



2017 Fall Seminar - Newark, Delaware

Before you know it, the fall seminar (September 13 - 17) will be here hosted by the great state of Delaware and the IAABO Executive Committee. Beautiful weather is promised, along with a great program for our interpreters. This will be a working weekend of basketball information to share with our Interpreters. The new Co-Coordinator's have come up with new topics and different formats for delivering the material. These topics will add to the knowledge-base for our interpreters and enable them to use these presentations at their local meetings. It is hoped that every interpreter will attend each session so they will be prepared for their meetings at the local board.

Materials, including the brand new "You Make the Ruling" video, will be distributed Sunday morning. There will be other materials currently being put together that will be very helpful for your interpretation meetings. You will find the agenda on page 11 in this issue of Sportorials. It is important that your Interpreter attend these sessions.

The keynote speaker on Friday will be Dr. Joel Fish:



Dr. Joel Fish is a nationally recognized expert in sport psychology who has worked in the field for the past twenty-five years. He is a licensed psychologist who has worked extensively with athletes of all ages and skills levels, from youth sport through the Olympic and professional ranks. Dr. Fish has been a sport psychology consultant for the Philadelphia 76ers, the Philadelphia Flyers, the Philadelphia Phillies Organization, the USA Women's National Field Hockey Team, and the USA Women's National Soccer Team. He is one of the only sport psychologists in the country who has worked with 3 professional sports teams in the same city at the same time. Dr. Fish has also served as a sport psychology consultant for Saint Joseph's University, the University of Pennsylvania, and Temple University. Dr. Fish is a visiting lecturer at the Wingate Institute and Zinman College in Netanya, Israel, where he teaches about applied sport psychology and elite athletes. He has spoken nationwide on sport psychology at over 300 universities and is a popular presenter at a variety of athletic functions. (continued on page 3)

How to be a Great Partner

One of the best days, of the year, is the day the schedules are released and you get to take a look at your assignments for the very first time. Much like a child on Christmas morning, the basketball official looks at his or her schedule with nervous anticipation to find out what exciting match-ups they will get to experience over the course of the season.

But soon after scanning the list of games, a question quickly comes to mind, "Who am I working with?"

For most assignments, you remain excited and can't wait to hit the court with people you respect and admire. However, there are those other assignments, the ones when you read your partner's name, and you are filled with anxiety and dread.

Why do you look forward to working with some partners and not others? What characteristics do good partners have?

There are seven characteristics that all good partners have in common. These seven characteristics will ensure that you are the partner who people want to work with.

1) Have Enthusiasm

Emerson once said, "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." I don't know if that is true or not, but in my experience, it is a lot easier to achieve success when you are surrounded by people who are enthusiastic, no matter what the task.

It stands to reason, if we have two equally talented officials and one is excited and fully invested in the officiating experience and the other one has only a passing interest in officiating, the one that is excited

about the experience will be the one that will excel and advance.

There are a lot of people in officiating who allow their egos to get in the way. Some officials get overly concerned about advancing up the ranks and officiate with a very self-serving approach. They are arrogant and officiate in a way to "stay out of trouble." These types of officials are very quick to disassociate with a partner who makes a mistake or has an unusual ruling. This is a great way to alienate your fellow officials and is a surefire way to be the type of official people dread seeing on their schedule.

We all need to understand that officiating is a team sport. No one individual will excel at officiating on his own. We are here to serve the game. Our primary goal needs to be to support the schools in the education of student/athletes and help them gain the valuable life lessons that the game of basketball has to offer. To be a great partner you need to go into every game with the intention of doing a great job, doing things right and making it a positive experience for all involved, including your partners.

2) Be Reliable

A close second to having enthusiasm, is being reliable. If you are serious about having a successful officiating career, you have to establish a reputation with your fellow officials that you are dependable on and off the court. Communication with partner(s) about game times, game sites and ride arrangements is imperative to being a reliable basketball official. Make every effort to be mentally prepared. Successful officials find a way to (continued on page 5)

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STATEMENT

The International Association of Approved Basketball Officials, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of basketball officiating, through the proper training of applicants by visual and written aids; constant supervision by board proctors and dissemination of rule changes and interpretations.

Director's Court

Fall Seminar - Yes, that is correct, the Fall Seminar will be held in Newark Delaware on September 15, 16, 17 -- the best basketball clinic you may ever attend, with good speakers and practical applications of the rules and mechanics. Yes, it is designed for the Board Interpreter so s/he can in turn instruct their members with information regarding rule changes and interpretations. It is also of value to every official who would like to improve his or her understanding of the rules.



The sessions will begin on Friday, September 15 at 8:30 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m. The program will again start at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday and continue until 4 p.m. Sunday morning at 8:30 a.m. will include rule changes and points of emphasis presentations. We expect lively discussions.

Newark, DE is located in the heart of IAABO-land and is very accessible. The meetings are open to all IAABO members as well as Board Interpreters. Take advantage of having the meeting in Delaware by attending and listening to the best speakers, while improving your rules knowledge. Come to the hospitality room where you can hear war stories and argue rule interpretations while enjoying an adult beverage. The cost of attending is very reasonable, it is a big zero, it is free, which we all know is an official's favorite word!!!!!! Hope to see you stop in for one or more sessions and enjoy a great basketball weekend.

The schedule and topics are located in the current newsletter.

President's Corner

Is it me or do the wonderful months of summer just go by way too fast? What's better than baseball, beach and barbecue? I hope you have been enjoying these and any other summer activities that go along with these 'hazy days.'

At IAABO, your leadership team has had a extremely busy summer. I am happy to report that the initiatives mentioned in the previous President's Corner message are moving along very well. We are fortunate to have very dedicated members who believe in 'doing it for the greater good.'

Our immediate focus now turns to our Fall Interpreters Meeting being held in Newark, Delaware, September 14-17. The emphasis at all our fall meetings is basketball. After all, that is why we joined this great association in the first place -- to learn the rules and proper mechanics to officiate basketball well.

No matter how many, or how few, fall meetings you have attended, let me say: THIS IS ONE YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS.

Our team of Interpreter Co-Coordinator -- Layne Drexel, TJ Holliday, Dan Shepardson and Dave Smith, under the direction of Executive Director Tom Lopes, have been working tirelessly since April preparing for this meeting and the 2017-18 basketball season. They are putting together a 3-day program in Newark that will be interactive, inspiring and enjoyable. I urge ALL Interpreters to find a way to get to Newark and experience a Fall Meeting unlike any we have seen in IAABO. The information and specific teaching tools that you will take away from this meeting will be second to none.

Please know that all IAABO members are invited and can attend the Fall Meeting, whether you are a Board Interpreter or not. There is no cost to attend the daily sessions.

Please visit our web site -- www.iaabo.org -- for more information and how to properly register to attend the meeting.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any of your IAABO questions or suggestions. My email is JGintoli@aol.com.

Enjoy what remains of the great summer season, and I hope to see you in Newark, Delaware at our Fall Meeting!



50 Year Watch

The president of board 49, Harry Ehrle, stopped by and presented me with the "IAABO" package for 50 years of "IAABO" membership. It is a great gift and will be used with pride alongside of my "life membership" ring.

Like you guys and all of my fellow officials, I can still remember my first game (alone) and the early board meetings. Basketball became that sport of choice and has given me more stories and good times than any referee would ever deserve.

Lately, I have had to pass on some things that I was looking forward to, but hopefully I can make it to an IAABO meeting in the near future.

I sincerely want to say "thank you" for your efforts and dedication.

Hopefully we can meet together soon.

Thanks again, God Bless, Yours in basketball.

