



Position-Adjust and Get More Plays Right

“Position-adjusting typically consists of moving laterally only a step or two to obtain the best angle from which to observe the competitive matchup in the official’s PCA. Rather than be found in a stagnant, stable, still position, each official must be adjusting his position with the movements of the play, tactfully moving to improve the angles of observance, striving not to be “straight-lined”, that is, in a position where the defensive player cannot be seen and the official is looking square into the back of the offensive player” (pp.85, 106, MHSAA Basketball Officials Manual). Consider this example: [Video - C Position Adjusts](#)

Out of Bounds Violation

“A player is out of bounds when he/she touches the floor, or any object other than a player/person, on or outside a boundary” (Rule 7-1-1). Therefore, if a player holding or dribbling the ball touches: 1) a camera tripod or a chair or a basketball rack all or partly out-of-bounds – OOB VIOLATION; 2) a fan or cheerleader or player or coach or fellow player all or partially out-of-bounds – NO OOB VIOLATION.

Roll Back the Clock - NFHS POE From a Decade Ago

Have we made positive progress on this statewide? Have You?

“RULES ENFORCEMENT: There appears to be continued movement away from consistent enforcement of NFHS playing rules. Personal interpretations of the rules by individual officials have a negative impact on the game. Individual philosophies and

deviations from the rules as they are written and interpreted by the NFHS, negatively impact the basic tenets and fundamentals of the game. When officials allow players to use illegal tactics without penalty, the behavior is condoned and consequently encouraged. When officials consistently enforce the playing rules as intended, players and coaches are able to make the proper adjustments – promoting skill development and a level playing field.”

Player Ejections

Fortunately rare, but when merited must be done right. Here is the approved protocol (MHSAA Basketball Officials’ Manual, p.27): “In basketball, the MHSAA distinguishes when a player is disqualified for committing a fifth foul (personal fouls and technical fouls), from that when a player is ejected for committing two technical fouls or a single flagrant foul. The former does not result in further disciplinary action; however, the latter two result in a minimum next day of competition suspension. In both cases, the player is removed from play but may remain on the bench as long as they do not continue to be a disturbance. If the disqualified or ejected player displays unsportsmanlike behavior or conduct from the bench area, he should be removed from the vicinity of the court and escorted to the locker room by an adult supervisor. It is mandated that an adult accompany the student when he is removed from the area.” The follow-up reporting required is explained on p.30 of the MHSAA Basketball Officials Manual. Contact your trainer or the MHSAA office to ensure the required reporting is done right.

Rule Review:

Team A has the ball when it is deflected by Team B in Team A’s backcourt. The ball hits a student that has just exited the stands and is on the playing court, in-bounds.

Ruling:

The officials should stop play and resume from the point of interruption. Team A was the last team in control, so they will be awarded a throw-in at an in-bounds spot nearest where the interruption occurred.