Welcome!
2017-18

ABOUT NFHS
NFHS (located in Indianapolis, IN – Est. 1920):
- National leadership organization for high school sports and fine arts activities;
- National authority on interscholastic activity programs.
- Conducts national meetings;
- Sanctions interstate events;
- Produces national publication for high school administrators;
- National source for interscholastic coach and official training and national information center.
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

- Membership = 50 member state associations and D.C.
- NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 12 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.8 million in high school sports.

[Map of the United States]
The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level.

- Publishes 4 million pieces of materials annually.
NFHS RULES BOOK AS E-BOOKS

- E-book features:
  - Searchable
  - Highlight areas of interest
  - Make notes
  - Desktop laptop availability
  - Easy navigation
  - Adjustable viewing size
  - Immediate availability

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Have you been without your printed rules book and needed to find an obscure rule quickly, make a note or highlight a rule?

E-books Features:
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NFHS Basketball Rules and Case e-books for $5.99 each
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www.nfhs.org
The NFHS Rules Review Committee is chaired by the chief operating officer and composed of all rules editors. After each committee concludes its deliberations and has adopted its recommended changes for the subsequent year, such revisions will be evaluated by the Rules Review Committee.
GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS AND STATE ASSOCIATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION OF ACCOMMODATIONS

1. Request from Student to School for Accommodation(s)
2. School Conducts Individual Student Assessment
3. Request from School for Accommodation(s) to State Association
4. Notice and Opportunity to be Heard
5. State Association Review of Request
6. State Association Provides Written Determination for Accommodation(s) to School
7. If appropriate, School Provides Letter of Authorization to Head Official for Local Contest Allowing Competition with Accommodation(s)
**RULE 1-13-2  COACHING BOX**

- The coaching box shall be outlined outside the side of the court on which the scorer's and timer's table and team benches are located. The area shall be bounded by a line drawn 28 feet from the end line towards the Division line. At this point a line drawn from the sideline toward the team bench becomes the end of the coaching box going towards the end line.

- **Note:** State Associations may alter the length and placement of the 28 foot (maximum) coaching box. It may not be longer than 28 feet nor extended beyond the end line of the court.

- Effective Immediately. Tape may be used to extend the 14-foot line to 28 feet.
State associations have the ability to alter the location and length of the coaching box. The maximum length of the coaching box cannot exceed 28 feet. In MechaniGram A, the traditional end line to 28-foot mark coaching box is used and legal. In MechaniGram B, the 14-foot coaching box is placed from 28-foot mark and back toward the end line (as done in recent years) and is legal. In MechaniGram C, the 14-foot coaching box is relocated to be centered around the 28-foot mark and would be illegal (the 28-foot mark is furthest to the table).
RULE 2-9-1
SIGNAL TO THE SCORER

- When a foul occurs, an official shall signal the timer to stop the clock. The official shall verbally inform the offender, then with finger(s) of two hands, indicate to the scorer the number of the offender and the number of free throws.

- **Rationale**: To minimize foul reporting errors, that occur between the officials and the scorekeepers when the information gets lost in the translation. Two handed reporting is easier for the scorekeepers to see and comprehend in addition to being less confusing.
Officials should report fouls to the scorer by using two hands to display the fouler’s number. The official’s right hand will indicate the first digit (tens or “two” in the PlayPic example) and the left hand will show a second digit (ones or “four”), so it appears in a left-to-right sequence to the scorer. When reporting, the official should verbalize 24, not two-four.
Rule Change

**RULE 3-4-1D**

**TEAM JERSEY**

- There are no color/design restrictions in the area of the team jersey from the imaginary line at the base of the neckline to the top of the shoulder and in the corresponding area on the back of the jersey. There are restrictions on what identifying names may be placed in this area (see Article 3-4-4).

- **Rationale:** Provide guidance on the forthcoming restrictions for this area of the jersey.
RULES 3-4-4 UNIFORMS

Identifying name(s) shall adhere to the following:

- a. If used, lettering with school name, school’s nickname, school logo, player’s name and/or abbreviation of the official school name shall be placed horizontally on the jersey.
- b. The panel in the shoulder area of the jersey on the back may be used for placing an identifying name as well.

