

## NEW YORK STATE IAABO BOARD 19



**TO: ALL NYS BOARD INTERPRETERS**

**FROM: LEE PAVLOT, BOARD 19 STATE RULES INTERPRETER**  
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Welcome to the 2018-19 basketball season. As in the past couple of years, the rule changes are very minimal. However, the points of emphasis are very important. On Sunday morning, the rule changes for the 2018--19 year will be presented to the conference attendees. I have gone ahead and listed the changes, actually the change, below.

The 2018 State and Federation Tournament went well and overall our officials performed well. Once again, I believe we owe the Binghamton Board a huge "thank you" for the hospitality and all the work they did to make the tournament a success.

As we have said before, we are looking for the best officials from across New York State to be assigned to the tournament games. This is a showcase for both the basketball teams and the officials working the games. With officials coming from across the state and in most cases, having never even met each other, they do work together as three-man crews quite well. There are a few minor miscues, usually in switches, but overall quite good. I do believe the reason for this is that they take the time to conduct a good pre-game before they go out on the floor. Observation notes of the officials were made during the games. They were then summarized and sent to each official. The main thing we still need to emphasize is the use of our IAABO signals and mechanics. College signals and mechanics do have a way of creeping in to the games, but we still must emphasize the need for high school IAABO signals and mechanics. As the new season approaches, again I look forward to working with each of you and I enjoy the friendship and working relationship that I have developed with each of you.

### **PROPER MECHANICS AND SIGNALS**

**We need to continue to emphasize to all officials that the proper IAABO signals and mechanics be used in all boys' high school games.**

At the State and Federation Tournaments, we continually note that some of the most frequently misused mechanics are: (1) failure to stop the clock with either a fist or open hand straight up while sounding the whistle; (2) failure to use preliminary foul signals **at the spot of the foul** and mainly from the lead position; (3) failure to use the player control foul signal. The player control signal at the spot of the foul still is almost non-existent. The use of a fist thrust out in front of most officials served as an indication of a player control foul—**this is not the proper signal**. The correct procedure is to indicate a preliminary foul signal at the spot of the foul, followed by the number of the player committing the foul, then indicate the number of shots or the designated spot. The calling official should then proceed to the reporting area to report the foul. Officials **should not point** at the player committing the foul. The birddog signal is still acceptable. Let's continue to work on this and see if we can be more consistent. Remember the change last year requiring officials to now use two hands when reporting double digit numbers. Officials should also verbalize the number as twenty-four (24) not two four (2 --- 4.) **And remember that the reporting should be done from the reporting area. Not the sideline, not the foul line, not the foul lane or not the foul circle. The reporting area!!**

### **Enforcement of illegal contact**

This year the Point of Emphasis is rough play. The contact rule clearly explains specific contact that occurs on a player holding or dribbling the ball that should be called a foul. We need to emphasize calling fouls

when any illegal contact occurs. And if it is a foul in the first quarter, then it should also be called a foul late in the fourth quarter. Remember, the Points of Emphasis this year deal with rough play and emphasize that officials be alert for rough play. Don't let the game get out of control.

### **Three-person mechanics**

As three-person crews are used at the State and Federation Tournaments, we recommend that all boards across the state continue to work on advancing the three-person crew system. Christmas tournaments, tipoff tournaments, scrimmages are all good times to use three-person crews. Work with your Section to promote the three-person crews. Be proactive!

### **Shot clock**

As of this time, there have not been any changes made to the shot clock rules for high school games. We will continue to use 35 seconds on our shot clock. The NYS shot clock rule will remain as it is. If there are any late changes made I will contact all interpreters ASAP. There are a few differences between high school and college shot clock rules. Remember to strictly follow the New York State High School rule. Anyone needing the shot clock procedure should contact me and I will send out a copy of the procedure.

### **New York State Sportsmanship Card**

NYSPHSAA requires that the Sportsmanship Card be read at each contest at all levels. In addition, by rule, it is the referee's duty to verify with the head coach, prior to the game that his/her team member's uniforms and equipment are legal and will be worn properly, and that all participants will exhibit proper sporting behavior throughout the game. (Rule 2-4-5)

The Head Coach should also be part of the pre-game captain's/coach's conference.

### **Concussion rule**

The concussion rule and the official's requirements per the rules book have not changed. By rule, officials shall immediately remove from the game a player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion. (Rule 2-8-2) Officials must be alert to when a player strikes his head, either on the floor, a wall, or another player and goes down, the game should be stopped, and the player checked. The coach should be beckoned out to check the player. If the coach indicates that the player is OK and can resume play, the official should also check the player. The official should check the player for symptoms such as: is he/she dizzy, does he/she act light headed, can he/she answer questions such as what day is it, where is he/she, who is playing, etc. These questions will help the official decide on whether the player should be removed from the game. We all know that concussions are a hot issue in all sports at all levels. Everyone knows the danger of a possible concussion and, therefore, must act accordingly. IAABO Attorney, Alan Goldberger will speak to us later on concussions.

It has been recommended by NYSPHSAA that interpreters and officials refer to the NFHS website and view the concussion video. This will assist officials in identifying signs, symptoms, and behaviors consistent with concussions.

