

2018 IGHS AU Officiating Clinic

Locations: Ames, Cedar Rapids, LeMars, Atlantic

Thank you for attending the 2018 IGHS AU Officials Clinic. Your attendance at one of our clinics meets your requirement once every three years to be eligible to officiate in the post-season tournament series. We find that these clinics are a great way to provide a refresher of officiating mechanics and rules of the game. We also believe this is a great way to provide all officials any new rules adapted by the NFHS for the upcoming season as well as clarify our expectations of our officials. As we work through the season and get closer to post-season assigning; we are looking for the best officials that exemplify a professional demeanor for all of our post-season matches. Following the clinic if you have questions, please ask one of our clinicians/observers or contact tim@ighsau.com for more information!

Officiating Uniform

Officials must look professional at all times. Officials are able to arrive at the school in uniform, however, if you choose to change at the school, make sure that you are dressed professionally when you arrive; it is preferred that you change into your officiating shoes at the venue, to avoid tracking in dirt/mud etc., onto the playing surface.

The official uniform is as follows:

- White Polo Shirt with IGHS AU patch or IGHS AU Embroidered Logo
 - Purchased through ImageSport website on Arbiter – Central Hub
- Black Pants and Black Belt
- Black Socks and Black Athletic Shoes
- Black or White Whistle with matching lanyard
- Wristwatch with timing ability

Officiating Accessories

- Coin
- Ball pressure gauge and pump
- Net height measuring device
- Yellow / Red Penalty Cards
- Rule Book
- Pencil and Lineup Card (if needed)
- Red Line Judging Flags (Some schools will provide)

IGHS AU Officials Expectations

The following expectations will be a focus point for our observers throughout the season and your display of the expectations will be taken into consideration for post-season assignments. Post-season assignments are not limited to only following these expectations but will be a big part of the selection process.

1. Professionalism

- a. This is an opportunity for you to provide an elite service to the players and coaches that have trained very hard to be where they are. Please remember that you are there to officiate a fair and balanced match. Any interactions you may have with coaches, players and/or fans prior to or following a match can be viewed by the opposite side as biased. Please remember to limit the interactions you have with these individuals. Once you arrive at the facility, you have responsibilities that need to be taken care of such as analyzing the competition area, overhead obstructions, etc. and establishing specific ground rules that need to be addressed in the captains meeting, communicating with the work crew (scorekeeper, libero tracker, scoreboard operator and line judges) to ensure a smooth match, and run the captains meeting and warm-ups.

- b. We receive communication regarding unprofessional officials and these are kept in mind when post-season assigning begins. All officials should be aware of exhibiting the most professional behavior at all times as this is of the utmost importance to the players, coaches, fans and of course, the IGHSAU.

2. Understand and Apply the rules as defined by the NFHS

- a. Make sure to study the rulebook and case book. Always be reading the rule book. You would be surprised how much you may miss on the first or second reading. Knowing the rulebook will help you spot violations and sound confident when you must address the coaches of a rule application. Use the verbiage in the rule book when communicating with coaches/players.
- b. Some of the best officials will review their match with their partner following a match and have a post-match debriefing. If there was an application of a rule that was in question during the match, refer to your rule book while the debriefing takes place.

3. Master the Mechanics

- a. The mechanics are the language of the officiating crew. We do not say much during the match but we do communicate all the time; with players, coaches and our officiating crew. Signals need to be crisp and clean. Movement by the R2 and Line Judges must be made with a purpose. All of this will help sell the calls you make because if you look confident, people will believe you know what you are doing!
- b. Key Points for Communication Among Officials
 - i. *Maintain eye contact throughout the match.* Line judges should look at the referee when making a call; the R1 and R2 should be making constant visual contact with each other before serves and between plays.
 - ii. *Provide complete information.* Both verbally and through signals to communicate clearly and completely with your fellow officials.
 - iii. *Support your fellow officials.* Don't openly question another official's call when the call is made within his or her outlined duties. Don't override fellow officials' decisions unless you are 100% confident otherwise.
 - iv. *Work as a team.* Just as players work as a team, so should the officials.

4. Make calls confidently and with good timing and tempo

- a. Be confident and sure of your call. If you look timid or hesitate, you do not look confident and people may question you more. When you speak, be authoritative and strong. Wait for the play to develop. Do not blow your whistle too early. Anticipate the play but never anticipate a call. Just because you think that ball will hit the ground does not mean the ball would not have been pancaked and saved. By blowing the whistle too early, we may take away an exciting and athletic play. Yes, we can replay it if we made a mistake, but that doesn't help the player feel any better about the mistake.

5. Focus on the court, not the stands

- a. When you blow the play dead, half of the gym has the potential of disagreeing with you. People may heckle and criticize. You must ignore them. Reacting with fans will only get you in trouble, take your focus away and show signs of weakness.

6. Broaden your Knowledge

- a. As much as possible, read about the sport and officiating. Talk to veteran officials. Before matches, tell your partner that you would like to have a match debriefing following the match. Pick things that you would like to focus on each match and ask your partner to provide feedback. None of us are perfect, not even our partners; we will all have feedback. Always be appreciative of what you get, do not defend yourself or "put up walls."

