

NEW JERSEY STATE INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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Basketball Rules Modifications - 2023/24

The NJSIAA Basketball Rules Interpreter:

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Modifications of the National Federation Basketball Rules

Pregame Sportsmanship Procedures (NJSIAA All Levels)

Who: All bench personnel (warming-up) plus the head coach. This is not a modification but rather a clarification of procedures for officials and coaches.

When / Where: **At the conclusion of the designated warm-up period** each team will be addressed by one of the officiating crew members near the free-throw restricted circle.

The following shall be administered in order:

- 1) Verify with the head coach that their team members' uniforms and equipment are legal, and will be worn properly. (NFHS 2-4-5)
- 2) Verify with the head coach that all participants will exhibit proper sporting behavior throughout the contest. (NFHS 2-4-5)
- 3) Identify who will be acting as the on-site administrator for today's contest should any issues arise (i.e. spectator sportsmanship, student-athlete safety, etc)
- 4) Ask if there is an appropriate healthcare professional (athletic trainer / nurse / etc) on site.
- 5) Identify the ONE CAPTAIN who is the representative of their team and may address an official on matters of interpretation or to obtain essential information if it's done in a courteous manner.
Note: That player may (or may not) be a designated starter.
- 6) Read the current NJSIAA Sportsmanship Statement to all team members and head coach.
- 7) Ask (and answer) if there are any questions.
- 8) Ask teams to move to their respective bench areas and prepare for the start of the game (or pre-game announcements + national anthem, etc)

Uniform Violations (NFHS Rule 2-4-5, 10-2)

Situation: After proper verification by the Head Coach (in pre-game) a substitute is beckoned into the game or a player is observed in the game wearing illegal equipment, improperly worn uniforms, or illegal jewelry, and the player is directed to leave the game, the following penalties will be enforced:

Penalty (First Offense): A team "uniform warning" is charged and recorded in the official scorebook.

Penalty: (Second / Subsequent Offenses): A **Team Technical Foul** (NFHS 10-2) shall be charged to the offending team when it occurs. Since head coaches have previously verified their team members' uniforms and equipment are legal, and will be worn properly, it is their responsibility to maintain this compliance. **There is no loss of coaching box for Team Technical Fouls.** This does count toward the total team foul count. Previously there was no penalty for repeated violations of the illegal equipment, improperly worn uniforms, or illegal jewelry.

Uniform Color Modifications (NFHS Rule 3-4-1c)

Modification: The torso color shall be **WHITE** for the **VISITING** team and a contrasting **DARK COLOR** for the **HOME** team. NFHS 3-4-1c

Rationale: To be consistent with some NFHS states and other NJSIAA sports (football, soccer, etc) to allow member schools in utilizing multiple variations of dark colors for their home events.

Black Under-Shirts Permitted (NFHS Rule Change / NJSIAA Modification)

3-5-6: Allows undershirts worn under (**NJSIAA HOME / DARK**) team jerseys to be black or a single solid color similar to the torso of the jersey. All teammates wearing undershirts must wear the same solid color.

Rationale: Allows schools with hard-to-find colors to wear black under dark team jerseys while continuing to require all team members to match. Allowing all shirts worn by teammates under the **dark jersey to be black or a single solid color similar to the torso of the jersey** while still requiring all teammates to match. This modification makes it easier for student-athlete compliance in lieu of trying to match dark color jerseys with under-shirts. Also mitigates the necessity of judging whether or not the undershirt is of “similar color” by the officiating crew.

Head Coaches Rule / Coaching Box Violation (NFHS Rule 10-6 Penalty)

Modification: **Removal of the coaching box privileges** will be enforced under the following situations. (NFHS 10-6 Penalty)

Current NFHS Rules (no change):

- Direct Technical Foul charged to the head coach = Loss of Coaching Box
- Indirect Technical Foul charged to the head coach = Loss of Coaching Box

Current Penalty: Two free-throws awarded to the offended team followed by a throw-in at the division line. The charged head coach **loses the coaching box privileges**. (no change)

NJSIAA Modification 2023-24 (new):

- Officials may rule a **“Coaching Box Violation”** if the head coach is observed to be positioned and/or coaching with both feet outside the coaching box, regardless of conduct.

Penalty: The official shall ask the scorer to record a **Coaching Box Violation** in the official score book. The charged head coach **loses the coaching box privileges**.

As in previous years, an optional warning may be reported for head coach/bench personnel misconduct (or **coaching box violation**) to the official scorer and then to the head coach of the offended team. (NFHS 2-7-11) As in all situations where removal of the coaching box privileges are enforced the administering official shall instruct the head coach to remain seated except as allowed in 10-5-4.