

The OHSAA Rebounder's Report

The Ohio High School Athletic Association

Issue #1, November 29, 2010



It came at us fast...the squeak of the shoes on the gym floor, the scrimmage season is behind us and now the scoreboard does the talking. Welcome to another roundball season. This is an attempt to communicate with coaches throughout Ohio and *hopefully* make everyone's hectic schedules just a little easier. This "Rebounder's Report" will be published periodically on our basketball web pages with the idea of including many often asked questions as well as periodic reminders to coaches. Please encourage your newer coaches to read this as we often take for granted they know many of the things it took years for us to put into practice. I will take many of the questions that come my way on a daily basis and put the answers out for all to see. I hope you'll find this helpful...and suggestions are always welcome!

Jerry Snodgrass

Assistant Commissioner

Focus on Concussions

As coaches have learned through attendance at Rules Interpretation Meetings, the major rule change in ALL sports involves "Concussion Management". **Rule 3-3-8** reads: "Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional.

What this means to you:

-Officials have the jurisdiction to remove players exhibiting signs of concussion from a contest. They receive education on this through state and local meetings. They do not have to 'diagnose', but are being trained to recognize.

-Ohio has formally adopted the following individuals as the only approved health-care providers that will permit 'return to play':

- Medical Doctor (M.D.)
- Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.)
- Certified Athletic Trainer (A.T.C.)

-Players will only be permitted to return to play with written approval from one of the approved 'HCP's' listed above.

-Officials are not required to see the written approval. They are to assume the coach has that written approval.

-Schools and coaches are encouraged to develop their OWN forms to meet this important requirement.

Scrimmages Remaining?

Teams are permitted a total of 5 scrimmages (4 if your team played in a "Foundation Game"). If you did not use all your scrimmages and have 1 or 2 remaining, you can use those ANY time during the season, including during tournament. The only catch....the team you scrimmage MUST have a scrimmage remaining on their schedule also. See also the common Q and A's about practicing with another team.

Where Do I Find Rules that Affect Basketball

Each sport has rules adopted by the elected Board of Directors that regulate the 'do's and don'ts' for that specific sports. These are known as SPORT REGULATIONS. Though the highlights of each are printed in the Pre-Season manual for coaches, you can read these from this link:

<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/rqlts/BK10-11.pdf>

Importance of Mandatory Rules Interpretation Meetings

Many may find this in the 'hard to believe' category, but the OHSAA spends considerable time and resources on court cases dealing with information all coaches are provided. Take the mandatory Rules Interpretation meetings for example; the OHSAA's General Sports Regulations and Basketball Specific Sports Regulations are covered in these meetings. So, IF you sent an assistant coach or athletic director in your place, the information covered is the responsibility of the head coach overseeing his/her entire program.

Check Your Out-Of-State Travel Schedule!

OHSAA Bylaws permit teams to travel out of state to a NON-BORDERING state **one time** during the course of a season. However, **no school can be missed** during the travel to and from OR during the contest. With out of state competition becoming more and more popular, better be safe than sorry. The consequences?.....No participation in the OHSAA Tournament.

Common Q and A's

Q: My team wants to practice with another school. Are we permitted to do that?

Answer: Yes, however, it must be counted as a SCRIMMAGE by both schools, therefore your opportunities to do so are somewhat limited. This appears to be a growing trend with school teams. Just remember...it counts as a scrimmage.

COACH CERTIFICATION REQUIRED IN OHIO!

Administrative Code in Ohio requires that ALL coaches, paid and volunteer obtain certification through the Ohio Department of Education. Each school (generally through their Athletic Department) is responsible for maintaining records for their coaching staff. Basically, all coaches must obtain the ODE's "Pupil Supervisors' Activity Permit". The permit requires completion of:

- an approved Sports' First Aid course
- current CPR card
- Fundamentals of Coaching (through the NFHS)
- BCI background check

These requirements and available courses are available at the following:

- <http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/default.asp>
- <http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/pupilactivity.htm>
- <http://www.ohsaa.org/members/coaches/coachstaid.htm>

By the Numbers

90

Number of Quarters a player may play during the course of the Regular Season in grades 9-12.

92.4

Percentage of Coaches per Online Rules Survey that indicated they preferred the Online Delivery Option

67.2

Percentage of Head Coaches per Online Rules Survey that indicated they were also a licensed teacher.

79.2

Percentage of Girls' Basketball Head Coaches that are Male. (based upon online Rules Survey)