



THE REBOUNDERS REPORT



The Ohio High School Athletic Association

Volume 4 Final Issue

March 27, 2014

The 2014 State Tournament ended with one of the more dramatic finishes in recent years. But, as we all know, the 2014-15 season begins now for nearly everyone. So, with that, I hope to provide this “Final Issue” of the 2013-14 season while also serving up a few reminders about off-season rules and regulations. I know there are many coaches who will not return to their schools and many that will voluntarily leave for other positions. There are often misunderstandings (usually self-implied) about taking over the head coaching position at a new school and what you ‘can and cannot’ do.

No-Contact Period

Though this has ended for most schools, the original intent of the no-contact periods was to provide a ‘break’ for everyone – coaches AND players and to create a ‘buffer’ for student-athletes to not be influenced to not participate in another sport. How does ‘weight lifting’ and other situations like that fit in? I have this all detailed on the Rebounders Report page or directly accessed at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboundersReport/BasketballNo-ContactRule.pdf> I encourage you not only to download it but to also provide it to your assistant coaches.

Individual Instruction – General Sports Regulation 8.6

As nearly every basketball coach knows, the adoption of this regulation occurred in September of 2013. It was adopted entirely for the purpose of permitting school coaches the opportunity to provide **individual skill instruction** to anyone at anytime (except during no-contact periods) – something school coaches previously did not have the freedom to do. And...to keep this instruction ‘within’ instead of forcing individuals to seek this help outside the school coach. But, it was NEVER adopted or written to **provide more time for team development in the off-season**. Therefore the parameters of the regulation are carefully written AND detailed. This was part of an original correspondence sent to all head coaches in the state in September and was covered in the pre-season Rules Interp. meetings. But, I encourage you to review it again and you can do so at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboundersReport/GeneralSportsRegulation8.6Explanation.pdf>

“AAU” and “Other” Non-School Basketball Issues

We tend to call everything in the off-season “AAU”, however, there are many different types of organized off-season basketball. I hear many concerns from time to time relative to these programs, yet most coaches still want their kids involved in the various programs. There ARE some restrictions, most of which center around providing controls by regulating what players and school coaches can and cannot do in the off-season. I have a very detailed sheet that serves as advice for the veteran AAU coach or the mom that wants their 7th grade son or daughter to be on the Premier-Elite-Platinum Travel team from your community. I encourage you to print it off and simply hand it to those that are coaching kids from your school in non-school basketball in the spring and summer. It is posted online on the “Rebounders Report” page but you can get this directly at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboundersReport/2014ReboundersReportAAUAdvice2.pdf>

Basketball Rules for 2014-15

National Playing Rules: As you know by now, the NFHS determines all playing rules for the game. Every head coach in Ohio was offered the opportunity to answer a questionnaire relative to potential rule changes for ‘14-15. The NFHS Rules Committee will meet for the first of 3 meetings in late April. There ARE several rules that have received enough feedback to be in front of the committee. Whether they reach the point of adoption remains to be seen. Those that have made it to the Committee are:

- The use of the semi-circle currently used in the NCAA that provides better consistency in the block/charge call
- The use of a :35 second Shot Clock on a state by state adopted basis
- Better language on the use of arm and LEG compression sleeves and tights and knee pads.
- Playing games in 2 – 18 minute halves
- Eliminating the opportunity for the head coach to call time-outs.

Again, these are NOT rule changes but merely PROPOSALS that have garnered enough interest in the questionnaires received from Coaches and Officials across the nation. A great explanation of the NFHS Rules Process is one of the Rebounders’ Reports I posted early in the year. You can access that directly at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboundersReport/2014ReboundersReportONE.pdf>

OHSAA Administrative Rules: The OHSBCA has proposed a requirement for a film exchange for teams at the regional level. This will most likely be adopted and IS recommended by the basketball coaches’ association. Details of this need to be worked out (language), however, there appear to be no other changes in store for the 2014-15 season from the Administrative Side.

Season ‘Shift’ for 2014-15

There were several ‘calendar effects’ that caused a shift in the basketball season for next year. Everything moves a week later next year but moves back again in 2015-16. The good news with this is that it will give a week between football and basketball on the front side. Just check your corresponding dates from this year when rescheduling dates in the future. A few dates of note:

Start Date for Practice:	October 31, 2014 (Girls’)	November 7, 2014 (Boys’)
First Game Date:	November 28, 2014 (Girls’)	December 5, 2014 (Boys’)
State Tournament:	March 19, 20, & 21, 2014 (Girls)	March 26, 27 & 28, 2014 (Boys’)

Coaches Changing Schools

Ahhh this is one of my favorites – the self-interpretations on this. Let’s assume you are changing schools (hopefully by YOUR choice!). When are you officially the coach of the new school? Is it when you sign the contract? The answer – *as soon as the school SAYS you are their coach*. And that is usually by board action. So, whether you hold that contract in your car for the next 2 months or not, you are the coach of the school at the point they say you are the coach. And....no, you do NOT get extra coaching days since you are new to that school – every off-season rule affects you just as it affects a person that has been in the job for some time.

