

National Federation of State High School Associations



NFHS Basketball Rules / 2010-11 Points of Emphasis / PowerPoint Script

Slide 2: The rules committee and many state association administrators continue to be concerned that officials persist in adopting personal officiating philosophies when it comes to what rules to enforce and what rules not to enforce. In training sessions, officials are taught to “manage the game” without much in-depth discussion regarding exactly what that means - game management then turns into game manipulation. Managing situations doesn’t mean setting aside the rules as written.

Slide 6: State association administrators should review this POE carefully. Some states have experienced minimal problems in this area and may feel the suggestions are too restrictive. Other states have had major problems in this area and may want to turn the “suggestions” into “requirements.”

If a team’s entrance is on the opponent’s end of the court, they should take the shortest path to their own end of the court.

Slide 7: The center court area, particularly if a team mascot/emblem is painted on the floor, has become an area causing a great deal of problems with sportsmanship. Visiting teams believe if they meet on the home team’s mascot and perform their pre- or post-game rituals, it will provide motivation or vindication. Again, states may want to give explicit instructions regarding mascots and center-court gatherings if problems have been encountered.

Slide 9: The rules committee was concerned about actions occurring on the perimeter, by both the offense and the defense. Again, if the rules are enforced as written (POE #1), this matchup becomes less problematic.

Slide 14: This offensive movement is nearly impossible to defend.

Slide 15: This POE is repeated from 2009-10. The rules committee believes much progress has been made in this area, but wanted closely-guarded situations to be emphasized for one more year.

Slide 18: The NFHS mechanic for a visible count is the arm straight out from the chest and parallel to the floor.

Slide 19: This POE also goes back to enforcing the rules as written (POE #1). The verticality rule (4-45) is well written and must be applied accordingly.

Slide 20: SECTION 45 VERTICALITY

Verticality applies to a legal position. Following are the basic components of the principle of verticality:

ART. 1 . . . Legal guarding position must be obtained initially and movement thereafter must be legal.

ART. 2 . . . From this position, the defender may rise or jump vertically and occupy the space within his/her vertical plane.

ART. 3 . . . The hands and arms of the defender may be raised within his/her vertical plane while on the floor or in the air.

ART. 4 . . . The defender should not be penalized for leaving the floor vertically or having his/her hands and arms extended within his/her vertical plane.

Slide 21: ART. 5 . . . The offensive player whether on the floor or airborne, may not “clear out” or cause contact within the defender’s vertical plane which is a foul.

ART. 6 . . . The defender may not “belly up” or use the lower part of the body or arms to cause contact outside his/her vertical plane which is a foul.

ART. 7 . . . The player with the ball is to be given no more protection or consideration than the defender in judging which player has violated the rules.

Slide 23: Of particular concern are fouls being called on shot-blockers (primarily in girls’ games) who are in legal, vertical position and illegal displacement fouls going uncalled.