



Oregon School Activities Association
25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1
Wilsonville, OR 97070
503.682.6722 fax: 503.682.0960 <http://www.osaa.org>



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To: Athletic Directors and Basketball Coaches
From: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director
krisw@osaa.org | 503.682.6722 x230
Subject: Basketball Reminders for the 2020-21 Season

Please review this information with your basketball staff and best of luck this season! Each school offering basketball should have received two copies of the NFHS Basketball Rules Book from the OSAA, one for girls and one for boys. Athletic Directors received these in the mail. Feel free to contact me if you have questions.

GENERAL INFORMATION

OSAA BASKETBALL PLAN BOOK: <https://www.osaa.org/docs/planbooks/cs4/bxbplanseason4.pdf>

Please review the OSAA Basketball Plan Book carefully as there are a lot of details available regarding COVID-19 protocols, and guidelines. The Plan Book contains uniform rules, important dates, NFHS rule changes/points of emphasis, OSAA basketball specific policies and OSAA general policies.

OSAA BASKETBALL COVID-19 GUIDELINES

1. FACILITY COVID PROTOCOLS

- A. The host site shall designate a cleaned and disinfected area for teams to unload and load buses separate from fans, spectators, and other individuals not essential to the team or group.
- B. Before each game, contest, or event, schools shall follow the screening protocols described above to screen all staff members, contractors, volunteers, sports officials, contest judges, and any individuals otherwise involved in working the event. These individuals shall also self-screen as described in the screening protocols.
- C. The host site shall provide sports and contest officials an area to enter and exit separate from fans when possible. Officials shall be provided a dressing and meeting area, if applicable, that has been cleaned and disinfected prior to their arrival.
- D. All participants shall be provided with entry and exit plans for contest areas that maintain separation from non-participants and fans. Individuals not essential to the team or group shall not be given access to contest areas, performance areas, courts, or fields at all before, during, or after contests and events.
- E. Teams are responsible for providing a plan for individualized hydration supplies for their student athletes on competition days.

2. LOCKER ROOMS AND OTHER CONGREGATE SETTINGS

- A. Designate total number of occupants allowed in the locker room at any given time and the length of time that they may be present in the locker room. This shall be posted at the entrance and inside the locker room.
- B. Schools shall make hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or similar disinfectant readily available in these areas.
- C. All congregate areas shall be regularly and frequently cleaned and disinfected including all frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, tables, chairs, lockers, and restrooms.
- D. Any equipment that will be kept in student lockers and/or in these areas shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected each day prior to students accessing these areas. Schools shall develop a plan for managing the storage, cleaning and disinfecting, and redistribution of student equipment.

- E. Schools shall consider identifying staff to monitor locker rooms and other areas where students may congregate to ensure effective use of school protocols. When possible, schools shall open windows and/or doors or otherwise work to improve air flow by allowing outside air to circulate in these areas.
- F. Schools must require staff and students to wear face coverings while inside locker rooms, meeting rooms, training rooms, band halls and other areas where students may congregate other than shower facilities.
- G. Limit seats at the table to essential personnel which include home team scorer and timer with a recommended distance of six feet or greater between individuals. Other personnel (visiting scorer, statisticians, media, etc.) may not be deemed essential personnel and consider an alternate location for them.
- H. Place officials table sufficiently away from the sideline to allow for additional space for substitutes
- I. As part of their overall plan, schools shall develop a plan for mitigating risk of spreading COVID-19 when disinfecting, cleaning, and laundering items such as towels, practice clothes, and uniforms. This plan shall include protocols for redistributing these items to students. Involved staff shall be trained specifically on these protocols.

