

BASKETBALL GAME ADMINISTRATION

Properly administering a basketball contest is an exacting task for game management. Many co-workers are involved and each has delegated responsibilities. Proper selection and training of these co-workers will prevent the “athletic headaches” that can occur during a basketball contest. Below are helpful guidelines for the recruiting of basketball scorers, timers and shot clock operators:

SELECTION OF SCORER, TIMER AND SHOT CLOCK OPERATOR

1. **Choose adults.** A high school student or one of last year’s graduates will have the interest and enthusiasm but may lack poise, impartiality and judgment.
2. **Choose someone who has had** some playing, coaching or officiating experience.
3. **Choose men or women** who can and will be present at every home game. It may be an honor to act as timer or scorer, but it’s not an honor which should be passed around with each game.
4. **If faculty men or women** are available for these jobs, they usually do the best work, although it is not a guarantee.
5. **Above all, choose someone** with plenty of poise, good judgment, a sense of impartiality and one who you are sure will be able to forget the score and concentrate instead on the job.

TRAINING THE TABLE OFFICIALS

1. **Before the opening of the season** provide the table officials with a rules book, case book and other basketball rules material available through the state office. This should be done regardless of the number of years they may have served in this capacity. There are frequent rules changes which affect the tasks of these officials. It might be well to mark or otherwise call attention to those sections of the rules which directly or indirectly refer to their duties. Insist on a careful study of the “Instructions to the Scorer” and “Instructions to the Timer”. (See enclosed)
2. **Have your timer, scorer and shot clock operator** view the state-sponsored rules interpretation clinic.
3. **Before the first game**, arrange for several intersquad scrimmages conducted under actual game conditions with your timer, scorer and shot clock operator at the bench. Plan to set up unusual situations involving timing, scoring and the shot clock. Check carefully on the work done in these scrimmages and make comments and criticisms.
4. **Observe the work of these officials** during games and make suggestions for improvement.
5. **See that your timer, scorer and shot clock operator** are accorded the same courtesy and respect as that due the floor officials. Their work is important, and it should be done with dignity and pride in good performance.