**Rationale:** Provide guidance to persons purchasing uniforms in determining what wording should go onto the jersey.
RULE 3-4-4a UNIFORMS

- If used, lettering is permitted in the form of a school’s name, a school’s nickname, a player’s name or an abbreviation of the school’s official name. PlayPics A, B and C are all legal examples.
RULE 3-4-4b UNIFORMS

- In PlayPic A, the shoulder area is identified and a similar area on the back is a legal area for the allowable identifying name.
- The initials of a player are shown which is an illegal example. The names are generally placed above the number or in the upper shoulder area on the back of the jersey.
- In PlayPic B, a school logo would be allowed.
RULE 4-48 NEW BEHAVIORAL WARNING

- Warning for Coach/Team Conduct
- A warning to a coach/team for misconduct is an administrative procedure by an official, which is recorded in the scorebook by the scorer and reported to the Head Coach:
- Art. 1 . . . For conduct, such as that described in rule 10-5-1a,b,d,e,f; 10-5-2; 10-5-4 the official shall warn the head coach unless the offense is judged to be major, in which case a technical foul shall be assessed. Note: A warning is not required prior to calling a technical foul.
**RULE 4-48 NEW BEHAVIORAL WARNING**

- Art. 2 . . . For the first violation of rule 10-6-1, the official shall warn the head coach unless the offense is judged to be major, in which case a technical foul shall be assessed.  
  Note: A warning is not required prior to calling a technical foul.

- **Rationale:** Stopping play and making sure that the bench and the coach know that an official warning has been given, sends a clear message to everyone in the gym and impacts the behavior of the coach, and in some cases the behavior of the opposing coach. This change in behavior creates a better atmosphere and many times avoids the need to administer a technical foul.
**Rule Change**

**RULE 4-48-1a NEW BEHAVIORAL WARNING**

- In PlayPic A, the official shall stop the game and begin the administrative process to have the warning recorded by the scorer in the scorebook and then notify the head coach.
- In PlayPic B, when the behavior is major no warning should be issued and the officials should rule a technical foul.
2017-18
EDITORIAL CHANGES
RULE 4-4-7B BALL LOCATION, AT DISPOSAL

- A ball is at the disposal of the thrower or free thrower after it is bounced to him/her.

- **Rationale**: Clarifies what player has the ball at his/her disposal.
In PlayPic A, the ball is at the thrower’s disposal when the thrower catches the ball from the official’s bounce. In PlayPic B, the ball is at the free-thrower’s disposal when the free thrower catches the ball from the official’s bounce.
EQUIPMENT WORN ON HEAD FOR MEDICAL OR RELIGIOUS REASON

- Specific procedures have been established for allowing a head covering to be worn for medical or religious reasons. A player who is required to wear a head covering for medical or religious reasons must provide a physician statement or appropriate documented evidence to the state association for approval. If approved, the state association shall provide written authorization to the school to be made available to officials.
HEAD COVERING WORN FOR MEDICAL AND RELIGIOUS REASONS

- In PlayPic A, the player presents a doctor’s note which indicates the player must wear a head covering for a medical reason, the officials shall permit a non-dangerous covering or wrap to be worn.
In PlayPic B, the player advises the coach that she/he must wear a head covering for religious reasons, the officials shall permit a non-dangerous covering or wrap to be worn. The coach and athletic administration must follow the process deemed appropriate by the state.
The relevance of team control during a throw-in only applies when a member of the throw-in team fouls. Such fouls shall be ruled team control fouls. Team control during a throw-in is NOT intended to be the same as player control/team control inbounds. Team control inbounds is established when a player from either team who has inbound status gains control of the ball. During the throw-in, 10-seconds, 3-seconds, frontcourt status, backcourt status, closely guarded, etc., are NOT factors as there has yet to be player control/team control obtained inbounds.
With specific regard to the backcourt violation; a team may not be the last to touch a live ball in the front court and then be the first to touch a live ball in the backcourt, provided that team has establish player control/team control on the playing court (either in the backcourt or frontcourt). **BY RULE EXCEPTION,** during a throw-in a team may leave the front court, establish player control/team control while airborne and land in the backcourt. This is a legal play and **ONLY applies to the first player of the offense who touches the ball PRIOR to the end of the throw-in.**
TEAM CONTROL, THROW-IN

When team A fouls during a throw-in (as shown in MechaniGram A), a team-control foul occurs and no free throws result. When the throw-in ends the throw-in exception ends for the throw-in team to land anywhere on the playing court. In the two-part PlayPic sequence, B2 deflects the throw-in pass and ends the throw-in then A12 establishes player and team control in team A’s frontcourt when catching the ball in the air after last having been in contact with the court in the frontcourt (PlayPic A). Once A12 lands in the backcourt a backcourt violation occurs (PlayPic B).
In the two-part sequence, the ball is inbounded directly from a throw-in. Since the throw-in is untouched the throw-in exception for the pass to be caught by a player inbounds (PlayPic A) – even with jumping from the frontcourt – and landing anywhere is in effect. A12’s catch is therefore legal and not a backcourt violation when catching in the backcourt (PlayPic B). A12 could even land with one foot down first in the frontcourt and then one foot in the backcourt, provided it is deemed a normal landing.
In PlayPic A, A4’s throw-in pass is fumbled by A10. A10’s fumble does not give Team A the required player- and team-control status inbounds in order to have a backcourt violation. Therefore, any Team A player may legally recover the ball if the ball goes into the backcourt.
The committee is concerned about the lack of enforcement for intentional fouls during any part of the game but especially at the end of a game. The intentional foul rule has evolved into misapplication and personal interpretations. An intentional foul is a personal or technical foul that may or may not be premeditated and is not based solely on the severity of the act, it is contact that:
### INTENTIONAL FOULS

