Deadline	Saturday, March 3
PIAA Basketball Championships:	
First Round.....	Friday March 9 or Saturday, March 10
Second Round	Tuesday, March 13 or Wednesday, March 14
Quarterfinals	Friday, March 16 or Saturday, March 17
Semi-Finals	Tuesday, March 20 or Wednesday, March 21
PIAA Basketball Championship Finals	
BRYCE JORDAN Center, PSU, University Park	Friday, March 23
AA Girls' Championship	12:00 pm
A Boys' Championship	2:00 pm
AAAA Girls' Championship.....	6:00 pm
AAA Boys' Championship.....	8:00 pm
BRYCE JORDAN Center, PSU, University Park,	Saturday, March 24
A Girls' Championship	12:00 pm
AA Boys' Championship.....	2:00 pm
AAA Girls' Championship.....	6:00 pm
AAAA Boys' Championship.....	8:00 pm

PIAA PRIDE:

At the expense of taking journalistic liberty with acronyms, PIAA PRIDE is a moniker for PIAA Referees In-service (training) Develops Excellence. This message grasps the concept and reality of training of officials at the local chapter level. Unlike many states, PIAA sports' officials chapters must adhere to the minimum standard of six seasonal in-service sessions and one mandatory rules interpretation meeting.

This formula assisted by lesson plans for chapter rules interpreters, preseason rules interpretation bulletins, during season NFHS and PIAA rules interpretations allows for training at the local association level to be thorough and comprehensive. This structure allows all registered officials to receive continuing education as part of their registration as a PIAA sports' official.

For all of this to be successful, chapter officers, in leadership positions, as well as the rank and file sports' officials only need to follow ten two letter words; IF IT IS TO BE IT IS UP TO ME. The combination of experiences with continued officiating education is a great recipe for success.

Officials' Responsibilities:**PIAA Officials' Uniform:**

1. The PIAA Official's Emblem must be worn on the upper left sleeve of the official's standard shirt when officiating in all PIAA sponsored games.
2. All PIAA-registered officials must wear identical uniforms during a contest.
3. Required uniform for basketball officials:

Shirt	Alternating black and white 1-inch vertically striped, short-sleeved shirt with a black collar. V-neck shirts have been approved for PIAA member school games as long as all officials are dressed alike.
Slacks	Full length black trousers.
Belt	Black.
Socks	Black.
Shoes	Solid black with black laces.

PIAA recommends the use of a black, plastic FOX-40 whistle with a black lanyard. If jackets are worn before the game, they must be black in color and identical in style. College jackets or jackets from any organization other than PIAA or local basketball chapters may not be worn. The wearing of jewelry (except wedding bands and medical-alert bracelets) and wrist watches (except as a required timing device) is prohibited. Smoking and/or tobacco chewing is prohibited (Minutes, Board of Control, PIAA Summer Workshop, July 17, 1989, p. 3).

PIAA sports' officials may display an American flag (maximum size 2 by 3 inches) on the right sleeve of their uniform shirt approximately three inches down from the shoulder seam. This will be the same position the PIAA official patch is displayed on the left sleeve.

PIAA Sportsmanship Message:

ALL OFFICIALS MUST READ THIS MESSAGE TO CAPTAINS AND HEAD COACHES PRIOR TO GAMES AT ALL LEVELS.



PIAA requires all registered sports' officials to enforce the sportsmanship rules for coaches and contestants. Actions meant to demean opposing players, team, spectators, and officials are not in the highest ideals of interscholastic education and will not be tolerated. Let today's contest reflect mutual respect. Coaches please certify to the referee that your players are legally equipped and uniformed according to NFHS rules. Good luck in today's contest.

For distribution purposes, this message is printed on the back of all PIAA registered sports officials' 2006-2007 identification cards. Chapter interpreters are requested to remind all officials to read this message at each contest they officiate.

There have been some concerns addressed by the schools that some of our officials are not reading the PIAA Sportsmanship message prior to the contest. This is an improper procedure and this message **MUST** be read. Officials are not to paraphrase, modify, or develop their own Sportsmanship Message to the captains and head coaches. The proper procedure is head coaches and captains **MUST** attend the pre-game reading of the sportsmanship message.

This message **MUST BE READ VERBATIM** by the contest officials. Coaches must certify to the contest officials their team is legally equipped and in compliance with NFHS Basketball Rules. The reading of this message will set the tone for the contest to be played in the spirit of good sportsmanship and have the coaches verbally confirm aloud their teams' adherence to compliance with equipment and safety rules. This confirmation is not only the adherence to contest rules, but also assists in alleviating the legal liability concerns for the officials if the teams subsequently violate the proper equipment provisions of the contest rules.

Fitness and Health Condition:

Athletic officiating is a vigorous avocation and it demands that an official be in excellent physical condition, able to give the very best, on every play, in every contest. To that end, the American Medical Association has stated that before one attempts any vigorous physical activity they should first visit their family physician for a check-up. It is part of good personal health maintenance to have an annual physical exam and participate in an exercise program. This type of exercise program should be minimally three days per week and include cardiovascular conditioning, strength training, flexibility and muscle endurance. These components along with proper nutrition will assist in developing one's optimum body composition.

The PIAA Sports Medicine Committee recommends that each registered sports official have an annual physical examination and practice good health habits. Being physically fit and conveying an appropriate, positive image through proper health and nutrition habits will greatly assist all officials in keeping up with the game. After all, the game, the schools, players, coaches, spectators and fellow officials deserve no less. As importantly, officials owe good health habits to themselves and their families if for nothing more, than the health of it.

