

OREGON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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The question I am most often asked from officials throughout the state is, "What are you looking for when you evaluate officials at a state tournament?" Since there are many evaluators working at different tournaments I asked a few of them for their thoughts as to what they are looking for. The following is a compilation of their views as well as mine. I think all evaluators would agree that these are traits and qualities possessed by any good official.

- ❖ Appearance and Grooming: Pants fit correctly, not too short or too long. Correctly sized shirt. Neatly trimmed hair. You are being judged as soon as you walk on to the floor by every person in the gym.
- ❖ Floor Positioning: This includes both live and dead ball. It should be evident you know where to stand during warm-ups, time-outs and any other dead ball situation. During live ball action are you always moving to get a better angle? Do you move ball side as lead when appropriate?
- ❖ Fitness and Hustle: You should have the ability to keep up with the level of play. Hustle and work hard. Don't walk from A to B. Jog. It isn't how hard you think you are working. It is how hard you are perceived to be working.
- ❖ Communication: This includes both verbal and non-verbal. It includes communication with your partner, the benches and the table. Do you use CNNC? Color, number, nature and consequence.
- ❖ Game Awareness: Good officials know how to use their whistle to manage a game when play gets rough. Are the benches well behaved? Assistants and players seated and the head coach in his/her box? Are players properly attired throughout the game? This includes warm-ups. Don't let the bonus catch you off guard. Do a good job of freezing when your partner has a foul.
- ❖ Mechanics: Use only NFHS approved mechanics.
- ❖ Judgment: Right call for the right reason at the right time. Are calls consistent throughout the game?
- ❖ Floor Presence: You should be confident, but not over powering. Good posture is a must.
- ❖ Late Game Situations: You should be prepared for the unexpected. Intentional fouls are called when appropriate.

While not an exhaustive list it does give a good idea of what evaluators are looking for. Have a great end of the season.

Play of the Week

B1 fouls A1. A1 is at the line for a one and one. Before the official hands the ball to A1 for free throws, A2 and B2 push each other and are both assessed a technical foul.

Ruling: Charge the technical fouls and resume play from the point of interruption.