

Connecticut State Board of Approved Basketball Officials

Interpreters Bulletin



DECEMBER 2017

Welcome to the 2017-2018 Basketball Season! There are minimal rules changes for this coming season. 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 high school basketball. In future bulletins, we will describe actual play scenarios to aid in your understanding of specific rulings.

Connecticut has six (6) 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. Following are the High School Basketball Rules Interpreters and their geographic area:

Board #6 - Hartford & Middlesex Counties
Peter Palermino - State Interpreter
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Board #7 - Litchfield County
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Board #8 – New London County
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Board #9 - Fairfield County
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Board #10 - New Haven & Middlesex Counties
Ray Vanacore
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Board #35 - Tolland & Windham Counties
Charlie Lee
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A message from State Interpreter Peter Palermino:

Each Connecticut Board Rules Interpreter has been charged with delivering IAABO’s message of “*One Rule, One Interpretation, One Set of Approved Mechanics*”. With that in mind, all officials are obligated to enforce the rules as written, points of emphasis, and good sportsmanship throughout every contest. Partnerships between the CIAC, NFHS and IAABO have been created over many years to achieve these goals.

High school athletics are educationally-based, thus we share a commitment to support and enforce the value of healthy competition and good sportsmanship between student-athletes.

Coaches are strongly encouraged to *contact their local rules interpreter* regarding any rules questions or interpretations of the rules during the basketball season.

Be a Leader! Promote Sportsmanship!



RULES CHANGES FOR 2017-2018

2017-2018 NFHS RULES CHANGES

The Coaching Box is now measured 28 feet from the end line toward the division line. The CIAC wants the Coaching Box to be marked as required by the NFHS rule. Only head coaches are permitted to stand during play. (Rule 1-13-2) If home management refuses to mark the coaching box with gym floor tape, the CIAC has instructed IAABO officials to alert the home team that their 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.

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, if applicable.

A behavioral warning to a *head coach/bench personnel* for misconduct is a new administrative procedure by an official to help improve sportsmanship of coaches. A warning is not required prior to calling a technical foul. A warning is recorded in the scorebook by the scorer and reported to the Head Coach.

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Equipment worn on the head for medical or religious reason requires approval by the CIAC.

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

Requesting/Granting a Time-Out – A coach and/or player can request a time-out but an official cannot grant a timeout to a team unless a player from that team has control of the ball. Thus, a request for a time-out might not be granted.

Players that “*body bump*” the dribbler or post player commit illegal contact and this must be ruled a foul. Officials must accurately identify if the defense or offense causes the contact and penalize the player causing the illegal contact.

Key Rule Reminders from previous years:

- *Disqualified or injured player* – a team is allowed 15 (was 20) seconds to replace. This is not a charged timeout to the team.

- *Players along the free throw lane during a free throw attempt* are not allowed to enter the free throw semi-circle, until the ball hits the ring.

- *Players located outside the 3-point arc during a free throw attempt* are not allowed to enter the 3-point arc until the ball hits the ring.

- *Arm sleeves, knee sleeves, lower leg sleeves, compression shorts and tights* are permissible and shall meet the color restrictions. Sleeves/tights shall be black, white, beige or the predominate color of the uniform and must be the same color as the head band and wrist band and worn by all teammates. **RULES 3-5-3c & 3.5.4a:**