Jim Mackin

2017 Fall Seminar (continued from page 1)

IAABO's Co-coordinators (T.J. Halliday, Layne Drexel, Dave Smith, Dan Shepardson) are working diligently on various timely topics with some very good presenters, and designing new materials to assist you. On Friday, we tentatively scheduled practical approaches to officiating and other topics suggested by our interpreters, Executive Committee members, as well as individual members. Sessions on various rule topics, designed to assist the Interpreters with presentations they can use at their meetings, will be conducted on Friday and Saturday. A coach's panel is being convened and the Coordinators are preparing some provocative questions to create lively discussion regarding officials. The Sunday morning session will highlight: rule changes, signals and points of emphasis for the upcoming season. This will be an important session. We are looking forward to seeing all the Interpreters in Newark, DE, September 15-17, 2017. All registrations for the seminar should be made online on the IAABO website.

Hotel reservations can be made on this link: <http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/I/ILGCHHF-IAABO-20170913/index.jhtml>, or you can call the hotel at 302-454-1500 and select Option 1 for Reservations and then specify your group's name and special rate code, IABBO.

The meeting is scheduled to be held at the Hilton Wilmington/Christiana 100 Continental Drive, Newark, DE.

Fall Seminar Meeting Program Ad Book

IAABO, Inc. is requesting your assistance to offset some of the costs involved with hosting the IAABO Annual Fall Seminar. Please go to the Fall Seminar page on the IAABO website and complete and mail your form for an ad.

Hospitality Room

Topping off your day will be the traditional "IAABO Roger J. Sheridan Hospitality Room," named after the famed IAABO Past President (1965-66) from the State of Vermont. The hospitality room will be the place for everyone to renew old friendships and to make many new ones.

The Roger J. Sheridan Hospitality Room will be open to IAABO members and their guests as follows:

Wednesday, September 13th, 6 – 11 p.m.

Thursday, September 14th, 5 – 11 p.m.

Friday, September 15th, 5 – 11 p.m.

Saturday, September 16th, 5 – 11 p.m.;

Sunday, September 17th, 7 – 8:30 a.m.

The Hospitality Suite will not be open during the meeting sessions.

Spouse/Guest Breakfast

On Friday morning, September 15th, Delaware will sponsor the annual IAABO Spouse and Guest Breakfast for your significant other. The breakfast will begin at 9 a.m. and there is no charge for one guest who pre-registers prior to August 15, 2017. Other guests may register at a cost of \$20 per person. If interested, complete the registration form on page 15.

Golf Tournament

The 2017 IAABO Golf Outing will take place on Thursday, September 14th at Newark Golf Course. Shotgun start is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. The cost for this event is \$100. Complete the registration form on page 15.

Other Scheduled Events include: a trip to Longwood Gardens, see form on page 15 and a Comedian/Hypnotist, and dancing to the oldies show on Saturday night, see coupon on page 15.

See you in Newark.

IAABO Member/Former Air Force Pilot to Receive Silver Star

Air Force Capt. Gregory "Billy Bob" Thornton was flying over Iraq catching up on old times with a fellow A-10 jet pilot on the ground serving with a U.S. Army unit in Baghdad when the conversation abruptly changed.

"He comes back on the radio and he says, 'We're taking direct enemy fire. We need you in here now.' And it went from kind of catching up with one of our buddies to now going in and protecting him because he's under fire," Thornton said.

It was April 6, 2003, just days after U.S. troops went into Baghdad during the Iraq war.

Nearby, fellow A-10 Thunderbolt II pilot Lt. Col. Raymond "Donk" Strasburger was flying in a second jet and would soon join Thornton in a fierce battle with Iraqi Republican Guard troops firing tank rounds at U.S. soldiers on the other side of the Tigris River.

Thornton, 47, will receive a Silver Star — the third highest medal for valor in the military — in a private ceremony today at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force for his effort to help thwart the assault against U.S. troops.

Air Combat Command commander Gen. James "Mike" Holmes was expected to present the medal.

Thornton said the medal, upgraded from a Distinguished Flying Cross he originally received for the combat mission, was "humbling." Air Force squadron mates had originally asked that Thornton receive the Silver Star. The Air Force agreed to the upgrade after a review of the mission years later.

"I was actually driving to work when the general called to let me know, and I was shocked, surprised, thrilled, all kinds of emotions," said Thornton, a Southwest Airlines pilot who lives in Monument, Colo.

Strasburger, 56, a retired colonel, flew to Dayton with his wife, Teresa, from their home in Germany for the event. Thornton and Strasburger were assigned to the 75th Fighter Squadron at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., during the Iraq war.

In an email sent en route to Dayton, Strasburger, previously given the Silver Star for the combat mission, lauded Thornton's "unequivocal and



heart-felt dedication to preserve the lives" of their fellow A-10 pilot and Army soldiers "under a hailstorm of heavy enemy fire on the ground, and to simultaneously destroy the enemy at the expense of his own life if that's what it took."

According to an Air Force narrative, Thornton and Strasburger made multiple passes under enemy fire, firing the Thunderbolt II's 30-millimeter gun and launching rockets and missiles "through very heavy anti-aircraft fire and blinding sandstorms to decimate an enemy Republican Guard force."

In the midst of the 33-minute attack, the two aircraft destroyed three T-72 tanks, six armored personnel carriers "and several other enemy vehicles," the Air Force said.

The memories are still vivid for Thornton, a retired lieutenant colonel.

"The adrenalin was just amazing when we got done flying," he said. "...My first shot was on the lead tank, and I got a secondary explosion, and I still remember that vividly."

On his fourth pass, something — he believes it may have been a missile — nearly struck his A-10.

"I maneuvered the airplane hard and I remember hearing Donk's voice on the radio going, 'Are you OK?'"

Thornton was. The pilot went back on the offensive in a sandstorm that cut visibility to about a mile, or three times less pilots are normally allowed to train in, he said.

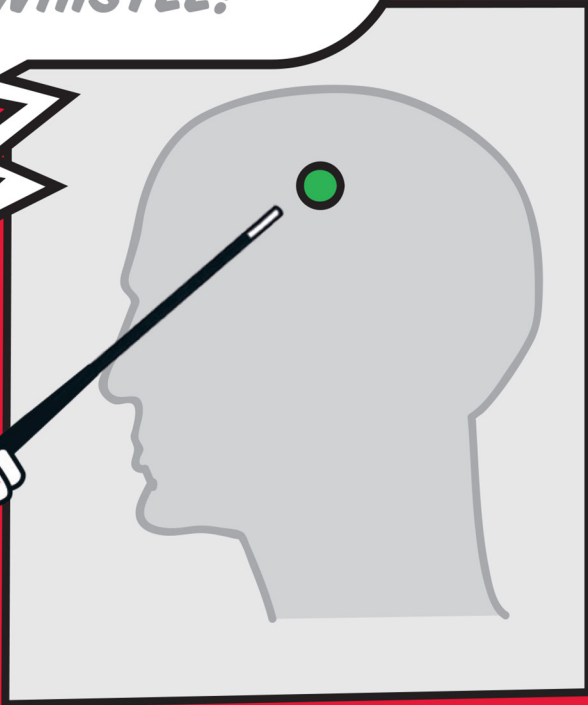
The two pilots used night flying-like tactics to avoid hitting each other, Thornton said.

"You do so many different scenarios through training, and you just get comfortable in the airplane and it becomes a part of you," he said. "The training kicked in. I didn't feel scared at all."



Barrie Barber is a reporter for Cox Media Group Ohio covering military and veterans affairs. "Reprint courtesy of the Dayton Daily News."

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How to be a Great Partner (continued from page 1)

put the stresses of daily life aside and have 100 percent focus on the game. Schools, coaches and student athletes depend on us to arrive on time and be physically and mentally ready to officiate.

3) Have Empathy

Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. It is the ability to see things from another person's point-of-view. Many officials could benefit from trying to understand how our role impacts others. When we walk into a gymnasium, our role impacts the athletic administrator, the coaches, players, parents, fans, scorers, timers, custodians as well as our partners. Successful officials empathize with each of these groups and allow that perspective to motivate how they interact with people associated with the game.

Probably the first people we must have empathy for are the athletic administrators. These dedicated individuals have a thousand things on their plate to orchestrate a basketball game. We should strive not to be a source of frustration for them. Showing up on time, looking professional and interacting positively with all involved will go a long way in making the AA feel like this is one thing less thing they do not have worry about.

