



# Montana High School Association

1 South Dakota Avenue ♦ Helena, MT 59601 ♦ (406) 442-6010 ♦ Fax: (406) 442-8250 ♦ [www.mhsa.org](http://www.mhsa.org)

December 1, 2016

**TO: MOA BASKETBALL OFFICIALS AND MHSA MEMBER SCHOOLS' ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND BASKETBALL COACHES**

**FROM: KIP RYAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

**RE: REMINDERS**

Welcome to a start of a new basketball season, I hope things are going well for you so far. With games starting this weekend, I would like to clarify a few things that I have received some questions about already. I would like to keep things as consistent as we can across the state, I hope this helps. Also included is some reminders related to uniforms for players and officials.

Please share this information with other basketball officials, other coaches and other appropriate personnel.

## **Rule Change**

### **FREE THROW SHOOTER**

Rule 9-1-3g was revised in 2014-15 to allow a player occupying a marked lane space to enter the lane on the release of the ball by the free thrower. As a result of this change, protection of the free thrower needs to be emphasized. On release of the ball by the free thrower, the defender boxing out shall not cross the free-throw line extended into the semicircle until the ball contacts the ring or backboard. A player, other than the free thrower, who does not occupy a marked lane space, may not have either foot beyond the vertical plane of the free-throw line extended and the three-point line which is farther from the basket until the ball touches the ring or backboard or until the free throw ends.

Rule 9-1-3h was added this year, it states players occupying marked free-throw lane line spaces may not enter the free-throw semi-circle until the ball touches the ring or until the free-throw ends.

Stepping into the area occupied by the free throw shooter before the free throw is complete would be a violation. If there is a foul while displacing the free throw shooter, (it is considered illegal contact/foul if there is more than incidental contact, it is not considered a foul if there is incidental contact) the process to be followed is as follows:

1. On the front end of a one & one that is successful. **Count the first free throw and clear the lanes for the second free throw. Bring the players back to shoot the free throw for the foul.**
2. On the front end of a one & one that is not successful. **Clear the lane, shoot the one and one, then bring players back and shoot free throws for the foul.,**
3. The front end of a two shot foul? **Clear the lanes for the two free throws if try is unsuccessful, if try is successful clear the lane shoot one free throw. Bring players back to shoot the free throws for the foul, if team is in the bonus.**
4. The back end of a one & one or a two shot foul. **Clear the lane if the free throw was missed, then bring back players and shoot free throws for the foul.**

**Rule Change 9.1.3** Players in free throw lane line marked spaces may enter the free throw lane upon the release of the ball by the free thrower.

Officials must be vividly aware of the following:

- Free throw lane line player's foot/feet, prior to the release of the ball, may not break the outside plane of the free throw lane line. A violation may occur – penalize.
- A player who breaks the outside edge/plane of the **free throw line** with a foot/feet, prior to the ball contacting the backboard or basket ring, has committed a VIOLATION. Display the delay signal (arm extended with a closed fist) and if the free throw is not successful, sound the whistle, explain the violation, and then administer a new free throw.
- Based upon history, there will be considerable more action within the free throw lane. Monitor the play closely and penalize illegal contact.

### **Game Administration**

Administrators: When officials arrive at your site, you will need to notify them who the game administrator on duty will be, because then they know who to contact at the host site if an issue arises.

### **Player uniforms**

**Rule 3-4-5** Uniform pants/skirts shall have only one visible manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference

**Rule 3-5-5** Equipment and apparel shall not be modified from the original manufactured state and shall be worn in the manner the manufacturer intended it to be worn

**Rule 3-6-2** The size shall be limited to 2 ¼ square inches and shall not exceed 2 ¼ inches in any dimension on any item

When these three rules have become issues in the past, is when players roll down their waist band. This creates two violations: multiple logos showing, and not wearing uniforms as intended by the manufacturer

## **Uniform Clarification – MOA Basketball Officials**

The basketball uniform must be in compliance with NFHS uniform rules.

### **Required:**

Pants: Entirely black slacks.

Shirt: Standard black/white vertically striped or a gray shirt with black pinstripes. For each game the

uniform shirt must be the same for each member of the officiating crew.

Short sleeves – approximately 8 inches in length, black cuffs

“V” neck shirt shall be worn and an undershirt should not be visible

Worn inside pants (tucked in)

Shoes: must be predominantly black but may have some clear or grey trim to deviate slightly from solid black. Whenever possible, any different color must be dyed or colored over with black.

Whistles: Black pealess plastic whistle, if metal, it shall have a black rubber cap, and a black lanyard. Carry a spare whistle.

MOA Patch: must be displayed on the left breast of the standard uniform shirt. Embroidered patches are acceptable as long as they are black with white background and the same size as the current patch (1  $\frac{3}{4}$ ” x 3”).

### **Not Allowed:**

Jewelry (except wedding bands, watches (if necessary) and medical-alert bracelets)

Exposed undershirts/undergarments – e.g. – long sleeve shirt under the standard uniform shirt

### **Optional with requirements if worn:**

Black Belt (if worn)

American Flag on the left shoulder of the uniform top (if worn)

Jacket; may wear a standard jacket, solid black with rib knit cuffs and collar, full zip or button up, unadorned (except for MOA service pins).

Pink whistles may be used by officials at contests designated as breast cancer awareness events. Any other uniform modifications for the purpose of supporting a charitable fundraising event must be approved in advance by the MOA Commissioner.

**NFHS Officials Manual Information**

The uniform shall be clean and neat. State association patches or emblems shall be worn as specified