



SDHSAA 2025-26 Basketball Newsletter # 5

One Rule One Interpretation

January 14, 2026

It should be noted that no official, officiating crew, player, team, or coach is being singled out or discredited for their actions in any video shared or posted. All scenarios are learning opportunities. Keep up video review work, a great teaching tool.

Note: If the link does not work. Copy and paste in a browser.

Tenths of a Second Must be Turned OFF on all Shot Clocks

Shot clock displays for all NFHS and SDHSAA games must only display time with full seconds. Any shot clock with the capabilities to display shot clock in seconds, shall not be used. Officials, as you check shot clocks in your pre-game preparation with table personnel, make sure the shot clock is programmed to NOT display tenths of a second. Use the shot clock to administer the 10-second backcourt count. Use a silent, visible 10 second count when there is no shot clock visible.

If there is a malfunction with one of the shot clocks, the table must have an alternate-timing device or procedure which shall be available when a visible shot clock malfunctions. If one of the shot clocks is not working, then all shot clocks will be turned off.

Switch and Rotation Mechanics

Trail calls backcourt foul on defense no free throws:

When the trail official on the **table side** calls a foul in the backcourt and no free throws are awarded, there is no switch of positions. **The trail reports the foul in the reporting area**, stays in the same position table side Trail, and administers the throw-in. Page 176 Officials Manual

When the trail official calls a foul in the backcourt **opposite the table** and no free throws are awarded, the center and trail officials will switch positions. **The trail reports the foul in the reporting area**, then take the position as the Center.

Violations (Traveling)

All officials should know the rules and apply them consistently across the state. Any game that is worked the traveling call needs to be consistent across the state. Just like all judgement plays you must determine which foot is the pivot foot. Be clear on when a player's dribble ends, especially during:

- **Spin Moves**
- **Step Back Moves**



The reports that we are getting is that these moves are often not called violations and that defensive players are sometimes incorrectly penalized for fouls when traveling should be called. Make calls based on the rules, not personal comfort or belief. If a violation occurs, it must be called regardless of hesitation. It is important to adhere to the rules to maintain the integrity of the game.

Officials Uniform and Equipment

Jewelry-Basketball Officials Manual Page 9 & 10 item I. Officials shall not wear jewelry, fitness bands or other items that are not necessary for performing their duties. Religious and medical-alert medals are not considered jewelry. A religious medal must be taped and worn under the uniform. A medical-alert medal must be taped and may be visible. Wedding rings are permitted.

Officials Requirements for Post Season Eligibility, Availability Process, Deadlines

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUB-STATE TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

Basketball

1. Only certified officials are eligible to officiate sub-state and state athletic games and tournaments providing all requirements, are met, including any certified official with an out-of-state address/residency, provided the official is fully registered with the SDHSAA. Students from out-of-state attending a South Dakota college or university are eligible to officiate sub-state and state athletic games and tournaments, provided they are a certified official registered with the SDHSAA. Officials registered with sister state associations, who have paid reciprocity fees to the SDHSAA are not eligible for sub-state and state games and tournaments.
2. All certified officials eligible for sub-state tournaments must enter their basketball schedule on Bound.
3. The officials:
 - a. Must work a minimum of 12 regular varsity contest (non-gender specific) during the current school year to be eligible to officiate any post season contest.
 - b. Must complete, submit and pass the online open book rules exam; view online rules meeting. view online mechanics clinic; attend two regional meetings; attend a jamboree 1 of every 3 years.
Officials must attend their initial jamboree prior to working any sub-state or state events.
 - c. Must complete all officials meeting requirements in South Dakota.
 - d. Will not be eligible to officiate sub-state or state tournaments if said official is on PROBATION.
 - e. That do not meet these requirements, the said official is to be removed from his/her contract. The coordinator in the region should also be contacted. If the region chair would like assistance finding a replacement, the coordinator may assist in finding a replacement official.
 - f. Official must be certified for two years before being able to work a SoDak 16 game.
 - g. For all classes, **Class “AA”, “A” and “B”** boys and girls, will use Three (3) Person Officiating for sub-state and state tournaments.

There will be an email sent out with directions on how to apply on Bound.

Goaltending and Basket Interference

Please review the training video link regarding GT and BI. Thank you, Chris Long, for the video examples and guidance on proper coverage and correct rule interpretation.

<https://sdhsaa.com/basketball-training-resources/>.



NEW – PLEASE READ: Weekly Video Training and Discussion

With Region Meetings wrapping up across the state, a number of officials have asked if we could create a Zoom meeting for rule, mechanic and play situation discussion. YES, we certainly can. Chris Long and Chris Janish have stepped up and will lead these weekly Sunday night calls. These calls are not mandatory but highly encouraged. The same concept as the Zoom meetings with play discussion we started in football this fall. As officials you will find great value in them. Please make the effort to join.

Mark your calendars. Marsha sent a Zoom link to all officials to join on **Sunday nights 8:00 PM CT / 7:00 PM MT** starting on **Sunday January 18th, January 25th, February 1st, February 15 and February 22nd.** (5 sessions, No call **Super Bowl Sunday, February 8th.**) Please join to learn and contribute.

Larry and Justin will also be part of the discussion, answering questions and providing guidance for consistency and alignment across our state

Topic: SDHSAA Weekly Basketball Officials Training Discussion

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83518618726?pwd=W5ict4wHWQrmb7hzTabVC8K2EaztNd.1>

View meeting insights with Zoom AI Companion

<https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/edl?muid=87424790-9dab-4a1d-a857-f08a600a6f8f>

Meeting ID: 835 1861 8726

Passcode: 341375

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,83518618726#,,,,*341375# US (Houston)

+16694449171,,83518618726#,,,,*341375# US

Join instructions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/83518618726/invitations?signature=DuZmXxYAnEA-yUP-A-GzxS8m4L6vcSPArC7hChWZgQI>

Reminder to Please Keep Schedules Entered and Updated in SDHSAA Bound System:

Officials make sure to add your schedule in Bound and update as changes occur. Directions are in the link below:
<https://www.sdhsaa.com/wp-content/uploads/AddSchedule-Officials.mp4>

For suggestions, feedback, and comments, please contact:

SDHSAA Officiating Coordinator

Justin Ingalls coordinator@sdhsaa.com 605-201-9721

Basketball Statewide Captains

Larry Osborne oz@sdhsaa.com 605-381-4108

Levi Pearson lpearson@watertownsd.us 605-360-6854

Chris Long chris.long@k12.sd.us 605-838-6002