- Neutralizes an opponent’s obvious advantageous position.
- Contact on an opponent who is clearly not in the play.
- May be excessive contact.
- Contact that is not necessarily premeditated or based solely on the severity of the act.
INTENTIONAL FOULS

This type of foul may be strategic to stop the clock or create a situation that may be tactically done for the team taking action. This foul may be innocent in severity, but without any playing of the ball, it becomes an intentional act such as a player wrapping their arms around an opponent. The act may be excessive in its intensity and force of the action. These actions are all intentional fouls and are to be called as such.
INTENTIONAL FOULS

Officials must be aware of the game situations as the probability of fouling late in the game is an accepted coaching strategy and is utilized by many coaches in some form. Officials must have the courage to enforce the intentional foul rule properly.
INTENTIONAL FOULS

- Intentional fouls should be ruled at any point in the game when contact neutralizes an opponent’s advantageous position, contact is not a clear attempt to play the ball (as shown in the PlayPic) or when contact is excessive. An intentional foul is not solely judged on the severity of the act.
GUARDING

The addition of rule 10.7.12, has been successful in its intent to clean up illegal contact on the ballhandler/dribbler and post players. Players are attempting to replace this illegal contact with contact observed as “body bumping”. Illegal contact with the body must be ruled a foul however, officials must accurately identify if the defense or offense causes the contact and penalize the player causing the illegal contact.
GUARDING

Once a defensive player obtains legal guarding position by facing an opponent with both feet of the floor inbounds, he/she may move to maintain that position in any direction except toward the offensive player being guarded when contact occurs. The defense is not required to keep both feet on the playing court and may jump vertically or laterally to maintain the legal position. If contact occurs prior to the offensive player getting head and shoulders passed the defender the responsibility is on the offensive player.
GUARDING

- A player may not displace an opponent with any body part, including the lower body/legs (as shown in PlayPic A). In order to gain legal guarding position a player must have two feet down on the court and be facing their opponent. Once a legal guarding position is obtained the defender can maintain that position legally by moving in any direction (backward or laterally) as long as they do not initiate contact into the opponent (as shown in MechaniGram B).
2017-18
OTHER BASKETBALL INFORMATION
During the Basketball round table held during the summer meeting, Basketball Liaisons indicated the need to move the mid-season webinar until after the winter holidays.

Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 2:00 p.m., EST
ABOUT THE
NFHS LEARNING CENTER

2017-18
Free Courses on NFHSLearn.com

Heat Illness Prevention
Concussion in Sports
Creating a Safe and Respectful Environment
Coaching Pole Vault
NCAA Eligibility
Engaging Effectively with Parents
Positive Sport Parenting
Sports Nutrition
Coaching Unified Sports
Sportsmanship
Sudden Cardiac Arrest
State Coaching Requirements

Check with your school administration or state association to confirm your state's requirements to coach. The following courses have been approved by your state association.

Select a State

To view the requirements for a different state, please select state from the dropdown:
INTERSCHOLASTIC OFFICIATING
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- Introduction to skills and concepts used as an official
- Ideal for new officials or those in first few years of officiating
- 30-45 minutes to complete
- Topics include: basics of becoming and staying an official, science of officiating, art of officiating, how to combine these skills for successful officiating
- Course is FREE to any NFHS Officials Association member
- Non-members course is $20
- Contact NFHS Officials Department for details (317.972.6900)

Mechanics: Nuances

Every sport offers specific nuances to the game and every game has a flow. As you gain experience, hopefully you will tune into this and help the game unfold naturally.
NFHS OFFICIALS EDUCATION COURSE AND VIDEOS

- Ideal for new officials or those in first few years of officiating
- 30-45 minutes to complete
- Topics include: Basics of Becoming and Staying an Official, Science of Officiating, Art of Officiating
- Course is FREE to NFHS Officials Association members, non-members fee is $20
- NFHSLearn.com

- Sports such as soccer, basketball and baseball offer direct illustrations of the rules book, including rules references and officials signals
- Animated mechanics videos for softball, and baseball umpires
- Video interpretation of the NFHS Basketball Rules Book created through a partnership with the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials

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Contains

• Sport information
• Rules information
• Rules library
• Searchable rules book and case book
• Video content on officiating sport, competition situations and interpretations
Plays and Mechanics - Shot and Rebounding
ABOUT THE
NFHS NETWORK

2017-18
NFHS NETWORK

- By 2020, every high school sporting event in America will be streamed live.
- The NFHS Network will be THE DESTINATION for fans to view these broadcasts.
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