As difficult as it may be, we also need to have empathy for coaches. Coaches are tough to appreciate at times, and it is easy to think of these folks in an adversarial manner. However, if officials could truly take a step back and fully appreciate what it takes to be a coach, it would give them a perspective that might allow them to interact differently with coaches.

A couple years ago, at the IAABO Fall Conference, Rod Olsen a long time coach, made the statement that coaching today has never been more difficult at the high school and collegiate levels. He referred to it as the "High Maintenance Era." Coaches still have all the pressures of winning. But today's student/athlete may but cut from a different cloth than prior generations. It feels like today's parent is much more involved in their kids' activities and more demanding of coaches than ever before. This all translates to more pressure on coaches and may drive their behavior on the sidelines.

Understanding this should be a reminder to officials of the importance of every ruling they make during a game. It should motivate the official to hustle and get into position on every play, know the rules and maintain proper angles in order to give the game the performance it deserves. Coaches will not always agree with our rulings, but we need to show the coaches that we are giving them and their players our best possible effort.

4) Master Fairness

This might be the most important item on this list. When officials take the court, it is imperative that they are on the same page as far as the application of the rules. Officials need to understand the intention of the rules and enforce them in the manner required by the rules book. All too often, officials look for ways to "manage the game" in a way that may help them avoid criticism, this often leads to setting aside a rule and impacts the delicate balance of fair play between two teams.

If you are an official and you are fully committed to proper rules enforcement, it is not going to be enjoyable when you are working with a partner who shies away from difficult rulings. If you want to be a great partner, you will do everything within your ability to enforce the rules properly and support your partner(s) when they do the same.

5) Have Poise

Officials need to realize that they will be criticized. No one should enter this profession with the expectation of receiving loads of positive feedback and accolades from those who are involved in the game. In this profession, compliments are few and far between and officials need to take steps to be prepared.

It helps to understand that 99 percent of the people who criticize us would never dare to step foot on a basketball court and attempt to officiate. Most people who criticize officials are also biased in their criticism. They want their team to win and they see our performance through that lens. It is much easier to keep criticism in perspective when you realize these facts.

Each season, I see officials lose their composure and/or react to

comments that are directed to them over the course of the game. We need to be above that. We should never give anybody the authority to impact our demeanor during the course of the game. When officials lose their composure, their performance gets viewed differently. It erodes our credibility and gives people the impression that we may have an ulterior motive when making rulings. To be a fully evolved basketball official, maintaining composure at all times is paramount to being a good partner.

6) Be Mentally Tough

In order for someone to enjoy the officiating experience over a number of years, it is going to require a significant amount of mental toughness. Officiating is a thankless job. It is amazing that so many people get involved in officiating knowing the complexity of the game and the pressure that is faced on a nightly basis.

Being a basketball official can at times feel like you are on an emotional roller coaster. When you walk of the court and the game goes well, it can be an incredible feeling. On those nights where things don't go well, it can be a depressing.

Officials that are successful and enjoy the experience over the long haul learn how to keep things in perspective. Basketball officials embark on a task that is highly complex. Officials must be able process a lot of information quickly, having ten fast moving parts in a limited space and having to make split second decisions on a rules book that is eighty pages long is a situation that will undoubtedly lead to mistakes.

How often do you make a mistake during game, dwell on that mistake and miss other rulings because you were not focused. Officials who are mentally tough find a way to stay positive, focus on the next play and remain confident in their ability to enforce the rules properly. Lack of confidence will lead to apprehension and result in officials not getting involved when the rules require it.

Positive self-talk is a vital to keeping your confidence up and ready for all that this game may require. People who are positive with themselves are much more mentally prepared and will perform better in pressure situations.

Over the course of a season and even your career, people who can stay positive and learn from mistakes and use those situations as a growth opportunity tend to enjoy officiating and stay involved longer.

7) Be Accountable

Aristotle once said "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence is not an act, but a habit." Most of us in the officiating ranks are former athletes. For many of us, officiating is a way to stay connected to a game we enjoyed playing when we are younger.

Yet, for some strange reason, many of us don't prepare for officiating in the same way we used to train, when we were athletes. In our playing days, we practiced long hours and studied play books for weeks and spend time getting physically conditioned for the upcoming season. Yet we have officials who lament the fact they have to attend a pre-season clinic, study for an exam or exercise to be physically ready to keep up with the pace of play.

We all need to develop an approach that keeps us accountable to this great game. Each and every season we need to study the rules book, understand the rules changes and points of emphasis. We need to study the manual and commit to using proper mechanics and signals. Set the goal to treat all involved (partners, administrators, players and coaches) with complete respect, to be physically fit and set out to enforce the rules, as intended, to the best of our ability.

If you can master these seven characteristics, you will be the type of official that people will be excited to see listed on their schedule. The amazing thing about these steps is that none of them require an ounce of talent. Each and every item can be accomplished with commitment, dedication, preparation and effort.



T.J. Halliday is a 32 year member of IAABO. He currently is a Co-Interpreter for IAABO, Inc. and a Board Interpreter for Bd. 20 ME. He has presented at the IAABO Fall seminar every year since 2008 and has contributed to several IAABO educational videos and other educational materials.

IAABO 2017-2018 Manual Changes and Editorial Revisions

While many Americans are spending their summer sitting on the beach reading the latest best sellers from Oprah's book club, the co-interpreters along with the Executive Director and Associate Executive Director have spent the past few weeks perusing the 2-person and 3-person IAABO manuals. Based on this intensive review, the following is a summary of the manual changes and editorial revisions in the IAABO manual for the 2017-2018 season.

Two-Handed Reporting: (Pages 52, 139)

In May, The National Federation of High Schools announced the rules changes for the 2017-18 season. One of the rules changes, (2-9-1) requires officials to signal fouls to the scorer using both hands. The IAABO manual has been updated to reflect this change as follows:

Using two hands, officials will show the first number with the right hand and the second number on the left hand to indicate the number of the player who fouled. Single numbers may be reported with either hand.

Rationale: To minimize foul reporting errors, that occur between the officials and the scorekeepers when the information gets lost in the translation. Two handed reporting is easier for the scorekeepers to see and comprehend in addition to being less confusing.

Ball Placement Mechanics: (Pages 5, 91)

There were a few references to this technique throughout the manual without any clarification for what the mechanic entailed. This mechanic now has been defined and added to the glossary of terms.

During timeouts, the administering official will hold the ball in a manner to indicate the direction of the ensuing throw-in. The ball will be held on the official's left or right hip, or in front or behind the official as appropriate.

Pre-Game Conference: (Pages 8, 94)

A provision discouraging officials to have pre-game conversations about team tendencies and playing styles has been deleted. A pre-game conference should never include comments about individual coaches and/or players, officials will now be allowed to discuss the teams and their playing styles in preparation for a game.

Proper Use of Counted Goal Signal: (Pages 8, 94)

This is an editorial revision to help clarify proper communication among partners when the ball enters the basket during a foul. When it is necessary for the non-ruling official to communicate to the ruling official that the ball has entered the basket during a foul, communication should be verbal only. This communication should never include the awarded goal signal. Partners should be encouraged to verbally state "the ball went in" or "the ball did not go in" and allow the ruling official the opportunity to rule if the goal shall count or be nullified.

Pre-Game Conference with Coaches & Captains: (Pages 11, 97)

In addition to asking the head coaches about sportsmanship and players being legally equipped, this season we have added a third question asking if there is an appropriate health care professional covering the game? This will ensure the officiating crew and coaches are aware who the designated HCP is before the game begins.

Center/Trail - Close Down Mechanic: (Pages 18, 104)

The term close down is used throughout the manual and is clearly defined in the glossary of terms as a movement to improve the angle of coverage. But as it applies to the trail (2 or 3-person) and center (3-person) officials, this revision further clarifies that the closed down mechanic requires the official to step toward the endline to get into proper position to observe rebounding activity.