Other "Q and A's"

Remember when the first "10 Day Period" came out in the early '90's? It didn't take long before someone decided to interpret that there are 24 hours in a day and since you could have 10 total days in June/July then that would translate into 240 hours. I know – it was always that 'other guy' that interpreted it that way. I also take calls daily where someone indicates "Someone told me you could.....". Problem is, no one can ever identify that "someone". My point is simple – for the sake of the game and for the sake of simple communication, I have tried to answer every "What If" from pre-season on. Still have questions, download the "Q and A's" relative to off-season regulations at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/girls/2014/OHSAAOffseasonBasketballQA2013-14.pdf> I think you will find them helpful.

State Tournament Notes

Attendance Up....Again

Attendance rose for the 3rd Consecutive year. Obviously attendance at nearly all events across the state and nation have declined over recent years but seeing the trend go up is a good sign. Though there are many opinions, fundamental play and the games themselves were as good as they have been recently. I am blessed to be able to work directly with the Schottenstein Center staff conducting the boys' and girls' tournaments. Many might remember Lauren Prochaska who played for BGSU after playing in 2 state championship contests for Jonathon Alder High School. Lauren serves as my assistant for the tournaments and did an excellent job behind the scenes. Most just see the final product out on the court from tip to the end of the game but this is my chance to give a shout-out to the coaches and Athletic Directors we worked with in the weeks leading up to the state finals – regardless of what many might think, the coaches were extremely appreciative of the hospitality they were provided throughout the tournament. An overview of the past several years is provided at the bottom of this page.

30 Minute Warm-Up?

Many coaches (including some that played in the state tournament) asked me "why they could get more than 30 minutes on the court at the STATE tournament but not at others.....aren't we violating the Tournament Regulations?" This proves how it is so difficult to make changes. Approximately 10 years ago, the regulation for warm-up was changed to permit a **minimum** of 30 minutes for warm-up. So....there's your answer if you were wondering.

Video Replay at State Tournament

Approximately 7 years ago, a shot at the state tournament was counted at the buzzer. It would NOT have been counted if there had been video replay. Due to Ohio's presence on the National Rules Committee, a rule was adopted that permitted states on a state-by-state basis to adopt video replay for state tournament play only. The replay may ONLY be used to determine if a shot was released prior/or after the horn and if the shot was a '2' or a '3'. And...it may only be used at the end of the game or overtime. We have been 'close' to using this in the past 4 years (since its inception) but have not had to at this point. We do test it (we have a replay official at the table) and will only adopt it annually if we have a minimum of 4 cameras. See more about this at:

<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboundersReport/2014ReboundersReportONE.pdf>

Ohio Provides to State Tournament Teams

Ohio remains one of the only states that offers teams travel and meal allowance throughout the tournament. Even if a team coming to the state tournament loses on Thursday morning, they are still provided 3 night's hotel stay and meal allowances for those days. Each team is permitted to come in for ANY of the 12 games of the tournament free of charge.

National Anthem Singers

I have enjoyed working with many around the state to perform the National Anthem. This year, the following performed:

Paulding High School – Girls' Tournament

Ottawa-Glandorf's High School Choir – Boys' Tournament

Wheelersburg High School Choir – Boys' Tournament

Alex Harada - Violinist, Findlay High School – Boys' Tournament

Newark High School Jr. ROTC Color Guard – presenting Colors – Boys' Tournament

I am starting the search for NEXT year already..... I have kept the performers to High School students (or choirs). If you have heard the 'best ever', please let me know at jsnodgrass@ohsaa.org I will start that process now.

Jump Rope Group Performed

In an attempt to keep nearly everything "school related", I was able to secure Troy City Schools' sponsored jump rope group, "Pop Rocks" to perform during halftime of the Division I boys' game on Friday evening. If you were there – they were a hit. I am not a talent scout but if you know of other groups that perform various skills, let me know. Sorry....no "Stupid Human Tricks". And I *tried* to get the "Frisbee Dog".

Looking Ahead – 2015

The dates for the 2015 Tournaments are:

Girls: March 19, 20 & 21

Boys: March 26, 27 & 28

"Good Seat" rotation for 2015: NE, NW, C, E, SE, SW

The Order of Games for 2015:

Division IV

Division III

Division II

Division I

By the Numbers

Looking back at the State Tournament

Boys' State Tournament Attendance; 2004-Pesent

2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
129,522	128,519	126,958	124,527	142,996	143,596	153,637	170,329	181,186	173,618	179,315

Girls' State Tournament Attendance; 2004-Pesent

2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
43,316	41,633	39,107	40,962	40,529	43,728	34,819	49,202	45,163	48,856	54,051