

MHSAA OFFICIALS BULLETIN

Playcalling

[HERE IS](#) a play-calling situation on a throw-in play that requires regular clarification so that a backcourt violation not be called when it happens.

Many are still unclear about this play because they rightfully remember that, by rule, there is team control during a throw-in. What's important to also remember is this team control during the throw-in is only for purposes of assessing a team control foul on the throw-in team if it fouls prior to the end of the throw-in. There is no backcourt violation in this situation because the team control was never established in the frontcourt prior to the player being the first to touch the ball in the backcourt. Here is a past NFHS Point of Emphasis worth reviewing to confirm that the official's no-call in the video clip was the correct ruling:

NFHS 2017-18 POE, "Team Control during a Throw-In": The relevance of team control during a throw-in only applies 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 inbounds is established when a player from either team who has inbound status gains control of the ball. During the throw-in, 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.

Mechanics

One new approved mechanic that will be included in the new MHSAA Officials' Manual, scheduled to be made available in about 2 weeks, will have officials going "Opposite Table" again beginning this season. Some will consider this a new mechanic, but actually we're only reverting to the protocol as it was before it was changed in approximately 2005.

This change is primarily designed for the three-person system, though it will, to a lesser extent, apply to the two-system also. The reasons are two-fold: Balance in play-calling responsibilities on the court and to reduce the number of extended conversations between coaches and officials that disrupt flow and take away the concentration of the official.

To assist officials learning this new mechanic and for those whose role it is to teach this mechanic to other officials, [HERE IS](#) a link to a downloadable PDF document that explains and illustrates the most common details of the mechanic for both systems.

Rules

The MHSAA Basketball Rules Exam for postseason consideration has been made available for all officials to review and complete. The PDF version can be found by accessing the link through the MHSAA website. To retrieve, visit mhsaa.com and then select:

Officials > Sport-Specific Content > Basketball

Exam link and study exam can be found at the bottom of the page.

Pregame Meetings: Two new game management directives have been instituted for MHSAA basketball officials for the 2019-20 season - one from the MHSAA and one from the NFHS. It is expected that the crew will conduct a single pregame captains/coaches meeting at the 13:00 before the start of the game. Discussions with captains can lead off the meeting so that they may be dismissed to complete the meeting with the coaches alone, if preferred. The NFHS has also mandated that the Referee conduct a brief meeting with the game administrator to discuss crowd control measures and how the administrator can be reached if needed by the officials during a contest. It should also be discussed the particulars of escorting the officials at intermission and following the game. This should be a professional conversation and officials should avoid appearing overbearing or demanding in this interaction.