Positioning – Between Quarters: (Page 20)

The option for the umpires to position themselves at the top of the free

throw arc if there were no cheerleaders on court has been deleted. The position for the umpire will now be at first lane space further from the table in the direction of the ensuing throw-in regardless if cheerleaders are present.

Trail initiates rotation: (2016/17 Manual - page 43)

This mechanic that allowed the trail to initiate a rotation during a live ball has been deleted. The trail official will still be encouraged to work the arc toward the basket line to get a proper angle on plays near the opposite sideline above free throw line extended.

Foul Procedures – Player Control Foul: (Page 52,139)

When a player control foul is ruled, the ruling official will signal direction to indicate a change of possession will occur as a result of the foul.

When the foul occurs, the ruling official will display the stop clock signal with a closed fist, step toward the offender, bird dog if helpful, verbally state the color and number of the offending player, demonstrate the player control signal, then signal direction before indicating the spot of the ensuing throw-in.

Opposite side lead rules foul, free throws opposite end: (Page 72)

There was an error in the current manual and the switch depicted was incorrect. This revision demonstrated the proper switch in this situation.

When the opposite side Lead rules a foul, he/she moves to the reporting area, reports the foul, becomes the new tableside Lead and administers the free throws. The tableside Trail becomes the new opposite side Trail.

Warning horn procedure during Timeouts: (Pages 78,175)

After the warning horn sounds, the officials will take two or three steps toward the team(s) huddle, raise an index finger above the head state "first horn" and then proceed to the appropriate free throw or throw-in positions.

3-Person Changes

Remain and Read: (Page 92) This is a term that has traditionally been used for center and trail officials to remain in position and examine play before moving in transition. The definition is being modified to apply to the lead official to remain and read appropriate match-ups in their PCA before making the decision to rotate. It is hoped by adding this clarification, it will reduce the amount of times the lead officials rotate away from engaged competitive match-ups in their PCA.

Rotation Mechanics: (Page 122)

A clarification has been added to ensure officials understand how to be positioned when they arrive at the endline in transition.

The Lead may assume either a wide position (A position) or a close down position (B position) depending on ball location. In previous versions of the manual, it implied the lead always started at a wide (A position). If the ball is advancing up the court on the opposite sideline, it is acceptable for lead officials to take an initial position at or near the close down position (B position).

By making this change, it is hoped officials will be make better decisions taking their initial position on the endline and not miss rotation opportunities when play dictates.

Timeout Procedures: (Page 174)

When a timeout has been granted, the two officials not granting the time-out will move toward the center circle to prevent any midcourt crossover issues between the teams.



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Now's the Time

While the middle of summer might not seem like the prime time for a basketball official, IF you're interested in improving and "moving up the ladder," it's the perfect time. Just as coaches tell athletes the time to improve is in the off-season, the same is true for officials. Here are a few things to think about, and possibly do that will help you improve as an official. Whether that will translate into an improved schedule or not, there is no telling -- you can only control, what you control.

First, the obvious: go to a camp. There are a lot of camps out there and many are very good, but many are simply ATMs for the directors. Do some research and find a camp that fits your current level of experience. Talk with friends who have been to the camp and get their perspective on the entire experience. What level of ball was being played (varsity boys vs. AAU middle school)? Was there an observer on every game they officiated? Were any of their games video-taped? If yes, was there an audio-voice over for the tape? How many games did they work and was it crew of two or crew of three?

Make sure you understand the difference between an instructional camp (one where you'll receive feedback on a regular basis) and a tryout camp (which is typically designed for those trying to get onto a college staff and many times provide little or no feedback). Just because a camp has a long list of well-known officials at the camp does not mean it is a quality camp. It also does not guarantee that those officials will: 1) actually be there and/or 2) ever see you work. Getting feedback - both verbal and with video - is a great learning opportunity. You may not realize what you look like on the court, until you see yourself on tape. How is your positioning? Do you run/look like an athlete as you move up and down the floor? Do you use the proper signals ALL the time? Are they crisp and effective? Do you need to lose a few pounds? (They say the camera adds 10-15 lbs., or at least that's what many people want to think ☺). Bottom line is that perception is reality in the eyes of many people (e.g. coaches), and what they see is what they think they're going to get!

Once back from your camp, continue to work on things you can control - your appearance and fitness and your rules knowledge. You do not need to be a marathon runner, but you do need to run in order to officiate high school basketball. It's a lot easier to stay in shape than it is to get in shape. If you love to run and are lean and mean, that's great, keep it up. However, if you're not into running as a pastime, you still need to do some kind of cardio-respiratory workout. Elliptical trainers are very popular these days because there is no pounding on the knees. Biking, swimming, rowing are other great ways to get your heart pumping and to burn some calories without beating up your body. You do need to do some running so your body is used to it and you look like an athlete when you run, but again, you don't need to run a marathon.

A high school basketball game is 32-minutes long. Use that as a guide for your training. Make your training resemble the running you do in a game, i.e., walk some, jog some and sprint some. You don't need to run for 30+ minutes, but you need to be out exercising for that length of time. A high school court is 84-feet long and about the most you'd ever need to run/sprint is from "old Trail to New Lead" or "old Lead to New Trail." That would typically be about 50-60 feet or less than 20 yards.

Go out for 15-20 minutes (to start) and (depending on where you live) walk from one sign/street to the next, then jog to the next sign/street, then sprint to the next sign/street, then jog, then walk. Repeat for the time you set for yourself. Mix it up, so you don't get bored. There will be times/games where you'll need to run/sprint several times in a row because of turnovers, or the pace/style of the game, so you do need to throw in those back-to-back sprints, but again, be reasonable. The key is to do this exercising five days a week and do it all summer and fall, not two weeks

before basketball season begins. You'll find you feel better, you look better, and you're not trying to "ref yourself into shape" as the season begins. You can also have several pair of the same size pants, instead of the "preseason, regular season and post-season" pants!

Lastly, but equally important is to improve your rules knowledge. Going to camp, working on your mechanics and signals, exercising, eating right, proper hydration are all important attributes of a successful official. But it can all be scuttled by poor rules knowledge. An assignor or commissioner can accept you not being in the correct position IF you're working hard in the game and most of the time you're where you're supposed to be. S/he cannot defend you when you kick a rule.

All rules in basketball are predicated on Rule 4, Definitions. MASTER Rule 4. Don't be ashamed to be a "rules guy/gal." Read EVERY word, don't skim it. Ask yourself, "Do I really know what the sentence means?" Can you explain it to somebody else? Read a section in Rule 4 and then jump to that same section (if there is one) in the Casebook. The Casebook will hopefully make the meaning of the rule you're studying easier to understand. Again, read EVERY word and each separate scenario and ruling. Do they all make sense? If not, contact somebody in your area, e.g. your board's interpreter or somebody whose rules knowledge you trust, to help you understand it. Do not assume, "Ah, that will never happen in a game," because as soon as you do that, Murphy's Law will show up.

From there, move to Rule 9, Violations -- they're based on Rule 4 and happen all the time, e.g. backcourt. We need to get these right. Do the same thing: read about a violation in Rule 9 and then jump to the applicable section in the Casebook. Work your way through the rulebook and casebook in this fashion.

Summer is here, the perfect time to get ready for the next basketball season. I did not address working summer ball in this article. My wife, several years ago, asked, "When did basketball turn into a 12-month season?" Whether or not you ref during the summer is a personal/family decision. Depending on your location and circumstances, you may have the opportunity to work some excellent games with excellent partners and improve aspects of your game that were identified by the camp staff, or that you are aware you need to improve. However, summertime can also be a time to pick up bad habits because you're working an AAU tournament and their #1 priority is to keep the games on schedule, so they do not want you to blow the whistle, report fouls, switch on fouls and all the basics that we as professional officials know are important. Do what you need to do -- control what you can control.