7. Be passionate about officiating

- a. Do this because you love it and want to give back to the game. If you love it, you will be passionate about it and you will bring a level of confidence and energy that cannot be matched, and it will not go unnoticed.

Volleyball Rule Changes for 2018

2-4-1b: A referee shall stop play when any player gains an illegal advantage by contacting any team member while playing the ball.

Rationale: Clarifies that no team member may assist a player during an attempt to play the ball.

5-5-3b(10) (NEW): The second referee has the responsibility to ensure that the head coach remains in the replacement zone no closer than 6 feet to the sideline, when standing during play.

Rationale: Supports the second referee's responsibilities as outlined in the Officials Manual.

5-5-3b(13), 5-5-3b(20), 5-8-3a NOTE (NEW): When multiple courts are in use, the second referee may end a time-out or interval between sets with a long whistle in place of the timer sounding an audio signal (horn).

Rationale: Clarifies timer and second referee responsibilities during time-outs/intervals when multiple courts are in use.

9-8-2 EXCEPTION (NEW), 11-4-1b (NEW): When a replay is signaled due to an injury/illness and the injured/ill player cannot continue play, the head coach may request a substitute or complete a legal libero replacement for the injured/ill player or take a team time-out(s) if the team has remaining time-outs.

Rationale: Clarifies the procedures for a replay due to an injured/ill player and adds the option of a legal libero replacement.

10-2 PENALTIES 2: After a team is charged with an unnecessary delay, the coach may request no further substitutions until the next completed rally.

Rationale: Eliminates further delay of the set by removing the option to request additional substitutions after a team is charged with an unnecessary delay.

11-5-3 (NEW): Between sets, teams may warm up in their playing area, but may not hit volleyballs over the net into the opponents playing area.

Rationale: Establishes parameters for warming up between sets that minimize the risk of injury.

SIGNAL #21: To signal unnecessary delay, raise the hand on the side of the offending team beside head, palm facing shoulder, hold the appropriate card on the wrist of the raised hand.

Rationale: Simplifies mechanics for unnecessary delay signal and clarifies side at fault.

Important Thing to Note

First Official (R1)

- Sets the tone and pace of the match.
- The R1 should make the final decision on ball handling calls, R2 may provide discrete help calls
- Should remain on the stand during the match, if you need water, your R2 will bring it to you. It will give each a chance to review if needed. R1 is to stay up there so no one can have interaction or show favoritism. You are the R1; your R2 will be your defender with coaches, benches personnel, etc.
- When the action is close to the R1 **DON'T BOB and WEAVE** thinking it shows you are getting into position. Be erect and let your nose center on the net. It takes extra split seconds for your eyes to adjust when you bob and weave.
- Officials are to use the NFHS Official volleyball signals pictured and explained within the volleyball rule book. "Creating" gestures to signal "touch" during a rally or "all good" such as a baseball safe signal during a rally are not official volleyball signals.

Second Official (R2)

- Constantly feeding information to the R1; discrete help calls on ball handling, player violation numbers
- Does not stop play with ball handling calls
- Stops play and/or provides a whistle with:
 - Net Violations
 - Ball outside the antenna on their side of the net
 - Substitutions
 - Time-Outs
- May use line-up card, but if it slows down the match because you are updating subs, timeouts, etc. these should not be used. Reminder the R1 should never have a line-up card.
- Watches for overlaps on the receiving team. Always know where the setter is and which player leads/follows the setter. This will make overlaps easier to find.
- Help discretely signal a backrow block or attack to the R1, it is not your responsibility to end the rally.
- Should be constantly looking for timeouts and substitutions. This means **GET OFF THE POLE** at least four to five feet. It lets your eyes pick up the incoming traffic, signals. Don't **HIDE** behind the pole; be about a foot off the pole on the blocker's side, don't lean in to see net play, it is preferred to be erect and stationary during a potential net violation.
- For substitutions, avoid turning your entire body and having your back to the opposite bench.

First and Second Official Communicating player numbers

- R1 and R2 communicating player's numbers with both of their hands. Fill the right hand and when to ten it becomes a fist. When it becomes like: 23, fill the right hand with 2 fingers and left with 3 fingers. Numbers like 11 are NOT two index fingers pointing upward.

Line Judges Mechanics / Calls

- R1 must take the time to talk with the set of line judges prior to the match regardless if the line judges are actual officials, adults or students. We should always include this in our pre-match duties.
- Line Judge Technique Review
 - Demonstration of how to hold the flag during play on the court, snapping the down/up flag
 - Tell your line judges to make sharp aggressive mechanics with the flag;
 - In, Out, Touch, Antenna, Blocked Out thus unable to SEE what to call.
 - Outside the antenna, ball contacting net outside antenna signal and signal team at fault
 - Line judges are not "glued" to the corner. You may move off the corner to receive a better angle
 - Focus on the line in which the path of the ball will cross, do not follow the ball
 - Your side line is your side line, your end line is your end line.
 - Ball off of the block and out of bounds on the attacking side, is out of bounds
 - Ball off of the block and out of bounds on the blocking side is a touch call
 - Do not chase the ball after a rally. Players will be responsible for retrieving the ball.