

**COACHES**, remember all practices or scrimmages **MUST BE HELD** in or on the school's regular practice facility. Any exception must be cleared in writing by the IHSAA office. High school graduates are **NOT** permitted to practice or participate against a team or a member of a high school team during the given sports season.

**ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND COACHES**, make sure we have blood kits located at the home team bench area so we don't have to hold the game up any longer than necessary for clean-up. I was at a contest where we had some drops of blood on the floor and on two different occasions officials had to delay the game for additional time due to the fact the coach had to leave the court area to secure the solution and gloves. We appreciate your attention to this concern.

### **COACHES & OFFICIALS**

**INTENTIONAL FOUL VS. FLAGRANT FOUL:** An intentional foul is a personal foul or technical foul which neutralizes an opponent's obvious advantageous position. Contact away from the ball or when not making a legitimate attempt to play the ball or a player, specifically designated to stop the clock from starting, shall be intentional. Intentional fouls may or may not be premeditated and are not based solely on the severity of the act. A foul also shall be ruled intentional if, while playing the ball, a player causes excessive contact with an opponent.

A flagrant foul may be a personal or technical foul of a violent savage nature, or technical non-contact foul which displays unacceptable conduct. It may or may not be intentional. If personal, it involves, but not limited to violent contact such as striking, kicking and kneeling. If technical, it involves dead ball contact or non-contact at any time which is extreme or persistent, vulgar or abusive conduct. Fighting is a flagrant act.

A flagrant foul, but not an intentional foul, also results in disqualification of the offender. The offended team is also awarded the ball for a throw-in following either a flagrant, intentional or technical foul.

### **TRAVELING**

A player is running with the ball (traveling) when, while in control, he/she moves a foot or the feet in any direction in excess of prescribed limits while holding the ball. The limits follow:

- 1. A player who catches the ball with both feet on the floor may pivot, using either foot. When one foot is lifted, the other is the pivot foot.**
- 2. A player who catches the ball while moving or dribbling may stop and establish a pivot foot as follows:**
  - a. If both feet are off the floor and the player lands:
    1. Simultaneously on both feet, either foot may be the pivot.
    2. On one foot followed by the other, the first foot to touch is the pivot.
    3. On one foot, the player may jump off that foot and simultaneously land on both. Neither foot can be a pivot in this case.
  - b. If one foot is on the floor:
    1. It is the pivot when the other foot touches in a step.
    2. The player may jump off that foot and simultaneously land on both. Neither foot can be a pivot in this case.
- 3. After coming to a stop and establishing a pivot foot:**
  - a. The pivot foot may be lifted, but not returned to the floor, before the ball is released on a pass or try for goal.
  - b. If the player jumps, neither foot may be returned to the floor before the ball is released on a pass or try for goal.
  - c. The pivot foot may not be lifted, before the ball is released, to start a dribble.
- 4. After coming to a stop when neither foot can be a pivot:**
  - a. One or both feet may be lifted, but may not be returned to the floor, before the ball is released on a pass or try for goal.
  - b. Neither foot may be lifted, before the ball is released, to start a dribble.
- 5. A player holding the ball:**
  - a. May not touch the floor with a knee or any other part of the body other than hand or foot.
  - b. After gaining possession while on the floor and touching with other than hand or foot, may not stand or attempt to get up.

**4.44 SITUATION A:** A1 attempts to catch the ball while running rapidly. A1 muffs the ball, but succeeds in securing it before it strikes the floor. A1 then begins a dribble, taking several steps between the time the ball was first touched until it was caught. **RULING:** There has been no violation provided A1, after catching the ball, released the ball to start the dribble before the pivot foot was lifted from the floor. (4-15)

**4.44 SITUATION B:** A1 attempts a try after ending the dribble. The try does not touch the background, the rim or any other player. A1 runs and is able to catch the ball before it strikes the floor. Is this traveling? **RULING:** No. When A1 recovered his/her own try, A1 could either dribble, pass or try again. There was no team control after the ball was released on a try. (4-12; 4-41)

**4.44.2 SITUATION A:** Dribbler A1 catches the ball with the right foot touching the floor and then jumps off that foot and alights on both feet simultaneously; (a) with feet parallel; or (b) with one foot in advance. **RULING:** The position of the feet has no significance, but they must come to the floor simultaneously. In both (a) and (b), it is a violation if A1 pivots on either foot.

**4.44.2 SITUATION B:** Airborne A1 and A2 jointly grab the rebound and each alights simultaneously on both feet. A1 and A2 each move one foot in attempting to wrestle the ball from each other before realizing they are teammates. A1 lets go and A2 dribbles away. **RULING:** Legal. There has been no violation as neither A1 or A2 moved their pivot foot while they were in joint control.

**4.44.3 SITUATION A:** A1 jumps to try for goal. B1 also jumps and: (a) slaps the ball out of A1's hands; (b) touches the ball but does not prevent A1 from releasing the ball; (c) touches the ball and A1 returns to the floor holding the ball; or (d) touches the ball and A1 drops it to the floor and touches it first after it bounces. **RULING:** In (a) and (b), the ball remains live. In (c), a traveling violation. In (d), a violation for starting a dribble with the pivot foot off the floor. Since the touching did not prevent the pass or try in (b), (c) and (d), the ball remains live and subsequent action is covered by rules which apply to the situation.

