

2026-2027—

BASKETBALL

COACHES

PACKET



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West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission



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TO: Boys' & Girls' Basketball Coaches
FROM: Chris Wells, Assistant Executive Director
DATE: October 2026
SUBJECT: 2026-2027 High School and Middle School Basketball

Important Reminders:

1. Please review current WVSSAC Rule 127-3-20 as it relates to high school and middle school basketball. For all rules and regulations, refer to the [WVSSAC Rules & Regulations Handbook](#).
2. Eligibility certificates are due **online** no later than the date of the first contest according to the standardized calendar. **Failure will result in a \$25 fine and forfeit of all contests played.**
3. A violation of the quarter rule will cause suspension of the coach. **NOTE:** WVSSAC Rule 127-3-20.4.a and WVSSAC Rule 127-3-20.9.e. A player may play only six (6) quarters in a day. This rule applies to high schools and middle school players.
4. State rules clinics are required for all high school and middle school head coaches and officials. High schools sponsoring a 9th grade team are also required to be represented by the head coach of the 9th grade team. Please be reminded that the clinic attendance requirement will not be granted if the coach is more than 10 minutes late. **NOTE: Failure by the coach to attend will cause a school to be assessed a \$50.00 fine.**
5. The Wilson EVO NXT Legacy ball has been adopted as the official ball to be used in tournament play in West Virginia.
6. Class III Officials are not permitted to officiate high school varsity basketball games; non-registered, inactive, or suspended officials are not allowed to work any games.
7. Pre-game Procedure:
 - a. Teams may not come on the floor until twenty-five (25) minutes prior to the start of the contest. Game administration will determine the starting time.
 - b. Officials will be required to be on the floor when the teams come out.
 - c. Twenty (20) minutes will be placed on the clock when the teams come out. This decision will be made by game administration, and all parties will be informed.

8. Coaches are responsible for discussing the Ejection Rule and Bench Clearing Policy with all other coaches and players prior to the first contest.
 - a. **Rule 127-4-3. Code for Interscholastic Athletics** – Coaches are hereby notified to carefully review this rule with their athletes, coaching staff, and parents. Refer to the [WVSSAC Rules & Regulations Handbook](#).
9. WVSSAC Rule 127-2-13. Practice – Refer to the [WVSSAC Rules & Regulations Handbook](#).
10. **Use of Drugs, Medication or Food Supplement by Athletes** – It is the philosophy of the National Federation and the WVSSAC that students be encouraged and supported in their efforts to develop and maintain a healthy lifestyle. In promotion of safety and healthy lifestyles, the WVSSAC Sports Medicine Committee requests that coaches assume the responsibility of informing athletes that the use of such substances should be discontinued especially during the times when dehydration may occur due to potential life-threatening consequences.
11. **Mouth Guard Policy for Basketball** – The use of mouth guards is recommended for all practices and contests.
12. **Head and Neck Trauma Guidelines** – Refer to the approved Return to Play/Concussion Protocol. RTP refers to return to play and return to practice. The appropriate health care professional will determine when a concussed athlete may return to participation.
13. **Injury/Participation Procedure at WVSSAC Championship Events** – Medical personnel (athletic trainers) will have jurisdiction concerning the return of a player to competition after an injury. If a parent refuses to follow the determination of the authorized person, a release form must be signed.
14. **Sportsmanship** – The WVSSAC actively promotes good sportsmanship in all of our sport programs. We encourage you to promote good sportsmanship by informing parents and athletes of the importance of supporting this concept. Lead by example.
15. **Rotation of Classes for the High School Regional and State Tournaments:**
 - a. Upon the recommendation of the Basketball Coaches' Advisory Committee and with the approval of the WVSSAC Board of Directors, the rotation of all classes will begin with the 2022-2023 Season.
16. **Middle School Game Shortening Rule:** If the game score is 30 points or more entering the 4th quarter, the quarter will be reduced to 3:00 minutes. (New for 2025-2026)
17. **High School Game Shortening Rule:** If the game score is 30 points or more entering the 4th quarter, the quarter will be reduced to 4:00 minutes. (New for 2026-2027)

Alignment and tournament information can be found in the Winter issue of [The Interscholastic](#).

