

Supervisor Notes-#2

(December 22, 2011)

Wet Floors-At the suggestion of one of our members, I contacted the NHIAA about the safety issues relative to wet floors. As we enter the winter season, this becomes a problem especially at some of our smaller venues. The NHIAA has reminded the game administrators to have proper materials at the game site to deal with these situations. For your protection, if you see such a situation stop the game and have the affected area corrected. Safety is of such paramount importance we simply cannot be too careful

Hearing Aides

In a somewhat related issue to safety, Don Marcotte recently sent out a memo discussing the recent incident of the officials asking a player to remove hearing aides. We've become so accustomed and concerned about safety that anytime we run across a situation that isn't specifically covered by the rules our tendency is to make a cautious determination. In this case, the decision was made to have the player remove the hearing aides. I received many emails from officials commenting on the decision and their opinions are on both sides of the fence. It's easy to sit back and "Monday morning quarterback" these issues. We now know, through Don's memo, that hearing aides are to be allowed. The important thing now is to learn from these types of situations and move forward.

Mechanics

Unlike our ratings, schedules and other items that we don't have total control over, using correct mechanics in our high school games is something that we can totally control-100%. Currently, we have approximately 35 of our members who are also officiating at the collegiate level. Having this many people doing college games is great and only makes our organization stronger. With that however, comes the problem of high school game mechanics vs. college mechanics. I've seen a number of occasions where the college mechanics are being used during a high school game. I'm sure none of us would use high school mechanics when officiating a college game. It simply would not be acceptable and I'm sure it would affect future assignments at that level. I'm simply asking you to not disrespect the high school game and use the proper high school mechanics during your high school assignments. Enough said.

Tournament Assignments

As part of my role on the NHIAA basketball committee, I've been asked to submit a recommended list of officials for the tournament. This is a recommendation only and is not the final list. I have a list of criteria that I will use to arrive at my recommendations; physical condition, rating and observation, years of experience, input from district board Presidents and executive committee members and assigner input. I would like to try and work new people into the tournament. Obviously, if someone new moves in, someone moves out and this is not always well received. However, I think it is important long-term to our organization to introduce new, capable people to the tournament experience.

Ratings

As many of you are aware, Board 32 is in the process of upgrading the rating system. It certainly isn't as good as it might be but for now it is what we have. I think the most important part of our current system is for people to make comments. Numbers don't mean much but if you get a well-thought out comment about your skills, I think it is something that is beneficial to everyone. I can recall (and not liking it) comments regarding my ability to keep up with the play. It is certainly not something anyone wants to hear but if it is a repeated comment the official needs to pay attention to it. Too often we get defensive when someone offers critical comments but if we are true to ourselves we will recognize some of these as being accurate and true.

Have a great holiday season

Chick