



IGHSAU/IHSAA Basketball Memo



January 18, 2017

Greetings basketball enthusiasts! We're just past the halfway point of the season, and we have a few items that need attention. Please review the following information regarding legal uniforms and player equipment as well as the timing for release of post-season tournament pairings and officiating assignments.

Numbering

Legal numbers are required on the front and back of each player's jersey. The following numbers are legal: 0 or 00; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, and 55. Please remember that during the regular season, a team's roster is only limited by the 36 possible legal number combinations for a given game. Theoretically, a team could dress 36 players and legally have them in the scorebook, although the official scorer would have his/her hands full! The limitation allowing only 15 players in uniform is only in effect for the postseason.

A few illegal numbering situations have surfaced over the past few weeks. 3.4.3 Situation B in the NFHS Basketball Case Book addresses these situations. Consider a situation where Team A has a team member listed in the scorebook as #7 and is wearing jersey #7. Prior to the 10-minute mark before the start of the game, #7 may legally be changed to a legal number in the scorebook. There is no penalty for listing an illegal number in the scorebook in and of itself. As such, after the 10-minute mark, if no change is made to the scorebook, and if #7 does not ever enter the game, there is no penalty.

However, after the 10-minute mark prior to the start of the game or at any point during the game, if #7 changes into a legal jersey and subsequently enters the game, a number must be changed in the scorebook. Therefore, an administrative technical foul is assessed to the team. Because this is an administrative technical foul, the coach does not lose coaching box privileges.

If #7 enters the game at any point wearing jersey #7, a direct technical foul is assessed to #7's head coach for the illegal uniform, and the coach loses his/her coaching box privileges. #7 may participate with the illegal number at the expense of the technical foul to the head coach.

2016-17 IGHSAU Girls' Basketball Adaptation

Please review the girls' basketball adaptation regarding team member's equipment and apparel. There are a few notable exceptions allowed in girls' basketball in Iowa that are not permitted in boys' basketball. The main differences being that in girls' basketball headbands may be any color or multicolored and do not have to match among teammates. Additionally, the logo restriction is waived for girls' headbands. Please review the full rule below to understand the differences and exceptions.

NFHS Basketball Rule 3-5 Team Member's Equipment, Apparel

Modify Rule 3-5-3c to the following:

All sleeves/tights and compression shorts shall be the same solid color.

Modify Rule 3-5-4 to the following:

- a. *Anything worn in the hair (including headbands as shown in Figure "C" below) must be soft and unadorned but may be any color or multi-colored and do not have to match for all teammates. The 2-inch maximum width provision for headbands will be waived, and headbands with extensions as shown in Figure "A" below will be permitted.*
- b. *Protective soft headgear as shown in Figure "B" below will be permitted provided the headgear is not abrasive, hard, or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way it is highly unlikely it will come off during play.*
- c. *Bobby pins 2" or less will be allowed.*
- d. *Wristbands may be any color or multi-colored and do not have to match for all teammates, but must be made of moisture-absorbing material.*
- e. *Silicone and rubber bracelets, rubber bands, bandanas, etc., are illegal as they are not moisture-absorbing or appropriate for the game of basketball.*

NFHS Basketball Rule 3-6 Logo/Trademark/Reference

Modify Rule 3-6-1 to the following:

One visible manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference or school logo/mascot is permitted on the compression shorts, arm and leg compression sleeves, and wristbands. Multiple manufacturer's logos/trademarks/references and/or school logos/mascots are permitted on the headbands as shown in Figures "D" and "E" below.



Figure "A"



Figure "B"



Figure "C"



Figure "D"



Rolling Waistbands on Shorts

A recent fashion trend has been for some players to roll over the waistbands on their shorts. Others roll their waistbands out of necessity because their shorts otherwise do not fit properly. It is permissible for players to roll the waistbands on their shorts if only one manufacturer logo is displaying on the shorts. Additional logos must be covered. Please note that this is a more liberal interpretation than has been issued in the past.

Guards, Casts, and Braces

Rule 3-5-2 states that a guard, cast, or brace made of a hard and unyielding substance such as leather, plaster, plastic, metal, or any other hard substance shall not be worn on the hand, finger/thumb, wrist, or forearm, even though covered with soft padding. Please keep this in mind, as questions often arise in this area, especially regarding finger splints. The rule permits hard and unyielding items (guards, casts, braces, etc.) to be worn on the upper arm or shoulder if the items are padded with a closed-cell, slow-recovery foam padding no less than 1/2-inch thick.

Body Piercings

Bottom line, if you can see it - even if only for a second - it's illegal. If you're observing warm-ups and it is obvious that a piercing or other jewelry is present, the player must remove it immediately. A player obviously cannot enter the game wearing jewelry. Officials need not look under tape to see if there is jewelry, as the head coach will verify in the pre-game meeting that his/her players comply with the equipment and uniform rules. Players also may not use a plug, string, spacer, straw, retainer, etc. in lieu of the actual ring, as the plug, string, spacer, etc. is also considered jewelry.

The penalty for having excessive manufacturer logos, an illegal guard, cast, or brace, or a body piercing or jewelry is that the player simply may not participate and is directed to return to the bench until the situation is rectified. No technical foul is assessed in these situations.

Post-Season Tournament Pairings

IHSAA post-season pods for 1A/2A basketball will be released on Friday, Jan. 20. Pods for 3A/4A will be released on Jan. 27. Seeding meetings are Feb. 1 for 1A/2A and Feb. 8 for 3A/4A.

IGHSAU regional tournament pairings for 1A/2A/3A basketball will be released on Monday, Jan. 23. 4A/5A pairings will be released on Jan. 30. Please ensure that your athletic director has completed the site availability in the IGHSAU online forms if you wish to be considered to host regional basketball.

Post-Season Officiating Assignments

The IHSAA and IGHSAU will be working together on the officiating assignment process on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1. Officials, please ensure that your Arbiter blocks and any relevant notes are entered in Arbiter and that your IHSAA availability is up to date on the IHSAA system prior to Jan. 30. We will run our final availability reports on the 30th for use in the assigning process.

The first round of IHSAA officiating assignments will be released on Feb. 7; second and third rounds on Feb. 14; and sub-state finals on Feb. 21. IHSAA state basketball officiating assignments will be released on Feb. 28.

The first three rounds of IGHSAU officiating assignments will be released on Feb. 2. Regional final assignments will be released on Feb. 9. IGHSAU state basketball officiating assignments will be released on Feb. 17.

Please let us know any questions and keep up the great work this season!

Joel Oswald

*IGHSAU Basketball Administrator/
Coordinator of Basketball Officials*

Brett Nanninga

IHSAA Basketball Administrator

Lewie Curtis

IHSAA Coordinator of Officials