2026-2027

BOYS' & GIRLS' BASKETBALL RULES CLINICS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATOR</u>
Oct 4	Interpreters Meeting - WVSSAC	9:00 am	Chris Wells
Oct 4	Parkersburg HS	2:00 pm	Chris Way
Oct 8	Herbert Hoover HS	6:00 pm	Richard Parsons
Oct 14	Wheeling Park	6:00 pm	Chris Daugherty
Oct 19	Spring Mills HS	6:00 pm	Glenn Simpson
Oct 20	Frankfort HS	6:00 pm	Jay Hesse
Oct 22	Robert C. Byrd	6:00 pm	Eric Post
Oct 26	Huntington HS	6:00 pm	Bruce Senior
Oct 27	Chapmanville Regional HS	6:00 pm	George Barker
Oct 28	Make-up Clinic WVSSAC	6:00 pm	Chris Wells
Nov 3	Woodrow Wilson HS	6:00 pm	Andrew Pinnick

SCHOOLS: The **Head Coach** shall be **required** to attend any sports rules clinics which are sponsored by this Commission in his/her coaching assignment. Schools failing to have a head coaching position filled at the time of the clinic will be required to have a school representative present at the rules clinic. An individual can only represent one school unless he/she is head coach at both schools. In a 9-12 school, both the varsity and 9th grade coach are required to attend. Failure to have a representative at one of the above clinics will result in a \$50.00 fine.

The clinic attendance requirement may not be granted if the coach or representative is late in excess of 10 minutes.

§127-3-20. Basketball.

20.1. Rules: Basketball rules published by the NFHS are the official rules for all interscholastic competition unless otherwise provided by Commission modification.

20.2. Organized Team Practice: Organized team practice for girls will begin on Monday of Week 19 and Monday of Week 20 for boys. The first contest for girls may be played on Tuesday of Week 22 and Tuesday of Week 23 for boys.

20.3. Length of Season: The boys' and girls' basketball seasons will end for each team at tournament elimination.

20.4. Maximum Team Contests: A varsity or junior varsity basketball team will be permitted to play no more than 22 games in the regular season exclusive of regional and state tournament contests.

20.4.a. The maximum number of quarters for a student in one season is 132 exclusive of regional and state tournament contests.

20.4.b. A student can play only six quarters in one day.

20.4.c. Participation in a quarter, regardless of time, will be considered one quarter.

20.4.d. Overtime is considered as an extension of the fourth quarter.

20.5. A high school basketball team is permitted to participate in a preview and a scrimmage or two scrimmage games. (See Glossary.)

20.6. Individual students of a team must have practiced on 12 separate days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest.

20.7. A student may not play or practice on a non-school basketball team while a member of the school team.

20.8. During the sport season a student may accept awards only in WVSSAC sanctioned events. Awards must comply with the §127-3-5. Outside the sport season, students may accept only compliant awards in non-sanctioned events.

20.9. Middle Schools -- The above rules will apply for middle schools with the following adaptations:

20.9.a. Girls may begin practice on Monday of Week 18 and boys on Monday of Week 19. The first contest for girls may be played on Wednesday of week 21 and Wednesday of week 22 for boys.

20.9.b. The girls basketball season will end on Saturday of Week 33 and Saturday of Week 34 for boys.

20.9.c. Tournament play on the state level shall be prohibited.

20.9.d. Boys and girls basketball teams will be permitted to play no more than 20 games. Tournament exception does apply. Schools may play no more than three extra games during the end of season conference/county tournament.

20.9.e. All middle students may play a maximum of 120 quarters for one season.

20.9.f. All middle students may play a maximum of six quarters per day.

20.9.g. A member school sponsoring games involving teams which combine students in 7th and 8th grades must play those games in quarters of six minutes.

20.9.h. Middle schools are not permitted to play an alumni game.

20.9.i. Scrimmages: Middle school teams are permitted one scrimmage. (See Glossary.)



VIDEO RECORDING AT WVSSAC EVENTS



Participating schools are permitted to video tape a competition for coaches analysis and review; schools must adhere to current WVSSAC and NFHS rules regarding the use, exchange and distribution of the video recording including in-game usage.

Positions for school camera operators and equipment are assigned by the WVSSAC and/or Game Director. For Final Site events, any RF signals used by school for the purpose of video recordings must be coordinated in advance of the competition with the WVSSAC Media Partners (NFHS Network and/or MetroNews) to ensure the school does not interfere with the television/video stream coverage.

Accredited working media members (including videographers and photographers) must secure proper credentials from the WVSSAC or host school and are subject to all WVSSAC media credential policies.

Non-media Individuals who wish to secure access to WVSSAC Events for purposes of gathering video (or photos) must secure a commercial content license from the WVSSAC (subject to fees and available space). The commercial content licensee must adhere to WVSSAC intellectual property policies and commercial content policies.

Video streaming rights must be secured from the WVSSAC (subject to fees and available space) and adhere current television/video media right policies.

The copyright for all video secured at a WVSSAC Event is owned by the WVSSAC.

Revised: 10/5/25



West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission



2026-2027 Championship Programs

Principals and Athletic Directors,

If your team qualifies for a State Championship or State Tournament, please submit the required program information by the applicable deadline.