Dan Shepardson is one of four Co-Interpreters for IAABO, Inc. and is the Board Interpreter for Bd. 105 VT. He has been officiating for 33 years and is the Activities Director (AD) at Champlain Valley Union HS in Hinesburg, VT.

Support the IAABO Foundation



Picture is for show purposes only. It is not the exact vehicle that will be raffled.

Win a Nissan Rogue

(See page 15)

40 Years and Counting

Part II

(Editor's Note: This is the second installment in a 3-part story for Sportorials. We interviewed IAABO members with more than 40 years experience, and posed the following 3 questions: 1) What has changed the most about the game for officials the past 40 years? 2) How have you adjusted? 3) How has IAABO changed during that time? The second installment runs below.)

David Murachver, IAABO Board 175, Framingham, MA, just finished his 41st year with IAABO:

"It has to be the three-point shot. In all my years of watching basketball, there hasn't been a rule change like the three-point shot. It's led to more fast breaks, driving the lane and kicking it out for a three. You want to yell at the kids, 'You had a layup,' but they want to shoot the three."

"I don't know if the game is better, because of the three-pointer, but it has changed. Not many players have the mid-range jumper any more. Players should make 90 percent of their layups and they make less than 50 percent of the three-pointers, so I feel like blowing my whistle and tell them: 'You had a layup!'"

"Three-man officiating is the biggest adjustment I've had to make. It makes it a little easier to stay with the game. We need more officials at all levels, and three-man creates opportunities. If we were still using 2-man crews, there would be less opportunity."

"Within the game itself, concentrating on the three-point shooter is extremely important. You have to stay with him. If he gets hit and you've taken your eyes off him, that's a problem. So I stress it in the pregame. We must watch him going up and bring him back down to the floor on the shot; you don't want him flopping or ending up in the first row."

"The educational aspect of IAABO has grown by leaps and bounds. The tools are phenomenal. The leadership at IAABO has also changed dramatically for the better. Peter Webb has done a great job and is a wonderful man. Tommy Lopes does a great job as an ambassador of the game. I tell new candidates, 'Never stop asking questions.' If you don't ask questions, you don't learn. IAABO helps everyone learn. Of the 130 members on our board, I'm proud to have helped close to 100 of them in some way."

Rick Ahlfeld, IAABO Board #47, Massena, N.Y., with IAABO for a total of 52 years:

"I really have three things that I feel have changed the game from an officials view point -- in the NYSPHSAA (New York State Public High School Association), we have gone to the 35 second shot clock. It makes our job easier, with no stalls, etc. Do you remember the 28-foot line with the 'lack of sufficient action' counts we had to keep track of?"

"Second, the 3-point shot has opened up the game tremendously. The teams no longer pound the ball inside to get it to the big man."

"Third, the relationship between the coach and official -- now it's more of a nurturing environment, with conversation much more emphasized than in the 1960's and 1970's."

"I'll focus on the third one. Back in the day, the official was god. The coach had to go along with what we said. When we said something, that was it! Now you have to be nice and have an exchange with coaches. Because 'I said so' no longer works. You can't tell a coach to shut up."

"It's similar to classrooms then versus now. Before students listened, respected and responded to teachers. Now they have to say why they are doing something."

"The official is there to run the game and enforce the rules. Not everyone is going to be happy. How coaches act today is unbelievable, both high school and college coaches. They'll ask, 'How can you do this to me?'" We're too nice."

"Sadly, officials often have to go along with trend. We can't be the only guy from 1979, so now you have to take some crow. I give a warning now rather than going straight to a technical foul."

"Another problem is because of videotape. If you T a coach, the video may prove you got the ruling wrong, so it's harder to defend yourself."

"Everyone challenges authority how. How would you like to be a cop? The fans get all wound up, too. Normally, when I call a T that settles things down."

"I'll let a coach know now that I've had enough and that typically gets the behavior to stop. I don't give out many T's. I only had to give out two this year."

"You also want to let the coach know you are listening to him. If they're whining and chipping away at you all night, the warning usually works. In the old days, you just gave him a T."

"There was a funny incident a fellow official related to me about the old days. He told the coach he'd had it. The coach asked why. He said, 'Because I'm sick of listening to you.' You couldn't do that today."

"The videos Tom Lopes sends out are very helpful, as well as other information. There wasn't much mentoring at IAABO when I started. You took the floor test and sank or swam."

"Now, more people help you. That's changed considerably. Before they gave you a whistle and striped shirt and told you to go do it."

Al Perez, IAABO Military, Washington State, 40 years of service with IAABO:

"The game has speeded up. The level of play is higher. Though I do both girls' and military games, there were no girls' games in 1977 when I first started, so that's a big change, too. Title IX changed everything."

"The sport has changed, too, because the athletes are much faster and better. If you don't maintain your physical fitness, you can't officiate properly. You must be faster today than you used to be."

"For me, that means I must start getting ready for the next season as soon as the previous one concludes. Years ago, I could start training the week before the season started. Now I start training 2-3 days a week right after the season concludes and continue workouts all during the off-season. I'm used to staying in shape because of my military service, but now I have to maintain myself all year round if I want to stay up with the state of the game."

"It was easier in the old days because I was younger. If I only had the knowledge then that I have now, I would have been a better official much quicker. Having the extra knowledge now really helps me maintain a high standard."

"You've got to physically be able to keep up with the players or the game will run away from you. You have to make split second decisions, and coaches today at all levels know more about the rules, so they expect more from the officials. You can't make those long distance calls. Getting the angles and being in position to make the call is really important in today's officiating. Some officials are beginning to drop out of our varsity rating because they are no longer conditioned to position themselves to properly officiate to today's varsity level game."

"When it comes to IAABO, the big changes have been in the mechanics and signals. It's important to have the proper signals so you officiate the right way, and your partners, scorekeepers, coaches, players and fans all know what you are communicating."

Jack Watro, IAABO #193 Central New Jersey, 51 years with IAABO:

"The speed of play has been the biggest change. The last 10 years, I've requested girls' games as I cannot keep up with the boys. In New Jersey, the schools have been slow to adopt 3-person crews due mostly to finances."

"Pressure defense is where you see the speed manifested. At the

40 Years and Counting

school where I used to work, the team's D is its offense. They swarm the ball and get layups off their press. You need the reaction time to officiate that level, and so I haven't wanted to do boys' games because I can't keep up with the fast breaks."

"The best rules that have helped keep the pace of the game up is the alternating possession. By eliminating the jump ball, it keeps the game moving, particularly the girls' game."

"One of the ways I've adjusted to the faster pace is effectively utilizing the mechanic to bounce the ball to the thrower-in. I can back away five or six steps and get a better angle to get a head start down the court."

"The IAABO educational programs have improved enormously from the time I started officiating. The videos and 'You Make the Call' that Donnie Eppley sends out are extremely helpful."

"The use of computers has also helped the management of scheduling. Assignors used to have to do all their work over the phone. The athletic directors did the assigning when I started. As an official, if you were sick, you had to find your own replacement."

"Today, with Arbiter, everything is smoother. The software fixes a lot of the scheduling issues."

"Another change is all the shirts I've had. I think there've been four since I started. We began with the grey one, then went to the collar striped, then the non-collar striped, then New Jersey just went to the 2-and-half inch striped shirt. We've also had 2-3 different jackets since I began. When I started, we didn't wear any jacket."

John McCarthy, Dual Member, IAABO Boards #26 and #151 (Worcester and Cape Cod, MA), member for 47 years; John was recently voted life membership by Board #26:

And finally, former IAABO national presidents Ted Butcher and Bill Loftus were Board 26 interpreters, but only Billy Loftus was involved in three person clinics.

I look forward to reading the next Sportorial.

"The 3-point shot has been a significant change. I coached at the middle school level and our gym was so small that the kids had to turn their feet sideways to get the shot off, so my 8th grade team wouldn't shoot three's."

"The 3-pointer has increased the pace of play, as has better clock management by coaches. In Massachusetts, we have the 30-second clock, which officials have had to adjust to. In the early 1980s, we'd see game scores like 18-16. That's not a good game. So we've had the clock for over 20 years now."