### **Uniform shirts**

The black & white stripe shirt is the official shirt to be worn. The US Flag should be affixed to the back of the shirt, centered and located 1 to 1¼ inches below the neck line. All officials working the State Tournament, including regionals, need to have the flag appropriately attached to their uniform shirt. Please be sure that your Board follows the NYS requirement that the Flag be located on the back of the shirt. The black & white shirt with the wide stripe is acceptable, and all officials must wear the same type shirt when working games. However, we do recommend that the official narrow stripe IAABO shirt should be worn.

We are professionals and we want all officials to look that way. Therefore, we are also requesting that all officials assigned to the State Tournament dress appropriately when attending the tournament games. Casual dress should be worn at games but **no blue jeans or sweatshirts should be worn.**

### **2018-19 RULE CHANGES**

**9-9-1:** There is now an exception to the backcourt rule. The rule reads – A player shall not be the first to touch the ball after it has been in team control in the frontcourt, if he/she or a teammate last touched or was touched by the ball in the frontcourt before it went to the backcourt

Now the new exception: Any player located in the backcourt may recover a ball deflected from the frontcourt by the defense. This basically is the only rule change.

**1-12-1c** Pertains to the basketball itself and the wording, granulated surface has now been added to the specifications of the basketball.

### **A 2017 & 18 REMINDER**

**1-13-2 (2017 & 18)** The coaching box shall be outlined outside of the court on which the scorer's and timer's table and team benches are located. The area shall be bounded by a line drawn 28 feet from the end line towards the division line. At this point a line from the sideline toward the team bench becomes the end of the coaching box.

If the 28-foot line is not marked on the floor, officials should require that tape be affixed to the floor to indicate the end of the coaching box.

**Note:** This NFHS rule does not really affect our officials in New York State. The coaching area in NYS was already at the 28-foot mark and coaches do not have to remain seated, even after they have been assessed a technical foul. However, and remember, this only applies to the Head Coach. Assistant Coaches do not have the privilege to stand up to coach and must remain on the bench during play.

**4-48 (2017 & 18)** Warning for Coach/Team Conduct

A warning to a coach/team for misconduct is an administrative procedure by an official which is recorded in the scorebook by the scorer and reported to the Head Coach:

Art. 1... For conduct such as that described in rule 10-5-1a,b,d,e,f; rule 10-5-2; 10-5-4, the official shall warn the Head Coach unless the offense is judged to be major, in which case a technical foul shall be assessed.

Note: A warning is not required prior to calling a technical foul.

Art. 2...For the first violation of rule 10-6-1, the official shall warn the Head Coach unless the offense is judged to be major, in which case a technical foul shall be assessed

Note: A warning is not required prior to calling a technical foul.

**Rationale:** Stopping play and making sure that the bench and the coach know that an official warning has been given, sends a clear message to everyone in the gym and impacts the behavior of the coach, and in some cases the behavior of the opposing coach. This change in behavior creates a better atmosphere and many times avoids the need to administer a technical foul.

### **POINTS OF EMPHASIS**

I have not included the Points of Emphasis in this memo this year because of the length of the list. I believe you will receive them tomorrow at the IAABO Rules Interpretation. If not, a copy of the POE may be obtained from the NFHS website or I believe the IAABO webpage will have them on later. If you are unable to get a list, contact me and I will send you a copy.

Much of the POE deals with rough play and I believe it very important that we emphasize to our officials that they adhere to the POE and strictly enforce the contact and sportsmanship rules. With the emphasis there is on concussions, rough play is and can be a contributing factor to players suffering injuries and possible concussions. There have been more than there should be of altercations at games and many times it is a result of rough play. Officials should be alert for the beginning of trouble spots, players trash talking, unwanted contact, etc. Get control of these situations right away. It has been my recommendation for years that when a foul occurs and the official stops play properly for the foul situation, that the calling official stay with the call for a few seconds. It is my contention that if the official does spend a couple of seconds at the spot of the foul, it will hopefully reduce the possibility of the players starting something.

**Please emphasize to all of your Board members to read the POE and use them. Let's strive to cut down on rough play and have fair well-played games.**

Gentlemen, I say this each year, I thank each of you interpreters across the state for the opportunity to serve as the State Interpreter. The e-mail system continues to be a great tool and enables me to get back to you with answers to your questions quickly. We, as interpreters, must continue to emphasize the use of proper mechanics and signals. If you are a working interpreter, you must lead by example. Be sure you are using and exhibiting the proper IAABO mechanics and signals. As we know, many of the officials on our boards work several different levels of basketball, be it NCAA men's and women's or high school girls, each level carries with it their own set of signals and mechanics. Our officials should be reminded that they must apply the mechanics for the game they are working and not to mix the two. College is college, girls' high school is girls' and boys' high school is the IAABO way.

I am looking forward to working with each of you across the state and will again do my best to get answers to your questions as quickly as possible. Please emphasize to each and every one of your officials that they are to administer the rules as they are written. No official has the option to decide which rules they will enforce. **Remember—what you allow you promote**

Thanks to all and good luck for an enjoyable and favorable 2018 - 19 season.

Lee

**LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO ACCOMPLISH THE IAABO PHILOSOPHY OF**

**"ONE RULE - ONE INTERPRETATION"**