NFHS (located in Indianapolis, IN – Est. 1920):
- National leadership organization for high school sports and fine arts activities;
- National authority on interscholastic activity programs.
- Conducts national meetings;
- Sanctions interstate events;
- Produces national publication for high school administrators;
- National source for interscholastic coach and official training and national information center.
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

- Membership = 50 member state associations and D.C.
- NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 12 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.8 million in high school sports.
RULE CHANGES
EDITORIAL CHANGES
POINTS OF EMPHASIS

2017-18

www.nfhs.org
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RULE CHANGES
www.nfhs.org
RULE 1-13-2
COACHING BOX LENGTHENED

- Extended from 14’ to 28’ - May not be longer than 28 ft.
- One line is an extension of the endline. The other line is 28 feet from the endline. Both lines are drawn from the sideline toward the team bench (off the court).
- Same side of the court as team benches and scorer’s table.
- May not be within 6 feet of the scorer’s table.

**Note:** The coaching box must be clearly marked with lines 2 in. wide by 3 ft. long. The lines must be off the court at the endline and 28 feet from the endline. Tape may be used if the lines are not painted on the court.
COACHING BOXES

- Schools are required to properly mark coaching boxes. If coaching boxes are not marked or are improperly marked, neither team’s head coach will have the privilege of standing to coach.
- If both coaching boxes are not properly marked prior to the start of a game, they may not be used by either head coach, for any part of the game.
- It is the responsibility of the host school to properly mark the coaching boxes. It is the responsibility of game officials to verify that the coaching boxes are properly marked, prior to the start of the game.
Rule Change

RULE 2-9-1 SIGNALS (TWO-HAND REPORTING)

- Officials shall report fouls to the scorer, using two hands to display the fouler’s number.

- The official’s right hand will show the tens digit and his/her left hand will show the ones digit.
TABLE REPORTING - OFFICIALS

- When reporting fouls to the scorekeeper, the reporting official should verbalize “twenty-four” instead of “two, four” ... “thirty-three” instead of “three, three.”

- It is important for officials to speak loudly and clearly enough so the scorekeeper and timer are easily able to hear and understand what the official is saying.
Rule Change

RULE 3-4-1D
TEAM JERSEY

- There are no color/design restrictions in the area of the team jersey from the imaginary line at the base of the neckline to the top of the shoulder and in the corresponding area on the back of the jersey. There are restrictions on what identifying names may be placed in this area (see Article 3-4-4).

- **Rationale:** Provide guidance on the forthcoming restrictions for this area of the jersey.
RULES 3-4-4 UNIFORMS

Identifying name(s) shall adhere to the following:

- a. If used, lettering with school name, school’s nickname, school logo, player’s name and /or abbreviation of the official school name shall be placed horizontally on the jersey.

- b. The panel in the shoulder area of the jersey on the back may be used for placing an identifying name as well.

**Rationale:** Provide guidance to persons purchasing uniforms in determining what wording should go onto the jersey.
**Rule Change**

**RULE 3-4-4a UNIFORMS**

- If used, lettering is permitted in the form of a school’s name, a school’s nickname, a player’s name or an abbreviation of the school’s official name. PlayPics A, B and C are all legal examples.
RULE 3-4-4b UNIFORMS

- In PlayPic A, the shoulder area is identified and a similar area on the back is a legal area for the allowable identifying name.
- The initials of a player are shown which is an illegal example. The names are generally placed above the number or in the upper shoulder area on the back of the jersey.
- In PlayPic B, a school logo would be allowed.
Before ordering new uniforms, refer to Rule 3 to determine if the uniforms you would like to order comply with all current NFHS standards.

Include a clause in your purchase contract designed to protect your school with regard to Rule 3 stipulations ...
ILLEGAL UNIFORM PENALTY

- Illegal uniform(s) ... Wrong color, illegal number(s), improper markings, ... Technical foul charged directly to the head coach - 2 shots awarded to the offended team, loss of coaching box privilege for the game, reported to state for further action.

- **Uniform/apparel rule exceptions for special events require a written waiver.**

- Coaches or AD’s cannot simply agree to ...
Rule Change

RULE 4-48 NEW BEHAVIORAL/COACHING BOX NON-MAJOR WARNING

- A warning to a coach or bench personnel for a “non-major” misconduct or coaching box infraction is now permitted. This warning is reported to the Head Coach of the offending team and recorded in the scorebook.

