

# The OHSAA Rebounder's Report

The Ohio High School Athletic Association

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The days are 'slightly' longer, shadows a little different, a warm day here and there. Yep....you can tell "tournament time" is around the corner. Seed meetings for girls' were held Sunday and people start 'mapping the course' for a run at a state title. Hope this finds everyone getting teams ready for tournament play and staying in the thick of league races.

*Jerry Snodgrass*  
Assistant Commissioner

## Officiating Oversight Results in Improved Officials Program

Did you know there are just over 5200 licensed basketball officials in Ohio? They come from all walks of life and the economic downturn of the past few years has actually increased the ranks of officials.

With that many licensed officials in Ohio, the challenge to recruit, train and educate officials is a task that falls on the shoulders of Henry Zaborniak, Assistant Commissioner.

Officials belong to one of over 50 different "Local Associations" across Ohio. They operate under rules approved by the OHSAA For many years, Local Associations were under the direction of the "District Officials Committee". Each sport the OHSAA recognizes fell under the umbrella of the "District Officials Committee", and it worked. In an effort to further the recruitment and education of officials, the "District Officials Committee" was abandoned for a more efficient "Director of Development" for **each** sport. These "DOD's" were brought on board with the main goal of coordinating the recruitment and education of officials in their specific sport. One year into the conversion, the success is overwhelming. Though each "DOD" has developed his/her own methods of recruitment and education, the games themselves have been the beneficiary of this change.

Dr. Dennis Morris is the BASKETBALL "Director of Development". As merely ONE example of this education, take a look at one of Dr. Morris' publications regularly communicated to basketball officials by clicking here:

<http://www.ohsaa.org/officials/0111BBKBulletin.pdf>

### Did you know?

- All officials must attend a STATE meeting to review Rule Changes and Interpretations each sport season?
- All officials must attend 4 separate meetings with their local association to review various subjects and current issues in officiating?
- Each official pays for his/her own uniforms, books, and supplies?
- Each official pays an annual fee of \$55.00 just for his/her license to officiate for that season?

Ever wonder why in most non-school sports (AAU, Travel leagues, etc.) the only requirement for officials is that they be OHSAA licensed?

## Forfeits....

It might be difficult to believe but we have had a rash of 'issues' across the state where games were ended prior to completion of a contest (yes...even at the Jr. High level) and in a few cases, enough player ejections occurred that there were not enough players to play the next contest. The term "Forfeit" is defined in several different areas of the OHSAA Handbook. First, Sports Regulation #26 (<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/rqlts/GenSportsReg10-11.pdf>) indicates that:

*"An athletic contest in which the winner is determined to have used an ineligible participant or committed other rules infractions. Forfeiture can occur ONLY after a contest is started, completed or the contest official's jurisdiction has begun."*

Given the logic of the above, a game can NEVER be forfeited that has not been played. So...simply not showing to a contest cannot result in a forfeiture.

So what happens when a team simply 'does not show'? It is actually addressed in the OHSAA's Sports Regulations under 13.4...and ONLY addresses OHSAA tournament play. In those cases, after a 30 minute period, a bracket is vacated and a "No Contest" is declared. The opposing team advances.

So maybe you have figured out the next question....what happens when so many players are ejected that you cannot PLAY the next contest? How can they sit out a game that is not actually played? The OHSAA works with the school to 'sit out' players 2 games at a time so opponents on the schedule do not lose the game on their schedule. Unfortunately...yes, it has happened.



## Important Reminder for Rating Officials

As we approach the last quarter of the season, this is a reminder to RATE your officials. Rating instructions can be found at : <http://www.ohsaa.org/myOHSAA/OfficialRatingInstructions.pdf> A few informational items relative to officials and tournament selections:

- Ratings and votes for officials THIS year affect tournament assignments for NEXT year
- Coaches **RATE** officials
- Local Secretaries, Assignors, District Board Members, OHSAA Staff, and Athletic Directors **VOTE** for officials
- Pools are developed from a combination of Coaches Ratings and other's votes
- Each District Athletic Board assigns officials to Sectional and District Tournaments from procedures they develop.

## Havlicek Headlines Circle of Champions to Be Honored at OHSAA State Tournament

Several years ago, individuals have been honored by the OHSAA for the contribution to Ohio High School Sports. From Jerry Lucas, to "Hopalong Cassidy", the OHSAA has recognized the 'best of the best' for their contributions. John Havlicek (Bridgeport High School) headlines the list of honorees who have accepted an invitation to be part of this year's recognition. Wayne Embry, (Tecumseh High School) former GM of the Cleveland Cavs, joins Havlicek in the 'Class of 2011'. An added bonus for fans will be an autograph session for past and current "Circle of Champions" honorees in the Auxillary Gym of the Schottenstein Center prior to Game 11 of the Boys' State Championships. More information will follow in later "Rebounders Reports".

## OHSBCA Selects Hall of Fame Nominees

The OHSBCA has selected their inductees for the "Class of 2011" into the OHSBCA Hall of Fame. This year's inductees are: Jerry Doerger (Cincinnati McNicholas), Larry Jordan (Ross Southeastern), Bob Seggerson (Lima Central Catholic), and Jim Cappelletti (Cleveland Heights). They will be inducted at the OHSBCA's Hall of Fame ceremonies on Saturday, April 16.

## Ohio Loses One of its Best

Ohio has lost one of its most dedicated and successful individuals in the history of Ohio High School basketball with the recent passing of longtime Delphos St. John's coach, Bob Arnzen. Over 43 seasons, Coach Arnzen amassed and amazing 676 wins and a .699 winning percentage....all at the same school. His greatest contributions were to the hundreds of players he coached through those years. Coach Arnzen passed away Wednesday at the age of 83. His contributions to the game are legendary and Coach Arnzen will be sadly missed

## Statistically Speaking

## Girls' State Basketball Tournament Attendance

2003 54,051 2004 58,856 2005 45,163 2006 49,202 2007 39,912 2008 34,819 2009 43,728 2010 40,529