

The Ohio High School Athletic Association

August 18, 2014

Transfers, transfers and transfers. All good info but here is a topic that affects EVERY single Athletic Director and Coach – The NON-INTERSCHOLASTIC RULE(s) – Or General Sports Regulation 7. I am probably a little ‘partial’ on this since this is a common issue in the sports I administrate.

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General Sports Regulation 7 – The Non-Interscholastic Rule

When you get right down to it – the basic premise of this Regulation is: *Once a player is part of a school team, he/she is not permitted to workout, tryout, practice or compete with and NON-school team/group/organization of the same sport while a member of the school team. For example, a player on your soccer team is no longer permitted to do basically ‘anything’ with their club/travel/elite/super-phenom Solar System Elite team until the season is over. You cannot stress this enough to your athletes so I always encourage reminder after reminder to coaches.*

What about Private Lessons while on the team?

Private individual instruction IS permitted during the season by private ‘instructors’ as long as your coach/school permits it. The reason this step for denial/approval is provided is to give a coach the ability to ‘keep a player focused’ on what the SCHOOL coach wants, not the private instructor. In some cases, the private instructor may recommend things to the player/parents that are contrary to the school coach. The last thing the school coach wants is a detraction.

How Do You Distinguish Between a “Club” Coach and a Private Instructor?

Though not a perfect answer, generally I look at the ‘money trail’. If a check is issued (or receipt for payment) for private instruction, it probably meets the ‘smell test’. If there IS no check or any payment for services, it generally is perceived by our office that a club coach is attempting to circumvent the regulation.

Showcases, College ID Camps, etc.

“Showcases” (basketball & baseball) and “College ID Camps” (soccer) are the new trend – inviting HS Student-athletes to facilities/campuses to be “observed” to see if the participant qualifies for a ‘college scholarship’. The bottom line is – they are NON-INTERSCHOLASTIC. Anything that is conducted OUTSIDE the season – few issues except a ‘50% limitation’ has to be followed (more on that later). For soccer, however, it is a MAJOR issue as participation in them DURING the season (now!) would violate the ‘non-interscholastic rule’ and render a person ineligible. Coaches are made aware of this through their online Rules Meetings but it never hurts to remind them.

Ideas that Work..... Most of the Time!

I know most simply try to get through August and the first week of September to get to some breathing room. But.....now is a great time to:

- 1. Set your Winter Sport Parent Meeting Dates*
- 2. Remind your coaches to RATE their Officials (need help?just ask)*
- 3. Put October 1 in your calendar – it is the date that YOU will be able to vote for officials. I encourage you to put it in now so you don’t have to deal with a fine an “oh...I forgot” later. We do send you a reminder though.*

A Few Common Questions.....and Answers!

We Have Coaches that Need to Obtain Their Pupil Activity Coaching Permit. May they take an online version of First Aid?

Answer: *Yes and the most accepted is through www.nfhslearn.com*

We Have Coaches that Need to Obtain Their Pupil Activity Coaching Permit. May they take an online version of CPR?

Answer: *Yes. This is a recent change but is acceptable IF your school district will accept it.*

How Do I Know if We Are ‘Registered’ for the OHSAA Tournament?

Answer: *Take a moment and make sure you check all the sports in myOHSAA that you sponsor. If you check that you are sponsoring a sport – you are **automatically registered** for the OHSAA Tournament in that sport. It’s that simple. And, we actually give you a date (September 29) to add a sport or withdraw from a tournament (yes...some do that).*

How Do I Know What the Official Start of Practice Is For A Sport?

Answer: *In the OHSAA Handbook (or online) each sport has a set of “Sport Regulations”. At the end of each sports’ regulations is a calendar for the next 5 years that gives the Important Dates (including practice start dates) for that particular sport.*

What Can Players and Coaches Do (and NOT do) During No-Contact Periods?

Answer: *As you may now know, we are currently in a ‘no-contact’ period for winter/spring sports that ends the day after Labor Day. Though I put these Q and A’s for Basketball, it explains for all sports by going to a document on the “Rebounders Reports” from the Basketball webpage. You can get the document (and share with coaches) at:*

<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bk/ReboundersReport/BasketballNo-ContactRule.pdf>

I am hearing a lot about “Fall Baseball”. Any helpful answers for the Questions that come up?

Answer: *I have a document on the baseball page under “This Week in Baseball”. You can access it directly at:*

<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/bb/boys/2014/TWIB14/2014TWIB3.pdf> and details all the answers s. Please share with your baseball coach!