SHARE WITH PARENTS: Letter to Parents from the NFHS and the OHSAA
The National Federation of State High School Associations has issued an Op-Ed with a message for parents of high school student-athletes and how their behavior is affecting the number of people willing to officiate. The letter is posted at: https://bit.ly/2Mbw6q5

Ohio High School Athletic Association
Kathleen Coughlin, Director of Sport Management
Basketball Coaches’ Memo #5
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The Running Clock
NOT UNTIL TOURNAMENT! We will continue to look at any official rule changes after the season. Coaches can do much to prevent the huge scoring differentials during regular season. Unfortunately, more than any other season, there have been quite a few 50+ point differentials. So, I am asking YOUR help. Consider: some of these when the score gets out of hand:
1. Take out your starters – let JV players play
2. Take off the press – the “that’s the way we play” isn’t the answer
3. Shorten the quarter length – NFHS rules do permit that with mutual agreement
4. Consider scheduling your JV team vs their Varsity team – Ohio schools CAN do that and count it as a game on the JV schedule of one team and the varsity schedule of the other.

Uniform and Equipment Regulations
Repeating from the pre-season rules meeting – white uniforms must be worn at home. “Black outs”, purchasing new ‘dark’ uniforms, or ‘alternate’ uniforms, does not provide a waiver opportunity to wear dark/away uniforms for home games.

Too Many Quarters Played?
It does not happen too often as scorers and officials generally catch it first. But, in the event a player does get into a contest and it is discovered it is his/her 6th quarter on the day/night – a technical foul is assessed. If it occurs and no one notices until after the game is completed – life simply goes on with no penalty but all quarters count toward that player’s total for the season.

All-Star Games – “They’re Not Just for Seniors Anymore”
Often a simple change takes a long time to implement and such is the change with “All-Star” games. Anyone who has coached for a number of years was ingrained to believe that a player can only play in 2 All-Star games and only seniors can participate in them. However, when you think about it – ANY event outside the season is simply a non-interscholastic event. An “AAU” tournament in April, a ‘travel ball’ game in early May are both non-interscholastic events. An All-Star game by whatever name it goes by is nothing more than the same thing. So, all non-interscholastic rules apply.

Ejections
Each year, ejections spike during January and early February – generally because (in my opinion) some teams are not in league races and frustrations start to rise. Keep in mind, that regardless of whether it was a ‘good call’ or a ‘bad call’ – no ejection (or ANY call by an official) can be appealed or overturned. Consider this scenario:
During a JV game, the assistant JV coach was given a “T” in the 1st quarter and it was duly noted as such and 2 FT’s were administered. In the 4th quarter, the head JV coach was given a “T” and 2 FT’s were administered. All correct. However, the head JV coach was ejected as a result of the 2 T’s. But (and many do not know this), it actually takes a THIRD technical in this case for an ejection. Why? Because the first “T” was an INDIRECT technical on the head coach – the same as what would be called if there were 5 players on the floor, a technical on a bench player, etc. The second “T” in this case was a DIRECT technical on the head JV coach. It takes 2 Direct Technicals OR 2 Indirect and 1 direct or 3 Indirect Technicals for an ejection to take place. So, was the ejection overturned and appealed contrary to regulations? No, it simply was not an ejection in the first place. There was no overturning and no appealing. Each and every ejection report is given to me on a daily basis.

AAU and Off-Season Basketball
It may seem early, but we have been getting questions, especially since many junior high seasons will end soon. Keep in mind that junior high players are permitted to start participating in non-school/AAU basketball as soon as their season is complete. They cannot attend practices, tryouts, workouts until that time. 2 VERY good documents that I would encourage you to read and share with those asking about the regulations on this. You can find them at:
Off-Season Regulations: http://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Sports/Basketball-Boys/OffseasonFAQ.pdf