**4.44.3 SITUATION B:** A1 receives the ball with both feet off the floor and he/she lands simultaneously on both feet without establishing a pivot foot. A1 then jumps off both feet in an attempt to try for goal, but realizing the shot may be blocked, A1 drops the ball to the floor and dribbles. **RULING:** A1 has traveled as one foot must be considered to be the pivot and must be on the floor when the ball is released to start a dribble. The fact that no pivot foot had been established does not alter this ruling.

**4.44.3 SITUATION C:** A1 receives a pass and establishes the right foot as the pivot. While faking a pass or try, A1 lifts the pivot foot and stands on the left foot alone while undecided as to what to do. Has A1 traveled? **RULING:** No. Traveling would occur only if A1 begins a dribble or returns the pivot foot to the floor. While in this position A1 may pass, try for goal or call a time-out.

**4.44.5 SITUATION A:** Is it traveling if A1 falls to the floor: (a) while holding the ball; (b) after being airborne to catch a pass or control a rebound? **RULING:** Yes in both (a) and (b).

**4.44.5 SITUATION B:** A1 dives for a loose ball and slides after gaining control. A1 is in a position either on his/her back or stomach. What can A1 do without violating? **RULING:** A1 may pass, shoot, start a dribble or call a time-out. Once back, A1 may sit up without violating. Any attempt to get to the feet is traveling unless A1 is dribbling. It is also traveling if A1 puts the ball on the floor, then rises and is first to touch the ball. (4-44-5b)

**4.44.5 SITUATION C:** A1 is dribbling when he/she: (a) drops to a position with a knee on the floor and then ends the dribble; or (b) drops one knee to the floor and then stands again while continuing the dribble. **RULING:** The action in both (a) and (b) is legal. However, if A1 touches a knee to the floor while holding the ball, it would be traveling as A1 has touched the floor with something other than a hand or foot.

**4.44.5 SITUATION D:** A1 secures possession of the ball with one knee in contact with the floor. May A1 assume a standing position without committing a traveling violation? **RULING:** It depends on what A1 does. If A1 attempts to stand up while holding the ball, a traveling violation has occurred. However, if A1 starts a dribble and then rises, no violation has occurred. Also, A1 could pass, try for goal or call a time-out from that position.

## BEING A PROFESSIONAL

Professionalism is the understanding that each official and coach must be the game's most meaningful ambassador both on and off the court and in the community. It entails having a quality approach, both on and off the court, that is a credit to the game and to your profession. Remember, you represent an entire community of coaches and officials. The work you perform is not only a reflection of yourself but of every coach and official. People will judge coaches and officials by what you do and how you act and react. You must be willing to accept that responsibility.

Each game deserves your maximum effort. No matter what level of play you are coaching or officiating, no matter what the score may be, or the time remaining in the game, you must have a dedicated purpose. Professionalism is one aspect of being prepared mentally. Coaches and officials must always remember that they are in the public eye both on and off the court. You are recognized for what you do but remember you are accountable for who you are.

## SPORTSMANSHIP RATINGS

1. On-Line Sportsmanship Rating Information. A reminder that your final online sportsmanship ratings are due March 31, 2007. By now you should have been online, entering sportsmanship ratings for all boys varsity contests you are officiating. You previously received an instruction sheet along with your username and password. We **WILL NOT** give out the username and password over the telephone, so if you need a new instruction sheet, please call our office to request another one.

Please submit your ratings on a game-by-game basis. The IHSAA tracks how schools are doing each week.

**REMINDER:** If you do not submit your ratings by the deadline, you **WILL NOT** be considered for tournament assignment. The deadline can also be found in the 06-07 Officials Guide on Page 17, To enter your ratings, go to [www.iahsaa.org](http://www.iahsaa.org), and under **WEB INDEX** click on "**OFFICIALS.**" Under the heading "**Submit Basketball Sportsmanship Ratings.**"

**THE FINAL DATE TO SUBMIT BASKETBALL SPORTSMANSHIP RATINGS  
ON-LINE IS SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2007!!! ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

The IHSAA has a list on our web site of who has entered their sportsmanship ratings online. If you are wondering whether your ratings went through on our online system, you can check. **\*\*This list is updated once a week.\*\***

**If you do not see your ratings online immediately after you submit them, please check back in a few days to give our system time to update itself.**

## CLOSING

I want to thank you for the opportunity to communicate with you this basketball season. This is the final basketball letter of the 2006-2007 season. Conference championships, district and substate tournaments are just around the corner, so everyone needs to be at their highest level. Keep your composure, keep things in perspective, and respect each other's jobs.

Best of luck to everyone during the remainder of the season. The IHSAA appreciates both parties time and commitment to this great game.

Sincerely,

Roger Barr  
Director of Officials

RB:jj

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