

BASKETBALL OFFICIALS – MEMO – JANUARY 22, 2019

The IGHSAU and IHSAA, Supervisors, and all of our Observers have been out in force over the last few weeks and the following is a summary of what we have observed and wanted to share with you.

1. We are doing a better job officiating traveling - keep working at it- we can still do better.
2. Hand Checking and bumping dribblers is still happening too much, get the first foul.
3. The lead official is doing a pretty good job of getting to the side of the floor necessary and it seems L switches are getting more consistent. Be sure not to be too quick on the flex so as not to force your C to switch out of position.
4. Stay with those jump shooters all the way to the floor. Protecting shooters and dribblers is one of the KEYS to a great officiated game.
5. We have been to tournaments the last couple of weekends and the officials who were there did a great job of staying in and officiating rebounding. The trail was at the top of the key extended and took one step toward the baseline when the shot went up and the center official was at the free throw line extended and also took one small step toward the baseline to help officiate rebounding.
6. We still need improvement with cleaning up the play inside. Call the excessive contact early and often in order to get this under control. Players will adapt.

Things we can and need to get better at:

Closely guarded counts need to be started when the defender is within 6 feet of the ball handler in the front court. Please get these counts started right away—**and make them visible**.

Get to the foul reporting area - **STOP** and then report the foul completely. Be sure you are giving preliminary signals so your partners and the players know what you have at the scene before you ever leave to go to the reporting area. ALWAYS KNOW WHO YOUR SHOOTER IS!

We seem to still struggle with cutters and those offensive players being bumped off their path. When ball coverage is not one of your primary responsibilities and you have off ball coverages, you **MUST** notice and detect what is happening with those cutters and screeners. Talk about this in your pregame and really work on it. Don't let an unfair advantage go unpenalized. **Keep moving on the perimeter to get good angles on drives to the hoop.**

We got this note from a basketball coach and thought you might enjoy

“Just wanted to say I appreciated your note about officials talking to coaches on the sideline while the ball is alive. I never notice during the game, but in watching our game on hudl I’m surprised at how many coaches we play against spend so much sideline time talking to the officials. If the other coach spends most of his/her time coaching their team’s, you always wonder if all the chattering to officials throughout the game can make a difference on a call or 2. And then you wonder, do I need to do the same thing”?! Think about what this coach is saying and officiate the game and let your mechanics be your best communication tool. It is also pretty hard to quote silence.

The weather is getting crazy now so please drive carefully, arrive safely. Now that we are in the heart of the season - bring your game to the next level. Tournament time is just around the corner. Thanks again for all your work this season!

Sincerely;

Charles Brittain, Gary Ross, Brett Nanninga, Lewie Curtis