

# Connecticut State Board of Approved Basketball Officials

## *Interpreters Bulletin*



DECEMBER 2009

RULE CHANGES FOR 2009-2010

Welcome to the 2009-2010 Basketball Season! For the second consecutive year there are minimal rule changes. Additionally, officials will continue to enforce the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) Points of Emphasis which allows each team to compete evenly 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 govern 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) organization, and 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

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A message from State Interpreter Jeffrey Smith:

As officials, we are guardians of the game and 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, rather than extra-curricular, because they are an extension of the classroom and the educational process.

As members of IAABO, the world's oldest and largest organization dedicated to the education and training of basketball officials, we work toward continuous improvement of our members, and follow IAABO's mantra: "**One Rule, One Interpretation, One Mechanic**". Partnered with the CIAC and the NFHS, we have a shared commitment to instruct, model, foster, and 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.

We look forward to seeing you on the hardwood for another successful year of continuous service to interscholastic basketball in Connecticut.

The following are **Rule Changes** for the 2009-2010 season:

- The CIAC may permit the use of a replay monitor during the state championship series contests, to determine whether or not a try for goal was released before the expiration of time during the fourth period or overtime, and if so, determine if it is a two/three-point attempt that could affect the outcome of the game.
- A red light behind the backboard or a LED light on the backboard is permitted to signal the expiration of time in the quarter/extra period. If no red/LED light is present, the audible timer's signal will continue to signal the expiration of time.

**Editorial Changes** include:

- Clarified the designated rectangle area to be used for time-outs.
- Clarified when to start the 20-second interval to replace an injured player.
- Clarified that any item, in the referee's judgment, that constitutes a safety concern is not permitted.
- Clarified that a player leaves a marked lane space when he/she contacts any part of the court outside the 36 inches by 36 inches marked lane space, which results in a free throw lane violation.

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

- Traveling violations
- Closely-guarded violations (dribbling or holding the ball for 5 seconds within 6 feet of a defender)
- Three-second violations
- Block/charge rulings
- Free throw administration

**Key Reminders** from previous years:

- Headbands defined, properly worn, color, size and logo restrictions.
- Enforcement in the proper wearing of uniforms by players.
- Coaches are reminded that requesting a time-out is not a guarantee that one will be granted. Officials must be certain that it is the head coach who is requesting a time-out, and that coach's player has control of the ball before the time-out is granted.
- The Coaching Box must be marked. It is 14 feet wide, 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.