

UPDATES to OSAA COVID Procedures for Officials and New Rules

Media Timeouts

- If a team requests a timeout that causes the first dead ball under 4 minutes, the team will be charged for that timeout. That timeout will also serve as the media timeout and will be 90 seconds in length even if the team is only charged for a 45 second timeout.
- Like other timeouts, if both teams are ready to play, the timeout ends and play can resume.
- If a team takes a timeout at 4:01 and there is a whistle at 3:59, we then take the media timeout. Like above, when the teams are ready to play, then play.

COVID-Modified Mechanics...limited touching of the ball

- Throw-ins
 - Using only the voice to indicate that the thrower may proceed has been inconsistent.
 - Instead, use the whistle to announce that the throw-in may begin.
 - Once you get to the spot, tell the thrower to “play on the whistle” (for now) and then, when ready, sound the whistle to begin play. You may also stand a few feet inbounds in front of the thrower to hold back play if needed and then step OOB as you sound the whistle to begin play.
- Free Throws
 - Having the shooter hold the ball prior to taking FTs has also been inconsistent.
 - Instead, the lead will take a position in center of the lane as normal while a teammate of the shooter holds the ball. After the lead announces the number of shots and starts to back out, the shooter’s teammate will bounce the ball to the shooter. This keeps the rhythm more in line with tradition.
 - When there are no teammates along the lane have the shooter hold the ball until instructed to shoot.

Masks

- Now that schools and school districts have the option to allow fully vaccinated participants to go maskless, we are not responsible for requiring players to have a mask. That becomes the schools’ responsibility.
- We do not determine what type of mask is valid; that is the schools’ responsibility.
- If a player on the court has a mask, it must be worn properly...covering the nose and mouth. If a player does not wear a mask correctly, first direct them to fix it. If the player continues to violate the requirements, ask for a substitute for the player.
- **DO NOT** try to tell school personnel what they should be doing or how they should be handling anything related to COVID in their facilities. Our job is to referee the game, not manage their facilities. If they say you need a mask, you wear a mask.

Mercy Rule

- If at any moment, the score differential reaches 30 points in the 4th quarter, even if there isn’t a stoppage in play, the game becomes a running clock game from that point on. Officials will need to keep an eye on the score as it approaches 30 points to know when this occurs.
- Once the game has become a running-clock game, the clock should continue to run after a foul is called until the official has reported the foul to the scorer indicating that there will be FTs...the timer should not assume that any given whistle will lead to FTs until it is reported to the scorer.

Shirts

- While there has been discussion of moving to a new shirt in the future, the only shirt authorized to be worn in an Oregon HS game is the simple vertical stripe shirt that has been used for the last several years.