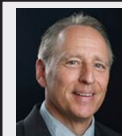
"That's made it more of a full court game. We spend less time staying in the front court because of the increased pace of the game and back and forth nature of play. That makes it easier to officiate. Those (faster paced) are the games I like to work."

"In terms of adjustments, it's been quite a challenge in Massachusetts because we don't use 3-person crews until we get to the state tournament. It's important officials get training for 3-man crews. The local IAABO boards offer great clinics with national and local officials, including Board #26's Billy Loftus. Ted Butcher and Billy are both former IAABO International Presidents and Board #26 Interpreters. Billy was also my mentor. We stress mechanics and adjustments in the 3-person crews."

"One of the most helpful things IAABO provides is observations and mentoring for officials. Both my boards (#26 and #151) offer those services. We also hold clinics for provisional members. Pre-season clinics provide situations for veterans to watch newer officials and provide feedback."

"Another significant change has been the use of video and nationwide email (being able to send out one message electronically to all IAABO members). Our veteran instruction is also very strong."

"One last point I'd like to make is about the IAABO Sportsmanship Awards given annually by Board #26. There are approximately 70 schools that our board services. Of those in our most recent vote, 40-45 schools got at least one first place vote. That's a tribute to our sportsmanship program. It's well-publicized in the Worcester newspaper. When you go into gyms, you see the banners hanging from the rafters in the schools that won the award. It's a point of pride. We are making a strong sportsmanship statement."



Dave Simon has been an IAABO member since 1984, and written for Sportorials for over 25 years. He currently lives in Merton, WI, and does high school game observations for the Wisconsin Basketball Officials Association.

Scholarship Presentation



IAABO, Inc. along with the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) and the New Jersey IAABO Boards awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 to Josie Larkins, Red Bank Catholic High School. Presenting the scholarship is Paul Spinelli, Vice, President, IAABO, Inc. The award was presented at the 2017 NJSIAA Scholar Athlete Luncheon.

Life Member Passes



Elwood "Chuck" G. Schroeder, 91, of Hamilton, passed away on May 26, 2017. Born in Trenton, Mr. Schroeder was a lifelong area resident. He retired from the State of New Jersey Department of Labor and Industry after 43 years of service. Mr. Schroeder was a former member of Bethel Lutheran Church.

Chuck had many memberships including, being an active member of the Crescent Shrine Temple, Ancient Order of the Scottish Rite, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, and Ashler Masonic Lodge. He served as secretary-treasurer of the Trenton Chapter of the New Jersey Football Association., IBO Board 193 as secretary- treasurer, a member of the Mercer County Umpires Association and the New York College Umpires Association. He also retired from his proud position of clock operator for Rider College basketball after 41 years.

Board 12

On Sunday, June 18, IAABO Board 12, District of Columbia, held its most recent summer training session at the University of Maryland. The training was attended by over 110 Board 12 officials. The Camp serves as an opportunity for officials to learn via the Instructional Presentations, to receive one-on-one feedback from the Observers, and to get a detailed numeric evaluation of their strengths and weaknesses.



Mike Davis, IAABO President Elect Willie Jones and Jim White instructing officials after their game

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2017 Fall Seminar Schedule/Agenda

Friday, September 15, 2017

7:15 AM	Rules Exam Meeting, Constitution Committee Meeting
8:30 AM	Opening Remarks <i>(Joseph Gintoli, President, IAABO, Inc.; Bd. 9 CT, Thomas E. Neubauer, DIAA Executive Director)</i>
9:00 AM	Keynote Speaker - Gaining the Mental Edge <i>(Joel Fish, Sports Psychologist)</i>
10:15 AM	Officiating Contact on the Shooter <i>(Al Battista, Bd. 12 DC)</i>
11:00 AM	Errors, Mistakes and Other Difficult Situations <i>(Felix Addeo, Bd. 33 NJ)</i>
12:00 PM	Lunch Break
1:15 PM	Continuing Involvement <i>(Kelley Callahan, Bd. 11 DE and Barbara Eppley, Bd. 70 PA)</i>
1:45 PM	Dealing with Assignors <i>(Donnie Eppley, Bd. 70 PA)</i>
2:15 PM	Effectively Using Video in Presentations <i>(Jeff Jewett, Bd. 71 AZ)</i>
2:45 PM	Simplifying Technical Fouls (Who Gets Charged? When?) <i>(Peter Palermino, Bd. 6 CT)</i>
3:15 PM	Most Misunderstood/Misapplied Rules <i>(John Rafferty, Bd. 95 MA)</i>

Saturday, September 16, 2017

8:45 AM	Screening & Off Ball Coverage <i>(T.J. Halliday, Bd. 21 ME)</i>
9:15 AM	Mnemonics <i>(Layne Drexel, Bd. 11 DE)</i>
9:45 AM	Backcourt <i>(Dan Shepardson, Bd. 105 VT)</i>
10:15 AM	Legal vs. Illegal Defenders <i>(David Smith, Bd. 4 CO)</i>
10:45 AM	Refereeing Rules Modifications - 5 Things You Need to Know" <i>(Alan Goldberger, Bd. 33 NJ)</i>
12:00 PM	Lunch Break
1:00 PM	Positioning <i>(Michael Statham, Bd. 12 DC)</i>
1:30 PM	Coaches Panel
2:30 PM	Communication with Coaches <i>(Tom Lopes, Bd. 194 NJ)</i>
3:30 PM	Interpreters Roundtable (IAABO Materials) <i>(Tom Lopes, Executive Director, IAABO, Inc., and Donnie Eppley, Associate Executive Director)</i>

Sunday, September 17, 2017

8:30 AM	Signals; Two Hand Reporting <i>(Layne Drexel, Bd. 11 DE)</i>	8:30 AM	Coaches Warnings <i>(David Smith, Bd. 4 CO)</i>
	Coaching Box <i>(Dan Shepardson, Bd. 105 VT)</i>		End of Game Contact/Intentional Fouls <i>(T.J. Halliday, Bd. 21 ME)</i>

Rules Questions for the IAABO Interpreters

1. During a live ball, B1 purposely contacts A1 who is away from the ball and clearly not in the play. Ruling: Intentional foul. Reference Rule 4-19.3.b.
2. After releasing the ball on a throw-in pass, A1 delays and does not immediately return inbounds. Ruling: Technical Foul charged to A1. Reference: Rule 10-4.2.
3. Late in the game and trailing by one point, A1, in an attempt to intentionally miss her final free throw, throws the ball toward the basket. The ball strikes the net and subsequently the flange. Ruling: Free throw violation. The ball must hit the ring before the free throw ends. Reference: Rule 9-1.3.a.
4. A1, while dribbling the ball near the sideline inadvertently contacts the head coach of Team B, who is legally in his coaching box. Ruling: Legal Play. To be out-of-bounds, A1 must touch the floor, or some object on or outside a boundary line. People are not considered objects and play continues. Inadvertently touching someone who is out-of-bounds without gaining an advantage is not a violation. Reference: Rule 7-1.1
5. B1 deflects the ball away from A1 who is dribbling in the frontcourt. The ball is rolling toward the backcourt and is picked up by A2 who is straddling the division line. Ruling: Backcourt violation. A2 is in the backcourt. When A2 touches the ball, prior to the ball having backcourt status (the ball still has frontcourt status), simultaneously A2 is the last player to touch the ball in the frontcourt and the first to touch the ball in the backcourt. Reference: Rule 4-4.1, 4-4.2, 4-4.3; 4-35.1.b, 4-35.2
6. Prior to airborne player A1 leaving the floor, B1 obtains a legal position under or just behind the basket. After releasing the ball on a pass to A2, A1 contacts B1 in the torso. Ruling: Team control foul. A player is entitled to any spot on the floor provided he/she obtains it legally. After passing the ball, A1 does not have player control, but there is still team control. Reference: Rule 4-23.1; 4-12.1; 4-12.2; 4-12.3; 4-19.7.

2017 2018 NFHS Rules Changes



1-13-2

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.

Note: State Associations may alter the length and placement of the 28 foot (maximum) coaching box.

Effective Immediately. Tape may be used to extend the 14-foot line to 28 feet. **Rationale:** The restriction of the coaching box penalizes the level of communication between coach and player. Allowing a coach freedom to move within the new box between the 28' mark and the end line provides a coach more access to coach his/her players.

2-9-1

When a foul occurs, an official shall signal the timer to stop the clock. The official shall verbally inform the offender, then with finger(s) of two hands, indicate to the scorer the number of the offender and the number of free throws.

Rationale: To minimize foul reporting errors, that occur between the officials and the scorekeepers when the information gets lost in the translation. Two handed reporting is easier for the scorekeepers to see and comprehend in addition to being less confusing.

3-4-1d

There are no color/design restrictions in the area of the team jersey from the imaginary line at the base of the neckline to the top of the shoulder and in the corresponding area on the back of the jersey. There are restrictions on what identifying names may be placed in this area (see Article 3-4-4).

Rationale: Provide guidance on the forthcoming restrictions for this area of the jersey.

3-4-4

Identifying name(s) shall adhere to the following:

- If used, lettering with school name, school's nickname, school logo, player's name and /or abbreviation of the official school name shall be placed horizontally on the jersey.
- The panel in the shoulder area of the jersey on the back may be used for placing an identifying name as well.

Rationale: Provide guidance to persons purchasing uniforms in determining what wording should go onto the jersey.

4-48

NEW

Warning for Coach/Team Conduct

A warning to a coach/team for misconduct is an administrative procedure by an official, which is recorded in the scorebook by the scorer and reported to the Head Coach:

Art. 1 . . . For conduct, such as that described in rule 10-5-1a,b,d,e,f; 10-5-2; 10-5-4 the official shall warn the head coach unless the offense is judged to be major, in which case a technical foul shall be assessed.

Note: A warning is not required prior to calling a technical foul.

Art. 2 . . . For the first violation of rule 10-6-1, the official shall warn the head coach unless the offense is judged to be major, in which case a technical foul shall be assessed. Note: A warning is not required prior to calling a technical foul.

Rationale: Stopping play and making sure that the bench and the coach know that an official warning has been given, sends a clear message to everyone in the gym and impacts the behavior of the coach, and in some cases the behavior of the opposing coach. This change in behavior creates a better atmosphere and many times avoids the need to administer a technical foul.

Ontario Board 102

The Ontario Association of Basketball Officials (IAABO Board 102) is proud to celebrate its 67th year as an Association. Our premiere event of the year -- our Fall Seminar and Annual General Meeting -- will take place September 29-October 1. We are very fortunate to have IAABO Life Member and OABO Honorary Life Member Bruce Covert as Chair of the event.

Our Educational Sessions continue to have the welcome support of IAABO and we certainly look forward to having both Executive Director Tom Lopes and Associate Executive Donnie Eppley as guest speakers. We are also very excited to have Debbie Williamson come to Toronto, Canada after having the privilege of hearing her speak in Gettysburg. The sharing of her vast experience and knowledge at the NCAA level as a coach, official, rules editor and coordinator of officiating will be of great interest to our members and certainly a highlight of the weekend.

Our 15th Annual Wall of Fame Dinner will take place on Saturday evening with the honoring of many illustrious members, including those recipients of IAABO Certificates of Service from 25 years up to 50 years. We look forward to having Tom and Donnie involved in those presentations.

We feel very fortunate at AABO Board 102 to have such a positive relationship with IAABO. The willingness to assist us in our move to FIBA rules in Ontario with the publication of both the IAABO/FIBA Lesson Plan Book and our own IAABO/Canadian FIBA manual has helped immensely. We certainly realize this is due in large part to the hard work of Executive Director Lopes and Associate Director Eppley. They are to be applauded for their outstanding efforts.

Yours Truly,
Jaime McCaig
President, OABO (IAABO Board 102)

SMITTY'S Becomes Official Supplier of IAABO Shirts



IAABO has signed a new agreement with Smitty's for the licensing of its uniform logo officiating shirts and jackets. They will also have many types of other equipment and supplies that officials may wish to purchase to prepare for the upcoming season.

Retailers will be part of their team attending local meetings. In most cases, they will be the same people who have serviced our local boards over the past few years, thus creating a smooth transition.

The new contract is for the next three years, and hopefully beyond. This will only happen if we can obtain the kind of support at the local board level that we have shown with the previous vendor.

Starting on July 1, Smitty's has reached out to all states to determine the appropriate placement of the IAABO emblem and flag if one is used, and any other emblems that may be placed on the shirt as required by the state or local board. They make shirts according to each state's requirement and then send to the states for final approval.

Shirts will be on display at the IAABO fall seminar, along with other officiating equipment and supplies. Please cooperate with your local retailer on informing them which dates are the best for attending your meetings. You may also place orders on their website for fast delivery.

We look forward to working with our new partner for the benefit of our members.

2017 IAABO Officials' Schools



Class of 2017 – IAABO Officials' School at Susquehanna University



Officials at Rider University Practicing Signals



Class of 2017 – IAABO Officials' School at UNC-Greeley



Officials listening intently to Jim Dorsey and Bob Lantzy, Bd. 4 CO



Vince Shipman, Bd. 11 DE, Tony Meeks, Bd. 134 MD, and Reynaldo Rodriguez, Bd. 119 NY, strike a pose for the camera.



Layne Drexel, Co-Interpreter, IAABO, Inc. provides feedback to a group at UNC-Greeley



Class of 2017 – IAABO Officials' School at Rider University (Largest Class in IAABO History)

Off-season Preparation Makes for In-season Performance: Overview

The best preparation for good work tomorrow is to do good work today. - Elbert Hubbard –

The off-season is a time to recover, renew and recharge. As the tip-off to the season nears, it's also a time to re-assess your physical condition, your rules knowledge and skill set and re-commit to your craft and yourself by taking steps to ensure you are ready for that first tip-off. Create some goals and a plan to achieve them.

The starting point is an assessment of where you stand in terms of each. This should include an honest and critical self-evaluation, and seeking informed input of others. Do this assessment now so that you implement any strategies and programs with an effective timeline for season's start.

Physically

The FIBA Physical Training Manual notes the off-season is a time to relax and recover. Have an annual check-up. Ensure any injuries or health problems that may have impacted your officiating last season are addressed and behind you.

It specifies the pre-season period as preparation for the up-coming season and recommends starting it 4-6 weeks before the season begins. For some, physical activity drops during off-season, and for others it may stay the same or increase, but through other activities. It's important to re-assess your fitness level for basketball officiating. There are general and sport-specific fitness components to officiating basketball. In general, your fitness program should address aerobic endurance, strength, flexibility, speed, repeated sprint ability and coordination. Ideally, it should include speed work to address speed and repeated sprint ability and (the often neglected component of) footwork to address on-court position adjustments and starting and stopping from a standing position.

The goal is to get in shape to officiate basketball rather than use officiating to get into shape.

Skill Set

FIBA recognizes that basketball officiating involves a host of skills beyond the rules and mechanics that include decision-making, communication, goal setting, conflict management and resolution skills. They have also identified mental skills such as arousal control, concentration and attention, self talk and visualization and imagery techniques.

Part of your assessment should be to assess your skills and performance in these areas. What are you utilizing and how effectively? For some, this is new territory. How you master yourself and how you interact with others have a direct impact on how well you perform and how far you advance in officiating.

In this digital age, there are a plethora of resources available for self-study and improvement in these areas. There are articles, video and on-line courses (free and pay) available to you.

FIBA expects its officials to be athletes. To perform at their best, athletes prepare technically (rules and mechanics in official speak), mentally and emotionally. So should we.

