

The OHSAA Rebounder's Report

The Ohio High School Athletic Association

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Welcome back to everyone. Christmas break serves as an important time for many coaches to spend quality time working on aspects that often didn't get the necessary time earlier in the season. The next six weeks are as demanding as any and a few 'off the court' items are addressed in this issue. Tournament draws are a mere month away. Best of luck to everyone keeping teams focused as well as handling the issues coaches face with items such as 'playing time' in the coming weeks. They are challenging whether your team is in a league race or not.

Jerry Snodgrass
Assistant Commissioner

Clarification on Administration of Floor Area

A mass email was recently sent to all Athletic Administrators in Ohio regarding the NFHS "Point of Emphasis" on Sporting Behavior as it relates to allowing authorized personnel only on the floor. This is not to be construed that events such as halftime shooting 'contests' where booster clubs run them as money makers are not to be conducted; as that is not the intent of that rule. Halftime shooting 'contests', halftime performances, etc., are certainly permitted. The intent of the rule is to keep unauthorized individuals off and away from the floor during the game. Keep in mind the intent of this Point of Emphasis is *Sportsmanship*

Shooting Contests?

Speaking of "shooting contests", ever wonder about the boys' player shooting for a prize at contest at halftime of the GIRLS' game and whether or not it is 'legal'? Rest easy...it is legal. Amateur rules do not consider a 'shooting contest' to be the same as the sport itself so a person winning a prize in a 'shooting contest' is not in violation of a sport rule.

Parent Issues?

The reality of school sports today is that parents may have invested more financially than any generation has...which often leads to issues between parents and coaches. Consider issues you face now and jot them down to address NEXT year at your pre-season meetings. Here is another suggestion, especially helpful for your JV, Freshmen and Jr. High Program: the NFHS has put together a great FREE video course on "The Role of The Parent in Sports". It is available at:
<http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=18000>

The Coach's Role as a Guidance Counselor

As we all know, coaches have as much influence on their players as just about anyone in the student-athlete's life. Many fans sitting in the stands do not see the hours and hours spent with players off the floor to help them with the life-long lessons school-based athletics teach. During the holidays and into January, practices often become monotonous, long, and drawn out and coaches look for many things to add to their daily 'lesson plans'. The reality of today's youth also is dealing with the many challenges facing them as it relates to Athletic Codes of Conduct, etc. Just a few things here that might help are listed below.

New Mexico Online Program

Recently, the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) launched a unique online program that chronicled the life of a former great high school athlete who remains in the Arizona Prison system for causing a fatal crash that took the lives of several individuals. The program is a GREAT tool for ANY high school athlete in America, where nearly 60% of all seniors and 50% of all juniors report regular drinking activity. Coaches...don't be afraid to step in and offer this to your players...together we CAN make a difference. The FREE course is available at <http://www.lifeofanathlete.com/courses.aspx>

The Influence of Social Networking?

Since I initially wrote this in a fall publication, it seems the influence of the social media has increased exponentially. A 4:25 clip from "YouTube" on Social Networking illustrates its power. You may have seen this but it is a great informational tool and something you may want to show to parents. You can access it directly at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIFYPQjYhv8> If you have not seen this, I promise you'll find it extremely interesting....and alarming.

Tournament Time....are you kidding?

Oh yes....school administrators and coaches received their State Tournament applications recently. (Maybe this is a reminder in case you forgot?) Hard to believe but tournament draws are a mere month away. Each District Athletic Board (DAB) is given the authority to set up Sectional and District tournaments in their respective Districts. They (the DAB's) determine who and how many are in each sectional and where the Sectional and District sites actually are played. All tournaments, regardless of District, are played under specific Tournament Regulations adopted by the Board of Directors. You can read these in their entirety at:
<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/bkrglts.pdf> with changes from last year shaded.

You can also view team assignments and sites at each DAB's website as listed below:

East District Athletic Board: www.eastohsaa.org Northwest District Athletic Board: www.nwdab.org
Northeast District Athletic Board: www.nedab.org Central District Athletic Board: www.cdab.org
Southeast District Athletic Board: www.seodab.org Southwest District Athletic Board: www.swdab.org

Teams Struggling with JV Numbers

Does this alarm you? It does many of us at the OHSAA. Quite a few teams recently have reported low numbers causing cancellation of JV games. The NFHS Rules (Rule 5.5.3) *does permit* teams to reduce the playing time OR the number of quarters for NON-VARSITY games ONLY by the mutual agreement of opposing coaches. In short, when the agreement is made ahead of time, a JV game (or freshmen) may be 2 quarters in length when player numbers & quarters are an issue. Remember, all players are permitted to play 90 quarters on the season.

Statistically Speaking

From the NFHS "Statisticians' Manual"

Does a violation at the Free Throw Line count as a Free Throw Attempt (FTA)?

The NFHS Statisticians' Manual addresses and answers this question.

A FTA is charged ANY time a player shoots a free throw and there is no violation, or technical foul or goaltending during the throw, with 2 exceptions:

1. A FTA as well as a FTM is credited if the shot is made and there is a violation by the DEFENSE.
2. A FTA is charged to the shooter if the only penalized violation is for the failure of the shooter to touch the rim OR if the shooter enters the lane too soon.

In other word: any other time a violation occurs by the offense that negates the Free Throw, the Free Throw shooter is NOT charged with an attempt.