

# Connecticut State Board of Approved Basketball Officials

## *Interpreters Bulletin*



### DECEMBER 2011

Welcome to the 2011-2012 Basketball Season! There are minimal rules changes. Officials will continue to enforce the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) Points of Emphasis, which allows each team to compete equally through the use of skill, athleticism and freedom of movement principles. The Connecticut High School Basketball Rules Interpreters have developed this "*Bulletin*" as a communication resource to share among basketball officials, athletic directors, and coaches. Our objective is to promote a common understanding to the rules that regulate the game of basketball. In future bulletins, we will describe actual play scenarios to aid in your understanding of specific rulings.

Connecticut has five (5) area rules interpreters, and a state interpreter who serves as our liaison to the CIAC. We are members of the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials (IAABO); the world's oldest, largest and most respected organization dedicated to the education and continuous improvement of basketball officials. We annually train our officials to follow the rules and points of emphasis promulgated by the CIAC and the NFHS.

The following individuals are the high school basketball rules interpreters:

Board #6 - Hartford County

Peter Palermino [ppalermino38@comcast.net](mailto:ppalermino38@comcast.net)

Board #7 - Litchfield County

Charles Harbach [charbach@charter.net](mailto:charbach@charter.net)

Board #8 - Eastern CT Counties

Walt Blanker [walter\\_p\\_blancker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:walter_p_blancker@sbcglobal.net)

Board #9 - Fairfield County

Lou Filippetti [ljf31@yahoo.com](mailto:ljf31@yahoo.com)

Board #10 - New Haven County

Jeffrey Smith State Interpreter [jsmith618ec@hotmail.com](mailto:jsmith618ec@hotmail.com)

A message from State Interpreter Jeffrey Smith:

As officials, we are guardians of the game; it is our responsibility and goal to assist fellow officials and coaches to promote the highest level of sportsmanship during an interscholastic basketball competition.

This goal can be accomplished with the support of every coach, since interscholastic sports are "*co-curricular*" activities and an extension of the classroom and its educational process.

We follow IAABO's mantra: "*One Rule, One Interpretation, One Mechanic*".

Partnered with the CIAC and the NFHS, we have a shared commitment to encourage the value of good healthy competitive play among student-athletes.

Coaches are encouraged to contact their local interpreter, as well as myself, regarding any rules questions or interpretations during the season.

### RULE CHANGES FOR 2011-2012

The following are the **2011-2012 NFHS Rules Changes**:

- Arm sleeves must be the same color (white, black, beige or a single school color) for each team member and be worn for medical reason. A doctor note is not necessary. The coach and/or athletic trainer can make such determination.

- Team control will now exist during a throw-in. Thus, any foul that occurs during team control will not result in free throws unless intentional or flagrant.

**Editorial Changes** include:

- Clarified that the visiting team's dark jersey be the darker of the school's color scheme or black.

Officials have been instructed to enforce the following **Points of Emphasis**:

- Enforce the rules as written.

- Prevent teams from pre-game gatherings at midcourt, running under an opponent's basket or through their warm-up area, and warming-up on their half of the court *ONLY*.

- Hand checking, Palming and Verticality

- Unsporting behavior

**Key Reminders** from previous years:

- The procedure for handling a player who exhibits signs, symptoms and behaviors consistent with a concussion has been revised. The CIAC has developed an Official's Concussion Protocol consistent with the new Connecticut Law (Public Act 10-62) passed in 2010. Very simply, officials will stop play and inform the coach that "*the player should to be checked out*".

- Coaches are reminded that requesting a time-out is not a guarantee. Officials must be certain that it is the player in control of the ball of the same team before granting a time-out to the head coach.

- The Coaching Box must be marked. It is measured 28 feet from the end line toward midcourt, then 14 feet down back towards the end line. Only head coaches are permitted to stand during play. If home management refuses to mark the coaching boxes with tape, the home team head coach must remain seated for the entire game. However, the visiting team head coach will be allowed to stand in an area designated by the officials.