



# Ohio High School Athletic Association

National Federation of State High School Associations



## Announcer Responsibilities

A “Point of Emphasis” this year in NFHS Basketball Playing Rules addresses “Announcer Responsibilities”. High School sports have held onto a longtime belief that announcers at high school sporting events should not be ‘cheerleaders’; should be ‘neutral’ in their announcing and should also simply announce the facts of the game and not be a ‘play by play’ announcer. With increased pressure from professional arena announcers, many wish to ‘be like them’. It becomes essential that announcers are given appropriate training by event managers/Athletic Directors and also given appropriate pre-game guidance by officials. As a Point of Emphasis, the NFHS has issued some reminders and recommendations for responsibilities of announcers to stay consistent with these goals. They are:

- The announcer shall be prohibited from making an announcement while the clock is running and while the clock is stopped and the ball is alive...such as during a free throw, a throw in, etc. Doing so could potentially affect communication of coaches, players or be disconcerting.
- The announcer shall be prohibited from interrupting the game through the use of the microphone unless there is an emergency.
- Announcements or comments shall be made during those times when there is a stoppage of the clock and the ball is not live, such as time outs, between quarters, pre-game, half time and post game.
- The announcer is allowed to announce basic information that does not potentially affect the play in general, the players, the coaches, or the officials. The announcer’s information is not official information and could be misinformation shared with all.
- The announcer’s role does not include “cheering the home team on” or otherwise inciting the crowd. Doing so is common at other levels of athletic events. But high school athletics is different because sports are educationally based.
- “Emphatic” 3-pt. goals with excessive length should not occur.
- In a very real sense, the public address announcer at a high school event is a “Champion of Character”.
- The announcer can influence the atmosphere of the contest by what is said and how it is said.
- The announcer who performs professionally promotes good sportsmanship by what he/she says and how he/she acts upon saying it.



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## Pre-Game Public Address Announcement Welcome and Opening Remarks

Ladies & Gentlemen,

As a member school of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, \_\_\_\_\_ High School welcomes you to this interscholastic contest between \_\_\_\_\_ High School and \_\_\_\_\_ High School. To honor America, please stand and join in the singing/playing of our National Anthem.

*Playing of the **NATIONAL ANTHEM***

Your attendance and support of the student-athletes on the court at today's/tonight's game is appreciated by both member schools competing tonight. Though both teams are rivals, they are expected to exhibit the qualities of good sportsmanship throughout the contest and the administration of both schools request the same from all fans.

The officials assigned to this game have met extensive requirements set by the Ohio High School Athletic Association and have been approved by both schools to provide their important role in today's/tonight's game.

The officials for this game are:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, and  
\_\_\_\_\_

The athletes, coaches and officials are guests of \_\_\_\_\_ High School and fans are asked to respect the effort each of them has put forth preparing for today's/tonight's contest. We ask all attending to show courtesy and respect for fellow fans, officials, coaches, those administrating the contest and of course – your team and your opponent. And, as important today as ever, PLEASE **“Respect the Game”**.

Now lets' meet the players in today's/tonight's game.

**Visiting Coaches and Team** - Starters last

**Home Coaches and Team** – Starters last

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