



# THE REBOUNDERS REPORT



The Ohio High School Athletic Association

Volume 4 Issue 3

December 2, 2013

Here we are, first games behind us for most boys' & girls' teams. Reminds me of a quote I read that said "it's only a game but for those involved – it is pretty serious". How true that is. Early season brings an entire new set of challenges. I hope everyone keeps things in perspective throughout the early going and below are a few reminders of things we often let slip.

### Ejections, Fighting, etc.

It does not matter how many times I review this, but any agreement to play a game between 2 schools is also an agreement to abide by all calls made by officials. And, nearly every call is a 'judgment call' – the very nature of what officials are required to do. Caution your players about controlling their emotions. Ejections are not appealable – *regardless of the circumstances*. And yes...there have been ejections the first week of the season. 9 player ejections this past weekend, the first weekend of the boys' season. There is video evidence of nearly everything today, but just like a traveling call cannot be overturned with video evidence, or a 'basket interference' call cannot be overturned, neither can an ejection with video evidence. It is not expected that everyone agrees with it – it is simply the fact on dealing with ANY call made by an official.

### Scrimmages & Practices with Other Teams

Though the scrimmage season is winding down for most teams, teams MAY use scrimmages during the regular season IF they have not used all 5 permitted. Just make sure that a 'scrimmage for you is a scrimmage for them'. In other words, you cannot count a competition as a game for one team and a scrimmage for the other. Another growing trend is to practice with another team/school. This is permitted – but by rule must be counted as a scrimmage. This is covered in the required pre-season rules meeting so be careful with this and make sure you are following it – the consequence for exceeding the number of scrimmages OR games is removal from the OHSAA Tournament. NO one wants that to occur.

### Pre-Game Reminders

That first night can be a blur and everyone wants everything perfect. I shared a document of "Administrative Reminders" with all Athletic Directors last week prior to the first girls' games. If you get a free minute, you might want to read it as well. I hope it helps with a few things that might be overlooked on game night. You can read it at:

<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/girls/2014/AdministrativeReminders.pdf>

### Ticket Requests for State Basketball Tournaments

School head coaches and administrators are provided the opportunity to purchase 12 game ticket packages of prime seats. The deadline for submitting ticket applications was November 27, however if you have not submitted them...this is a brief extension as seats start being filled later this week.

### The Uniform Police

Seems like we need it. Compression shorts and t-shirts always bring up a few questions.

**Uniforms:** As nearly everyone knows, WHITE jerseys are required for HOME uniforms. In most sports, a non-compliant uniform still does not require 'stoppage' of the game and there are no significant penalties. However, in basketball, a non-compliant uniform requires 2 Technical Fouls to be assessed. In a sense, you can 'buy' your way into playing the game with a non-compliant uniform (such as gold or light blue or gray at home). The uniform rule is part of the NFHS basketball rules (Rule 3-4 to be exact). The NFHS rule also "recommends" the darker of the school's color scheme to be worn as the away Jersey. I anticipate that word "recommend" to change some day to "required". The complete uniform regulations can be read and downloaded at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/members/uniform.htm>

**Compression Shorts:** Also identified in NFHS rules in Section 3-5. Article 7 of this rule requires that any compression short (or tights) not extend below the pants and be the same single-solid color as the game short.

**T-Shirts/Undershirts:** Identified again in Section 3-5, all undershirts must be the single solid color of the torso of the jersey and shall be hemmed and not frayed with all team members having the same length on the sleeves.

**Memorial Patches:** MANY questions arise on this. Look at it this way, Rule 3-5 indicates what you CAN do. One MAY be worn but cannot be more than 4 sq. inches, cannot include a number and must be above the neckline. No special permission is required.

**Compression Sleeves:** It would not be complete without addressing this. Again, part of the NFHS Rules (Rule 3-5-3) addresses this. Must be black, beige, or predominant school color and all must be the same on the team. AND...it must be for medical reasons – but no medical note is required.

### Non-Interscholastic Warning #1

Here we go.

"AAU" "Open Gyms.

If I could accomplish ONE thing – it would be to reduce the infractions from players playing in such things as "Rec Ball" or "CYO" while they are a member of your school team. The tough part – you as the coach may be the last to know. For that reason, I stress over and over to take 3 minutes of any team meeting – even once per week – to remind players that OHSAA regulations do not permit them to participate in ANY non-school practice, training, tryout or competition with non-school programs while they are on the school team. Keep in mind, years ago, coaches in nearly EVERY sport wanted this. The hard part is to communicate it to all. Thus "Warning #1" – remind your players. *Please.*