PIAA Officials' Insurance:

For the 2006-2007 school year, American Specialty Insurance Services will provide the following benefits;

- One Million Dollars of Liability Coverage;
- \$25,000 Excess Accident Medical Coverage (with a \$250 deductible);
- \$5,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment (including a cardiac benefit).

This program is administered by American Specialty Insurance Services and underwritten by USF&G and Mutual of Omaha. Both carriers carry "A" ratings by A.M. Best. Again this year, as a new service for chapters, all regularly scheduled chapter meetings will be covered under PIAA's basic liability coverage.

This is a major change from the past when only the annual rules interpretation meetings have been covered. Chapters are requested to please submit their list of regularly scheduled chapter meetings to the PIAA Office to assist procedurally in the exchange of information to have all local associations' meetings covered.

Contact information is as follows:

Drew Smith, Vice-President for Client Services
Sara Douglass, Administrative Assistant
American Specialty Insurances Services, Inc.
142 N. Main Street, P.O. Box 309
Roanoke, Indiana 46783-0309
Phone: 260-672-8800, Fax: 260-673-1295
www.amerspec.com

PIAA Officials' Convention:

August 2007 will be the second year of the PIAA Board of Directors' policy for those officials who wish to be considered to officiate in post-regular season playoff competition. Officials need to have continuing education training through their attendance at the PIAA Annual Officials' Convention in their sport once over every five year period.



Each year the convention offers an official sport specific educational opportunities in addition to multiple general sessions germane to the avocation of officiating. The 2006 edition took place August 11 and 12 at the Crowne Plaza, Harrisburg, PA. For a complete list of sessions offered please access the PIAA website at www.piaa.org/officials.

An additional opportunity for chapter interpreters was made available beginning last year. For the first time, in cooperation with NISOA, PIAA opened up the *Train the Trainer* program to local chapter interpreters with resounding success. The program provides support materials in a classroom setting, as well as guidance for all interpreters to make their presentations more effective and meaningful. Following seven years of training Statewide and District rules interpreters, demand for the program on a local level was overwhelming. The Train the Trainer program runs all day Thursday and finishes Friday prior to the First General Session of the Convention.

Participate and be part of one of the largest and best officials' training programs in the country. If you would like additional information, please call PIAA at 717/697-0374 or 800/382-1392 and speak with an individual in the officials' department.

Disqualification Process:

When a coach or contestant is disqualified/ejected from a Regular or Post-Regular Season Contest a report must be filed by the official who disqualified/ejected the coach or contestant. When the report is received in the PIAA Office it is faxed to the concerned school Principal and Athletic Director and mailed to the respective District Chairmen, officials' representatives and sportsmanship chair. A copy is also given to the Associate Executive Director and placed in the school's file.

OFFICIALS ARE TO FILE A REPORT WITH THE PIAA OFFICE ON THE APPROPRIATE FORM WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE EJECTION OR THEY MAY BE PLACED ON PROBATION.

Officials may complete the disqualification form online through the officials' information area of the PIAA website. Additionally, officials may email or fax a downloaded copy of the disqualification form. Officials who repeatedly do not file the proper form in the prescribed time period may be suspended. This will, in effect, eliminate the false belief that if a report is not filed, the disqualification/ejection did not occur.

For your convenience, a copy of the disqualification form may be found on the back of this publication.

PIAA By-Laws: Article XIII, Section 8

Any coach and/or contestant who, while coaching or competing for a PIAA-member school, is ejected from a Contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official in that sport for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant misconduct shall be disqualified from coaching and/or participating for the remainder of the day and in the next Contest on the next Contest day at the same level.

Any coach and/or contestant ejected from the last Contest in that sport in a sport season shall be disqualified from coaching and/or participating in the first Contest in that sport in the subsequent sport season, at the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, at any PIAA member school or, if the student changes levels of competition, such as from junior varsity to varsity, the first Contest in that sport at the higher level of competition.

The official shall file a report with the PIAA Office on the form prescribed for the sport involved, within twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of the Contest in which the ejection occurred. Failure to file such report shall not affect the validity or consequences of the ejection.

Arrival at the Site:

Arrive to the game site early enough to prepare yourself for the game.

- a. Watch part of the previous game (if there is one) to get your eyes and mind focused on basketball.
- b. Do not sit with any coaches.
- c. Do not be too friendly with any players.
- d. Act and dress appropriately and professionally.

Pre-Game Check List (Both Officials)

- a. Check the correct time, starting time of game and the game ball.
- b. Review rule changes and special rule situations.
 1. Double whistles.
 2. Injured player procedure.
 3. Throw-in restrictions.
 4. Correctable errors.
 5. Goaltending and basket interference.
 6. Last shot responsibility to end a period.
- c. Take some practices tossing the ball.
- d. Make sure you have a spare whistle.

Arrival On The Playing Floor

1. Arrive on the floor together, leave together.
2. Look neat at all times.
 - a. Dress neatly - pants pressed, clean shirt, shoes shined and clean haven, if appropriate (appearance alone gains respect).
 - b. Remove **ALL** jewelry.
 - c. Jackets, if worn, must be the same style and color (black).
3. The referee will check with the timers and scorers approximately eleven minutes before game time to correct any errors before the ten-minute deadline.
 - a. Count the players warming up and check to see if all the names are in the book.
 - b. Check for identical or illegal numbers.
 - c. Make sure starting lineups have been indicated.
 - d. Check the ball on the playing surface.
 - e. Check with the timer to make sure he/she understands the substitution rule (when to sound the horn).
 - f. Check the playing area.