3. BASKETBALL PRACTICES AND CONTESTS

- A. Masks shall always be worn by all individuals in attendance.
- B. Physical distancing measures shall always be in place other than when engaged in competition.
- C. Bench chairs must be set up 6 feet apart. Athletes and coaches should use the same chair for themselves for the entire game.
- D. Sportsmanship is a key component, while physical contact of handshakes, fist-bumps, etc., are not allowed teams are encouraged to acknowledge their opponents in pregame and postgame rituals with a physical distance observance of the team's choosing.
- E. It is recommended that basketball drills and conditioning models designed for athletes to remain six feet apart.
- F. It is recommended that basketball drills with competition aspects should always also be designed for athletes to remain six feet apart.
- G. Teams may have more than one contest in a day but must keep teams separated to meet physical distancing guidelines. Contests must be scheduled to allow for appropriate cleaning and sanitizing between games and when new teams come to the facility. Only two teams per gym will be allowed. Time between games is critical for sanitization. Schools must take as much time as needed between games to ensure the air is circulated appropriately and sanitization processes can take place for cleaning the floor, equipment, and basketballs properly.
- H. Teams should go directly to their end of the court for warm-ups. Physical distancing from the opponent should always be maintained during warm-ups.
- I. A three-ball rotation should be used to allow for the game ball to be sanitized several times during the contest. ***On change of possessions (i.e. violations, non-shooting fouls) the throw-in team shall retrieve the ball and take it to the throw-in spot as designated by the officials. On free throws, the free-throwing team shall retrieve the ball and give it to the free-thrower.***
 - 1) ***For throw-ins, the official administering the throw-in will point to the spot where the thrower should stand and instruct them that the count will begin as the official backs away. All officials will then take their normal throw-in positions.***
 - 2) ***For free throws, the official administering the free throw (lead) will stand under the basket at the end line and instruct the free thrower that the count will begin as the official backs away. All officials will then take their normal free throw positions.***
- J. ***Jump Balls***
 - 1) ***There will not be any jump balls, there will be a throw-in at the division line to start each quarter.***
 - 2) ***Visiting team starts with the first possession and alternating from that point forward during regulation play***
 - 3) ***In overtime, a coin toss will determine who starts with possession then alternating for the remainder of overtime(s)***
- K. ***Timeouts***
 - 1) ***Each team is allotted 5 timeouts per game, with the health and safety of the players and officials the 60-second times will be extended to 90-seconds and the 30-seconds will be extended to 45-seconds to allow for more recovery.***
 - 2) ***An additional "Media timeout" will occur with the first dead ball after the 4-minute mark remaining in each quarter. This will be a 90-second full timeout.***

4. GAME OFFICIALS

- A. Game officials are responsible for bringing their own beverages and own food items to the site.
- B. Officials are responsible for bringing their own hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes.
- C. Game officials are responsible for bringing their own face covering and whistle. If the official would like to use an electronic hand whistle that is allowed.
- D. If available, dressing facilities for game officials should be large enough for them to use physical-distancing protocols and should be properly cleaned and sanitized prior to their arrival.
- E. Maintain physical distancing of six feet while performing duties.
- F. May wear gloves – including medical latex gloves, work gloves designed specifically for officiating.
- G. May wear long sleeve black undershirts.
- H. Officials may take a position deeper or wider than normal to get the best look at the play while maintaining proper physical distancing.
- I. Officials will arrive to the site/facility dressed in their uniforms (uniform tops may be put on at the facility). Jackets are not required for pregame warm-ups.
- J. Officials will wear face coverings/masks when entering host facilities, on the court throughout the pregame warm-up, and when exiting the playing court and facility. Cloth masks should consist of a solid neutral color with no designs on them.
- K. Officials' pregame meetings shall be conducted while practicing proper physical distancing.
- L. Officials shall not engage in pregame/postgame handshakes or fist bumps with players, coaches or administrators.
- M. Only the referee and the head coach from each team will attend the pregame meeting. This will take place at the center circle, with each head coach standing opposite one another on each side of the division line and maintaining at least six feet of physical distance.
- N. Officials shall not physically contact players during the contest, including players that appear to be injured or ill.
- O. Officials will maintain physical distancing with each other unless conferencing about a call or ruling. In those cases, the officials should avoid speaking face-to-face.
- P. Only the referee will conduct the pregame meeting with the scorer and timer.

UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Head Coverings: Head coverings worn for religious reasons so as not to expose ones uncovered head may be worn and must be attached in such a way that it is unlikely to come off during performance. It must be made of non-abrasive, soft materials; must fit securely and not pose a danger to any other participant. There is no requirement to have an exception letter from the OSAA to allow for head coverings to be worn for religious reasons.

