

# Connecticut State Board of Approved Basketball Officials

## *Interpreters Bulletin*



### DECEMBER 2012

Welcome to the 2012-2013 Basketball Season! There are minimal rules changes. 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 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); 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.

The following individuals are the high school basketball rules interpreters:

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A message from State Interpreter Jeffrey Smith:

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

Athletic teams are co-curricular activities, which is an extension of the classroom and its educational process. Moreover, it is through this shared commitment of interscholastic sports, we are able encourage the value of good healthy competition between student-athletes.

Coaches are encouraged to contact their local interpreter, as well as myself, regarding any rules questions or interpretations during the season.

### RULE CHANGES FOR 2012-2013

The following are the 2012-2013 NFHS Rules Changes:

**NEW – Rule 2-11-12:** The official scorer must wear a black and white striped shirt.

#### Major Editorial Change:

The state associations may intercede in the event of unusual incidents that occur before, during or after a contest. (Rule 2-2-4)

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

- When a player is **closely guarded within 6 feet** by an opponent(s) while holding or dribbling the ball in the frontcourt for 5-seconds, a violation should be ruled. (Rule 4-10)
- As there is more emphasis on concussions and decreasing excessive contact, **contact above the shoulder** needs to be closely watched and penalized when appropriate. For example, a player who excessively swings his/her elbows, at a speed in excess of the rest of the body, without contact should be ruled for a violation. If contact occurs above the shoulders, it can be ruled a common, intentional or a flagrant personal foul.
- **Intentional fouls** can be ruled anytime during the game. Contact away from the ball or contact by an opponent that does not make a legitimate attempt to play the ball should be ruled an intentional personal foul regardless the amount of time in the game. Also, if a player causes excessive contact with an opponent while playing the play, the foul shall be ruled intentional. (Rule 4-19-3d)
- **Enforce illegal contact** especially **hand-checking** that allows a player to control movement of an opposing player, i.e. two hands, jabbing and continuous contact by a hand or forearm. **Post play** that results in tactics such as, hooking, pushing, holding and dislodging an opponent using hands or arm movements should be ruled a foul.

Key Rule Reminders from previous years:

- The procedure for handling a player who exhibits signs, symptoms and behaviors consistent with a concussion has been revised. The CIAC has developed an Official’s Concussion Protocol consistent with the new Connecticut Law (Public Act 10-62) passed in 2010. Very simply, officials will stop play and inform the coach that “*the player should be checked out*”.
- Coaches are reminded that requesting a time-out is not a guarantee. Officials must be certain that it is the requesting coach’s player in control of the ball before granting a time-out to the head coach. The official must see or hear the head coach’s request. (Rule 5-8-3)
- The Coaching Box must be marked. It is measured 28 feet from the end line toward the division line, then 14 feet down back towards the end line. Only head coaches are permitted to stand during play. (Rule 1-13-2) 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 referee.