

# The OHSAA Rebounder's Report

The Ohio High School Athletic Association



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Finally...the season is upon us! Many girls' teams opened up with 'tip-off classics' over the Thanksgiving weekend and boys' teams begin this week. This is the first of many "Rebounder's Reports" as an attempt to communicate with coaches throughout Ohio and hopefully make everyone's hectic schedules just a little easier. This "Rebounder's Report" will be published periodically on our basketball web page, with the goal of posting one every 7-10 days. Please encourage your newer coaches to read this as we often take for granted they know many of the things it took years for us to put into practice. I will take many of the questions that come my way on a daily basis and put the answers out for all to see. I hope you'll find this helpful...and suggestions are always welcome!

*Jerry Snodgrass*  
Assistant Commissioner

## Shortened Games?

Last season, several leagues requested to schedule "2Quarter games" at the Junior Varsity level, especially in girls' games. It highlighted a different issue, however; the growing trend for lacking numbers of players coming out for basketball. This subject was asked of the 900 Basketball coaches that took the ONLINE version of the Rules Interpretation Meeting when asked: **"Have you noticed a 'significant' drop in the number of players trying out/coming out for basketball at any level in your program? (Significant as it would concern you for the future).**

The responses tend to support this trend:

Boys' Coaches: 30.8% indicated "Yes"  
Girls' Coaches: 52.5% indicated "Yes"

Back to the original topic here....CAN you play a 'shortened 2-quarter game'?

Answer: "No...BUT...."

The actual NFHS playing rules require a contest to be 4 quarters in length with the number of minutes in each quarter defined at various levels (Varsity, sub-varsity, Jr. High). The NFHS Rules permit a 'mercy rule' by state association adoption, which the OHSAA does not adopt.

Now the "BUT" part of this..... ANY contest can end at any time by mutual agreement of the coaches and officials. Deductive reasoning tells one that if the 2 coaches involved agree to end the game at halftime; then the desired 2 quarter game can be achieved.

WHY do teams want to do this? Simply to use the players they DO have and not exceed the quarters per day (5) or the quarters per year (90).

On a side note; a few of the survey questions from the online rules meeting are below and the remaining will be covered in the next postings of "The Rebounders' Report".

## Common Q and A's

**Q: My team wants to practice with another school. Are we permitted to do that?**

*Answer: Yes, however, it must be counted as a SCRIMMAGE by both schools, therefore your opportunities to do so are somewhat limited. This appears to be a growing trend with school teams. Just remember...it counts as a scrimmage.*

## Didn't Use All Your Scrimmages?

Teams are permitted a total of 5 scrimmages (4 if your team played in a "Foundation Game"). If you did not use all your scrimmages and have 1 or 2 remaining, you can use those ANY time during the season of play, including tournament. As defined in the Sports' Regulations, it must be a scrimmage for BOTH teams.

## Girls' on a Boys' Team?

It IS permitted and there is more of it at the Junior High level. It is important to note, however, that IF a girl participates on a boys' team, she is NO LONGER ABLE TO COMPETE ON THE GIRLS' team. In other words, she cannot go 'back and forth'.

## Didn't Get Your OHSAA Rules Interpretation Meeting Completed?

The period for taking the mandatory Rules Interpretation Meeting has expired and it is necessary in order for a team to be eligible for the OHSAA tournament. You can still complete it with the required \$50.00 late fee by contacting Sharon Shoemaker at [sshoemaker@ohsaa.org](mailto:sshoemaker@ohsaa.org).

## Why Mandatory Meetings?

Many may find this in the 'hard to believe' category, but the OHSAA spends considerable time and resources on court cases dealing with information all coaches are provided. Take the mandatory Rules Interpretation meetings for example; the OHSAA's General Sports Regulations and Basketball Specific Sports Regulations are covered in these meetings. So, IF you sent an assistant coach or athletic director in your place, the information covered is the responsibility of the head coach overseeing his/her entire program.

## Check Your Out-Of-State Travel Schedule!

OHSAA Bylaws permit teams to travel out of state to a NON-BORDERING state **one time** during the course of a season. However, **no school can be missed** during the travel to and from OR during the contest. With out of state competition becoming more and more popular, better be safe than sorry. The consequences?.....no participation in the OHSAA Tournament.

## CHECK YOUR PUPIL ACTIVITY PERMIT!

As covered in all Rules Interp. Meetings, the ODE and Administrative Code requirement will now require all schools to enter the name of the board approved coach AND his/her Permit number on the Tournament Entry Form. Keep in mind, meeting this requirement requires the coach (paid OR volunteer) to complete the following then submit application to the Ohio Department of Education. The ODE then issues the Permit with the license number on that permit.

- an approved Sports' First Aid course
- current CPR card
- Fundamentals of Coaching (through the NFHS)
- BCI background check

Since many inquire, the online version of the Sports First Aid course is acceptable, however the different online CPR offerings are NOT acceptable by the ODE.

**79.3%**

Percentage of BOYS' head coaches that are employed as teachers

**62.0%**

Percentage of GIRLS' head coaches that are employed as teachers

**23.9%**

Percentage of GIRLS' head coaches that are FEMALE.

**56.1%**

Percentage of boys' and girls' coaches that completed the Rules Interp. Meeting online

Percentages taken from online rules meeting questionnaire