

MHSAA OFFICIALS BULLETIN

Rules: Fighting

Being ready to rule correctly on every possible play that could conceivably happen is challenging. Some situations are so rare. "Fighting" rules, for example. [CLICK HERE](#) for a viewable, downloadable tutorial for learning and remembering "The Consequences of Fighting"

Mechanics: Lane Line Foul [CLICK HERE](#) for video, then read below

Note the unapproved position of the Lead official for the first free throw. Some MHSAA officials stand in that empty free throw lane next to the player, an approved mechanic in some rules codes but not MHSAA. This encourages the bad habit of looking up to watch the flight of the ball and as it goes through the basket. Then, as a learned habit, that same tendency resurfaces on the second free throw during which the official, this time from the approved position, follows the flight of the ball again and neglects the actions and activities of the lane space players he/she is responsible for.

Fouls like this and others like it shouldn't be missed. But they frequently are because of Lead's bad habit of looking upward at the flight of the ball. Never take your positioning for free throws casually. Stand in the approved place for each and every free throw. Dedicate your attention to the players prescribed by your approved mechanics. Let's get these lane space fouls when they occur, and not miss them due to bad habits resulting from unapproved mechanics.

Signaling

OOB is the most frequent ruling in a game. A crew exhibits the admirable qualities of uniformity, consistency, and professionalism when each official calls these common violations correctly and executes the signaling process in the same approved way every time. Based on what'll be found in the new MHSAA Officials' Manual:

Dos

Blow the whistle with an updated, open hand to stop the clock on every OOB violation.

Vocalize the color of the throw-in team

Verify for yourself the correct direction to point before actually pointing

Point with one finger to the designated throw-in spot

Don'ts

Look at your hand doing the directional point

Turn your head to watch the ball bouncing away from the court

Take your eyes off the players that you need to keep observing

Chase after the ball

Beckon for the ball...It will come to you

You can tactfully ask a player to go get the ball for you if necessary. Simply stay there pointing to the designated throw-in spot and players will know to get ready for play there at the designated spot

Rules Review: A1 is fouled on the last-second three-point field goal attempt to end the game; however, Team A is losing by four points.

Ruling: The game is over and no free throws will be awarded since the points will not affect the outcome of the game.