- A warning is not required prior to calling a technical foul.
RULE 4-48-1a NEW BEHAVIORAL WARNING

- In PlayPic A, the official shall stop the game and begin the administrative process to have the warning recorded by the scorer in the scorebook and then notify the head coach.
- In PlayPic B, when the behavior is major no warning should be issued and the officials should rule a technical foul.
RULE 4-48 NEW BEHAVIORAL/COACHING BOX NON-MAJOR WARNING

- Art. 1 . . . For the first “non-major” violation of the coaching box restrictions or inappropriate language, conduct, gestures or actions that are judged to be non-major, the official shall warn the head coach. If the offense is judged to be major, a technical foul shall be assessed.

- Note: A warning is not required prior to calling a technical foul.
Rule Change

MAJOR VS NON-MAJOR?
MAJOR VS NON-MAJOR?

"You've got to ask yourself one question: 'Do I feel lucky?'"
A maximum of one (total) warning may be issued for non-major coaching box and/or non-major conduct infraction.

Pre-game dunking is currently not included in the one total warning rule (still penalized as a direct technical foul to the offender and an indirect technical foul is charged to the head coach (loss of coaching box privilege)).
Rule Change

**RULE 4-48 NEW BEHAVIORAL WARNING**

- Officials should not stop play to issue a warning to a head coach or bench personnel when the non-offending team is in an offensively advantageous position, e.g. during a fast break, 5 on 4 situation, ...
2017-18
EDITORIAL CHANGES

www.nfhs.org
RULE 4-4-7B BALL LOCATION, AT DISPOSAL

- A ball is at the disposal of the player making a throw-in or the free thrower after it is handed or bounced to the player and the player who will shoot the free throw(s) or make the throw-in has control of the ball.

- Meaning: If a player who is receiving a ball that is handed or bounced to her or him does not gain control of the ball, the ball is not yet at the player’s disposal and there can be no violation for stepping into the lane or over the boundary line until the player has control of the ball.
In PlayPic A, the ball is at the thrower’s disposal when the thrower catches the ball from the official’s bounce. In PlayPic B, the ball is at the free-thrower’s disposal when the free thrower catches the ball from the official’s bounce.
2017-18

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

www.nfhs.org
EQUIPMENT WORN ON HEAD FOR MEDICAL OR RELIGIOUS REASON

- A player who is required to wear a head covering for medical or religious reasons must provide a physician statement or appropriate documented evidence to the state association for approval. If approved, the state association shall provide written authorization to the school, to be made available to officials prior to the start of each contest.

- No written approval from the state = No player participation.
HEAD COVERING WORN FOR MEDICAL AND RELIGIOUS REASONS

If a player informs her or his coach that she or he must wear a head covering for religious reasons, the coach or school athletic administration must follow the process deemed appropriate by the state, before the player is permitted to participate.

The responsibility of providing proper documentation lies with the team.
TEAM CONTROL, THROW-IN

- The relevance of team control during a throw-in applies only when a member of the throw-in team fouls. Such fouls shall be ruled team control fouls. Team control during a throw-in is NOT intended to be the same as player control/team control inbounds. Team control is not established until a player from either team who has inbounds status gains control of the ball. During throw-ins, 10-seconds, 3-seconds, frontcourt status, backcourt status, closely guarded, etc., are NOT factors as there has yet to be player control/team control obtained inbounds.
TEAM CONTROL, THROW-IN

Team control during throw-ins is relevant for foul purposes only.
TEAM CONTROL, THROW-IN

- With regard to potential backcourt violations - a team may not be the last to touch the ball in the front court and then be the first to touch or be touched by the ball in the backcourt, provided that team has established team control on the playing court - backcourt or frontcourt.

- BY RULE EXCEPTION, during a throw-in a team may leave the front court, establish player control/team control while airborne and land in the backcourt. This is a legal play and ONLY applies to the first player of the offensive team who touches the ball.
TEAM CONTROL, THROW-IN

- A4’s throw-in pass is bobbled by A10. A10’s bobble does not give Team A the required team control status inbounds and therefore there is no backcourt violation.

- Any Team A (or Team B) player may legally recover the ball if the ball goes into the backcourt in situations such as this.
INTENTIONAL FOULS

The committee is concerned about the lack of enforcement of intentional fouls, especially near the end of a game. The intentional foul rule has evolved into misapplication and personal interpretations. An intentional foul is a personal or technical foul that may or may not be premeditated and is not based solely on the severity of the act; it is contact that: