



“We all need someone to inspire us to do better than we know how.”

--Anonymous

DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT STUFF TO OFFICIATE?

- Integrity
- Courage
- Consistency
- An Even Temperament
- Humility
- Decisiveness
- Hustle

GETTING READY TO OFFICIATE

- Make sure you have read and understand the rules governed by the MHSAA and the NFHS
- Understand the intent of the rule-not just the rule
- Make sure you are completely equipped

SKILLS FOR A LIFETIME

- Judgement
- Communication
- Teamwork
- Confidence
- Responsibility
- Administration

KEYS TO JUDGMENT

- Basketball is a Contact Sport
 - Incidental (Legal) Contact
 - Illegal Contact
- Advantage / Disadvantage
- Consistency
- Developing Judgment
 - Watching Games
 - Working Games
 - Watching Other Officials Work

WHAT IS IN THE SUITCASE?

- Jacket – name on tag, needle in pocket
- Black and white vertically striped v-neck shirt
- Black pants (pleated, no belts)
- Black socks
- Black shoes with black laces
- Black lanyard
- Black whistle (preferably Fox 40, no metal pee whistles)
- Important contact phone numbers
- Pregame board & outline
- Rulebook
- Towel

LOOK THE PART!

- Stay in Shape
- Dress for Success
 - Only One Shot at a First Impression
 - First Impression is a Lasting Impression
- Watch Your Body Language
- Use Crisp Clear Signals

ACT THE PART!

- Be Professional
- Be Level-headed
- Be Impartial
- Be on Time

I HAVE TO WORK WITH WHO?

- Come to the game prepared
- Become a leader
- Become a team player
- Trust and teach your partner

COMMUNICATION COUNTDOWN

72 hours prior to the scheduled game

- U1 and U2 confirm with the Referee
- Use email and or phone
- Carpool to game? Time and place to meet?

48 Hours

- Referee will confirm with school by email
 - Subject Line = **Confirming: Level/Date/Location**
 - **Confirming: Boys Var Bball on 12/14 at ELHS**

24 Hours

- Pack your bag
- Check the weather



THE BIG DAY!

- Dress Professional / First Impression
- Check the weather again if necessary
- Have the facility/AD, partners and assignor's cell phone number available
- Arrive at game site minimum of ONE HOUR before scheduled game time
- Find AD or host on site to let them know you have arrived
- Locate your partner(s)
- If possible, observe previous game
- Have a pregame

WHAT IS A PREGAME?

- This meeting affords an opportunity for the officials to develop confidence in each other
- This does not guarantee a well-officiated game
- Referee is responsible for arranging and conducting the meeting in the privacy of the dressing room prior to the game
- The Umpire(s) is encourage to participate and contribute
- Always have a pre-game no matter who you are working with.

THE BIG DAY! (continued)

- Communicate on dead ball situations
- Halftime – regroup
- Timeouts
- Forms of communication – verbal & physical

COMMUNICATION IS NOT OVER BECAUSE THE GAME IS OVER

- Exit the court (together as a crew)
- Game discussion (professional feedback)
- Call your assignor if necessary
- Shower
- Observe next game & officials

HOW TO STUDY THE RULES

- Visualize the situation
 - From games
 - From discussions
- Review the book each day
 - Start with Rule 4
- Read the rule, then check related casebook plays
- Turn your weakness into your strength

SEVEN BASKETBALL RULES MYTHS

1. A defensive player must be stationary to take a charge.
2. A dribble that bounces above the dribbler's head is an illegal dribble violation.
3. “Reaching in” is a foul.
4. “Over the back” is a foul.

SEVEN BASKETBALL RULES MYTHS

(continued)

5. If it looks funny, it must be traveling.
6. After a player has ended a dribble and fumbled the ball, that player may not recover it without violating.
7. Referees should not make a call that will decide the outcome of a game.

OFFICIATING OPPORTUNITIES

- Set goals
- Observe other games & other officials
- Find a mentor
- Work as much as you can

OFFICIATING RESOURCES

- MHSAA
- CAO A
- Other officials/mentors
- Camps
- Websites
- Video



QUESTIONS?

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