NFHS Basketball Uniform Information: (<http://www.osaa.org/docs/bbx/BasketballUniforms.pdf>)

Home uniforms shall be white and away uniforms shall be dark. Note that silver/light gray is not a legal uniform color.

Headbands / NFHS Rule 3-5-4b: Headbands shall be a maximum of 2 inches wide. As directed by the OSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, players wearing "Concussion Headbands" shall have a documented OSAA exception. Athletic Directors shall forward these requests to Kris Welch krisw@osaa.org along with a note from an appropriate medical professional supporting the student wearing the equipment and a photo of the headband.

Jewelry / NFHS Rule 3-5-7: Jewelry is not allowed during warm-ups or competition. Please note that this also includes ear buds, headphones and rubber plugs, fishing line, etc. that is used to insert in pierced openings when jewelry is removed. As directed by the OSAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, no exceptions will be made for a Daith piercing earring (migraine headaches).

SPORTSMANSHIP

Court Warmup & Team Introductions: Teams are to remain on their own end of the court at all times during pregame and 2nd half court warmup. This includes the entrance of teams onto the court --- circling the entire court is not allowed. Team introductions may take place at half court, but any other team rituals shall take place on a team's own half of the court.

Time Outs and Quarter Breaks: Team members are to remain at their own bench area and not rush the court during these breaks.

HOME CONTEST MANAGEMENT

Coaching Box: The coaching box shall be outlined outside the side of the court on which the scorer's and timer's table and team benches are located. The area shall be bounded by a line drawn 28 feet from the end line towards the Division line. At this point a line drawn from the sideline toward the team bench becomes the end of the coaching box going towards the end line. Tape may be used to extend the previous 14-foot line to 28 feet.

Court Markings: (<http://www.osaa.org/docs/bbx/NFHSBasketballCourtDiagram.pdf>)

Please make sure that all your competition courts are marked correctly for all levels of play according to the NFHS Basketball Court Your Coaching Boxes (NFHS Rule 1.13.2) and "X" marking the Scorer's Table (NFHS Rule 1.17) must be properly placed. It is also vital that your Coaching Boxes are placed in the same location on both ends of the court. Officials have been instructed to not begin a varsity contest until the coaching boxes and scorer's location mark are properly placed. The correct markings must also be in place for all sub-varsity contests.

Public Address: (<http://nfhs.org/media/885875/announcer-responsibilities1.pdf>)

The announcer shall be prohibited from making unnecessary announcements such as "two minutes to go" while the clock is running during the course of the contest. This interrupts the game through the use of the microphone. The announcer is allowed to give basic information during the course of the game, such as who the foul is on, who is shooting free throws, which team is taking a time-out and the length of the timeout. Information that is visible on the scoreboard shall not be announced during play.

Blood Kit: Make sure that a blood kit is readily available in each gym for all home games.

OSAA WEBSITE INFORMATION & SCHEDULING

Rosters: It shall be the responsibility of each member school to submit varsity team sport rosters to the OSAA through <http://www.osaa.org/> prior to the first contest date of that sport's season. Varsity rosters are required for the following OSAA-sanctioned sports: football, boys' soccer, girls' soccer, volleyball, boys' basketball, girls' basketball, baseball, softball. Subsequent changes to each varsity teams' roster shall be updated as they occur throughout the season.

SCORE DIFFERENTIAL PROCEDURES NEW BOARD POLICY

SCORE DIFFERENTIAL PROCEDURES

(Summer 2020)

The following procedures shall be followed when the score differential reaches the level outlined in this policy at all contests, regardless of classification and level.

B. ***Basketball. If a 30-point score differential occurs at the start of the fourth quarter or anytime thereafter, a running clock shall be used. Once the running clock is started it shall continue until the conclusion of the game and only be stopped for the following reasons:***

- 1) ***An official's timeout for an injured participant or safety reasons.***
- 2) ***A charged team timeout.***
- 3) ***Disqualification of a player, coach, or fan.***
- 4) ***When a TV/radio timeout is granted.***
- 5) ***Stoppage to administer free throws.***