



PLAYCALLING PROFICIENCY | CONSISTENCY | UNIFORMITY

Long Awaited Start to the Season

Kids and officials alike returned to the hardcourt last week in a quick turnaround after finally being provided authorization to get the season started. Thank you for those of you that have remained at the ready.

Schedule Reminder

Regular season schedules must be submitted by 4pm on February 15, 2021. Especially with a number of officials sitting out this season, schedules will be critical to determine whether officials have been working.

Masks and Officials (See Face Covering and Officials for Details)

Masks MUST be worn (and properly) by officials at all times unless a medical exception applies to the individuals—in which case the individual MUST also have an accompanying doctor's note indicating as much.

Under the newest MDHHS order, MHSAA contest officials will have a larger role in mask enforcement than under previous orders. Athletes, too, are required to wear masks at all times. The AD or head coach will notify the officials before the start of the game whether a student has a medical exception to wearing masks. When this is the case, the student MUST also have an accompanying doctor's note and MUST have received a negative antigen test within 24 hours before the start of the contest.

While treated similarly to enforcement of an untucked uniform, the consequences for failing to enforce this mandate is far greater. It cannot be emphasized enough that *enforcement of the mask mandate is critical to allowing winter sports to continue*. Here are the steps that MHSAA officials are expected to take regarding the enforcement of masks:

1. Remind athletes throughout the contest to wear the mask properly if/when they fall below the mouth and/or nose.
2. If the instructions become repetitive for an individual player, or correcting the issue will create a delay, the athlete should be removed from the contest under normal substitution rules until the mask can be worn properly.
3. If an official believes that the athlete is intentionally removing the mask after warning by the official, or consistently refusing to wear the mask in insubordination to the official, further penalties may be issued under the rules of unsportsmanlike conduct.

Jump Ball Mechanics

The jump ball has been eliminated for all MHSAA contests. In attempt to make the rule as fair as possible, a change was made to the original instructions that gave the home team a throw-in at the division line to start the second half. It became apparent that the instructions for the entire procedure needed to be clarified. [See Jump Ball Mechanics in the Basketball Officials Working Guidelines](#) for the most recent update on this process. In short:

- The visiting team will start the game with a throw-in at the division line and all normal A-P arrow procedures will apply through the first half.
- The home team will start the third period with a throw-in at the division line (regardless of the arrow at the end of the half) and all normal A-P arrow procedures will apply for the remainder of regulation.
- If the game goes into overtime, a coin flip called by the visiting team head coach will determine which team has the throw-in and all normal A-P arrow procedures will apply through that OT period. NO new coin toss will occur for additional OT periods. Instead, the team that did not win the coin toss from the first OT will have the throw-in and the teams will alternate starting possession for each additional OT period.

Rules

The visiting team's A1 is attempting to make a throw-in to start the game and Team B is applying a lot of pressure. B1 reaches through the boundary line and waves her hands in effort to prevent the pass. This occurs on a court which has more than 3 feet of unobstructed space outside the boundary line.

Ruling:

Team B is warned for violation of the boundary plane and applies for the remainder of the game. Subsequent delay-of-game situations by Team B will result in a technical foul to Team B.

Review: