



# SDHSAA 2025-26 Basketball Newsletter # 6

## One Rule One Interpretation

January 28, 2026

**This is a good article Addie Martian assistant editor Referee Magazine Hands, Hips and Habits that let illegal defense creep in. Below is just one piece that will help improve your officiating.**

### Common Errors to Eliminate:

- **Outcome bias:** “He scored, so no foul.” Wrong. Contact is judged at the time of contact, not by result.
- **Toughness bias:** “She’s strong enough to play through it.” Irrelevant. The rules do not award defenders a discount for offensive strength.
- **Symmetry bias:** “Both were physical.” Only one needs to gain an advantage for it to be a foul.
- **Sequence blindness:** “Ball first, then body.” If the body contact creates loss of control or alters the habitual shooting motion, foul.
- If you catch yourself saying these things in a game or film review, you are defending your habits, not improving them.

### Goal Tending and Basket Interference

As a follow-up to our recent official’s conference call, guidance for alignment across all SDHSAA basketball coaches, administrators and officials regarding slapping/striking of the backboard. The guidance for all SDHSAA officials to correctly rule on this type of play is officials shall **NOT** judge the severity and/or pressure of the slap/strike of the backboard and/or the level of vibration. If and when a player slaps/strikes the backboard **AND** the ball **HAS ANY CHANCE OF GOING IN** (ball in, on, above cylinder) and it doesn't go in, officials are to blow their whistle and award two (2) points for basket interference.

Training video link regarding GT and BI.

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

### Throw in Mechanic Reminders

- Front court, endline – no bounce, ever. Hand the ball to the thrower in
- Backcourt throw in – hinges on defensives pressure
  - If there is defensive pressure on the thrower, Trail must hand the ball to the thrower
  - If there is NO defensive pressure on the thrower, Trail should bounce the ball to the thrower
- Officials, do not operate on autopilot, evaluate the situation for defensive pressure

### When the Technical Is on the Coach or Bench Personnel

1. Read the temperature. If you called the technical and the coach is upset:
  - a. Report the foul to the table.
  - b. Leave the situation. Your partners can communicate with the coach.



2. Communication should still be:
  - a. Brief, fact based
  - b. Professional
  - c. non-confrontational or in a posture for debate
3. Remind the coach they have lost the coaching box privilege, if applicable. We do not want to have to remind them later...

### **Leaving the confines of the bench during a fight:**

Rule Book page 70 - Rule 10-5, Article 5 clearly states that bench personnel shall not leave the confines of the bench during a fight or a potential fight. When this occurs, the rule requires that those individuals be assessed a flagrant foul and be ejected from the contest.

### **Weekly Video Training and Discussion**

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 **February 1<sup>st</sup>, February 15 and February 22<sup>nd</sup>**. **(4 remaining sessions, No call Super Bowl Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.)** 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/join/83518618726/invitations?signature=DuZmXxYAnEA-yUP-A-GzxS8m4L6vcSPArC7hChWZgQI>

#### **SDHSAA Officiating Coordinator**

Justin Ingalls [coordinator@sdhsaa.com](mailto:coordinator@sdhsaa.com) 605-201-9721

#### **Basketball Statewide Captains**

Larry Osborne [oz@sdhsaa.com](mailto:oz@sdhsaa.com) 605-381-4108

Levi Pearson [lpearson@watertownsd.us](mailto:lpearson@watertownsd.us) 605-360-6854

Chris Long [chris.long@k12.sd.us](mailto:chris.long@k12.sd.us) 605-838-6002