Rules Knowledge

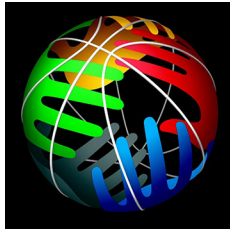
For this article, we will include mechanics with rules knowledge. Rules knowledge is a foundation of officiating. Every official should be a rules expert and fully up-to-date on new rules,

interpretations, mechanics and techniques. A previous article caught you up on the 2017 interpretation and case book revisions released at the beginning of the year.

Here are some scientifically proven strategies to study more effectively:

Split your studying into smaller pieces. Research has shown that our brains are better at encoding information in short, repeated periods of time rather than in long single sessions.

Create a consistent learning environment. Look to set-up specific times



and a consistent distraction-free place to study. Just like physical training, a consistent training time each day seems to be more effective than varied times. Some research has shown that studying before bed helps increase the retention rate of the material. Minimize distractions. Turn the cell phone off and avoid multi-tasking.

There are conflicting research results in respect to the effect of background music on different types of learning and individual differences are recognized.

Re-think some of your practices. If you are like me, I am a highlighting fiend. Research suggests that there are more effective memory reinforcement tools. Don't look any further than our early years and flash cards. Bottom-line, they are proven effective. You can make your own the old fashion way with index cards or there are free and paid software and online tools and websites to accomplish the same.

Be active in your learning. As adult learners, the more active than passive our learning, the better we learn it. As possible, don't just read it, watch a video on the same. Saying it out loud and better yet, discussing it and teaching it to another enhances retention. Further, if you approach your studying as if you were preparing to teach the material, research has shown that your brain better organizes and retains the information.

Test yourself, repeatedly. Practice tests reinforce knowledge, build confidence and help identify gaps in knowledge.

Goals and Expectations

Assess where you are at and where you want to be in relation to your officiating skills and goals. Review and analyze previous evaluations, observations, game tape and other feedback you have received. Seek out the opinions of others and then decide what you want to work on and a goal to strive for.

I think most are familiar with the SMART principle. Goals should be (in various forms):

- S - specific, significant, stretching
- M - measurable, meaningful, motivational
- A - attainable, achievable, acceptable, action-oriented
- R - realistic, relevant, reasonable, rewarding, results-oriented
- T - time-based/bound, timely, tangible, trackable

"I want to get better games" isn't specific enough. If it's your 2nd year, "I want to do the varsity final" probably isn't realistic or attainable. Set specific, attainable goals that are realistic for you within the parameters you officiate. Understand the opportunities available to you and what is achievable where you are. Ask the decision-makers at the level you officiate and the level you aspire to, what is the pathway and what can you do to work towards your goal.

Identify and secure a mentor if you don't have one. Get a support network in place. Plan for assessing your progress as the season unfolds.

A further word on goals. The game you want or level you want to achieve are outcome or end goals. Achieving them can only happen through process or means goals. Like an athlete, focus and improvement in your technique and execution (process/means) is what improves performance and it is that improved performance that leads to the attainment of your outcome and end goal(s). Prioritize areas for improvement and prepare an action plan on how to improve your process/mean goals such as mechanics, movement, rules knowledge and everything else that completes your officiating. Be systematic and start pre-season.

You hit home runs not by chance but by preparation. - Roger Maris

Here's to you leading off the season with a home run.



Tim Laurain is member of IAABO Board No. 211, York, Ontario, and is the OABO Provincial Supervisor. He is also a Consultant, Officiating Development and the Assistant Committee Chair, IAABO Educational Committee. You may contact him @ timlaurain@rogers.com if you have any comments, feedback or questions.

2017 Fall Seminar Forms

Golf Registration

Thursday, September 14, 2017 - 7:00 AM Registration
8:30 AM Shotgun Start - \$100 per Golfer
Newark Country Club - Scramble Format
Soda and Water On-Course
Lunch Provided after Round
Range Balls Provided One Hour Prior to Start
Limited Transportation to/from Course Available with Advanced Reservation

Foursomes who wish to play together should be specified on the registration form. Make full payment for the foursome listed below:

Name: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

List Members of Foursome:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Send check and form to: IAABO, P.O. Box 355, Carlisle, PA 17013-0355
 Make check payable to: IAABO, Registration Deadline: September 1, 2017

Spouse/Guest Breakfast Friday, September 15, 2017, 9:00 AM

Name: _____

Board Number: _____ # of Guests: _____

Note: Each IAABO members is entitled to one guest (spouse/significant other). Additional guests are invited at a cost of \$25.00 each.

Send check and form to: IAABO, P.O. Box 355, Carlisle, PA 17013-0355
 Make check payable to: IAABO, Registration Deadline: September 1, 2017

Spouse/Guest Special Event Registration World Renowned Longwood Gardens Cost is \$25 per person Friday, September 15, 2017 - 11:00 AM Transportation Provided

No. of registrant(s) _____ @ \$25/person= _____

Name of Registrant(s) _____

Board No. _____

Send check and form to: IAABO, P.O. Box 355, Carlisle, PA 17013-0355
 Make check payable to: IAABO, Registration Deadline: September 1, 2017

Special Event Registration

A Few Moments With "Ronny" Dangerfield
Comedy Hypnotist Marshal Manlove
Dancing to the Oldies
Guaranteed to be a night of fun and laughs
Cost is \$10 per person

Saturday, September 16, 2016 - 7:30 PM/Transportation Provided

No. of registrant(s) _____ @ \$10/person= _____

Name of Registrant(s) _____

Board No. _____

Send check and form to: IAABO, P.O. Box 355, Carlisle, PA 17013-0355
 Make check payable to: IAABO, Registration Deadline: September 1, 2017



IAABO Foundation Raffle

IAABO Foundation Car Raffle Begins.

Can you, or someone you know, use a brand new 2018 Nissan Rogue SUV? Well, here is your (or their) chance to win one.



Picture is for show purposes only. It is not the exact vehicle that will be raffled.

The IAABO Education & Charitable Foundation car raffle, announced at the recent Spring Meeting held at Foxwoods Resort & Casino in Connecticut, is officially underway.

"We are excited to be working together with IAABO on this initiative to help the Foundation grow its resources," said Foundation President and IAABO Past President Bill Varno. "Our goal is to expand our ability to help instruct and educate IAABO members, as well as the general public, on all facets of basketball officiating. And, at the same time, further support charitable causes that help so many in need, especially the Officials vs. Cancer program that IAABO is so involved in," said Varno.

Foundation Trustee and IAABO Past President Peter Carroll is Chairperson of the raffle. "There are many of us who have been fortunate to be involved with IAABO for many years. Like those members of the past who have helped us, it is now our turn to do the same to help present and future IAABO members. By supporting this raffle we are supporting the Foundation and its ability to do more and to help more," Carroll explained.

Here are the particulars of the raffle:

One (1) Grand Prize to be Awarded: 2018 Nissan Rogue S AWD SUV

Raffle Ticket Cost: \$100.00

Drawing To Be Held: Saturday, April 28, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local #488

721 Main St., Monroe, Connecticut 06468

Ticket holder need not be present to win. Prize not redeemable for cash.

To purchase raffle tickets, please contact Peter Carroll at: commishbd@aol.com. You may also contact any Foundation Trustee, IAABO Officer, or IAABO Executive Committee member. Information will be available to purchase tickets at the Fall Meeting in Newark, Delaware.

P.O. Box 355
Carlisle, PA 17013-0355
July/August 2017

Periodicals

IAABO Lines

Condolences to *James Freglette, Bd. 194 NJ*, on the passing of his father; Condolences to: *Bd. 194 NJ*, on the passing of their longtime member, *Ray Pennett*; Condolences to: *Bernard Farragher, Bd. 41 NY*, on the passing of his wife; Condolences to: *Pat Driscoll* and *Patrick Driscoll, Jr., Bd. 38 NY*, on the passing of their mother and grandmother respectively; Condolences to *Irv Nash and Jared Nash, Bd. 52 NY*, on the passing of their spouse and stepmother respectively.