To complete your school's program page, please email the following items **in one email** to programs@wvssac.org:

- Team photograph (JPG format)
- Head coach photograph (JPG format)
- Sponsor information, if a sponsor or business is purchasing your program page

Please include your **school name in the subject line** of the email.

The cost of a team program page is **\$125.00**.

In addition, schools should review and verify the accuracy of all information posted on the WVSSAC website, including:

- School information
- Coaches
- Team roster
- Schedule
- Results

Important: Rooming lists should be submitted in a **separate email** and should not be included with photo submissions.

Deadlines for All State Tournaments:

Golf	Oct.7 @ NOON	Wrestling	Feb.23 @ NOON
Cross Country	Oct. 26 @ NOON	Girls Basketball	Mar. 5 @ NOON
Soccer	Nov. 2 @ NOON	Boys Basketball	Mar.12 @ NOON
Volleyball	Nov. 6 @ NOON	Tennis	May 10 @ NOON
Cheerleading	Nov.13 @ NOON	Track	May 17 @ NOON
Football	Nov. 6 @ NOON	Softball AAA/AAAA	May 19 @ NOON
Swimming	Feb.12 @ NOON	Softball A/AA	May 19 @ NOON
Girls Wrestling	Feb.16 @ NOON	Baseball	May 28 @ NOON

*Please mail payment to:
WVSSAC
2875 Staunton Turnpike
Parkersburg, WV 26104



COACHING REMINDERS



Practice: Team members must have 12 practices on 14 separate days - 5 days sports specific if participating in another sport during the same sports season. A student must have 5 days of practice if coming from one sports season into the next sports season without interruption of school days. Only students enrolled in the specific member school and a member of the team is allowed to practice. Rule 127-2-13. Football participants must follow sport specific progressions.

Sunday Contests: Contests or practice on Sunday is prohibited. Practice refers to any group or individual meeting to view films or activity associated with the activity of that sports season. Rule 127-3-14.

Physical Exam: Team members must have Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physician's Certificate form completed and on file before beginning practice. Rule 127-3-3. (Must be on or after May 1st.)

All-Star Competition: Any student completing athletic eligibility at the end of current school year because of age or competition of semesters of eligibility may play in one (1) all-star game upon conclusion of the season without loss of eligibility for balance of year. Rule 127-3-4.

Awards: Team members can accept awards from school sponsoring a sanctioned event or the school. Wearing apparel, championship rings, equipment, and athletic goods that exceeds \$100.00 are prohibited from any source. Rule 127-3-5.

Out of Season Coaching: Coaches may not promote, initiate, organize, supervise or participate in out-of-season events involving students of the same sport as the grade level coaching assignment and preceding grade level except as specified in Rules 127-3-7.2 and 127-3-7.3. Rule 127-3-7.7.

Amateur: Any team member competing for money, receiving any award or prize of monetary value that has not been approved by the WVSSAC, capitalizing on athletic fame or signing a professional playing contract in that sport is prohibited. Rule 127-2-11.

Participation as Ineligible: Any student who participates as ineligible may forfeit eligibility for up to 365 days. Rule 127-2-12.

Non-School Participation: Participation is limited to school teams only with a few exceptions in individual sports provided the school principal approves and no school contests/activities are missed. Participation includes but is not limited to, practice, fund raising, team pictures, tryouts, etc. Rule 127-2-10.

Sanctioning and Travel: A member school shall not enter a contest, tournament, or competition which requires sanctioning until it is approved 30 days prior to the event. Rule 127-3-16.

For complete details regarding the above regulations and those governing team memberships, scholarship, undue influence, age, semester, etc. refer to the [Rules & Regulations Handbook](#).

or at www.wvssac.org.

§127-2-13. Practice.

13.1. Only students enrolled and eligible to be listed on the eligibility certificate for that sport in the specific member school are allowed to participate in that school's practices. Exceptions are §§127-2-3.2, 127-2-3.5, and 127-2-13.6.

13.2. The frequency and length of practice is at the discretion of each member school.

13.3. Member schools of the WVSSAC may practice on any day of the year with the exception of Sunday practice. §127-3-14.2 further clarifies Sunday practice.

13.4. Individual players of a team must have practiced:

13.4.a. on five separate days before participating in an interscholastic scrimmage.

13.4.b. on 12 separate days, exclusive of the day of a contest, before participating in an interscholastic contest. The following sport(s) is exempted from the provisions of this rule: golf.

13.4.c. a student athlete who is absent from practice with their team for non-medical reasons, and not under a doctor care, for more than 14 consecutive days must have the required 12 separate practice days before resuming participation in a contest. Students participating in football must follow the practice progression as set forth in §127-3-23.

13.5. A student shall not be permitted to engage in interscholastic practice until that student has filed with the principal a completed Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physician's Certificate Form. §127-3-3 further explains this required form.

13.6. A student academically ineligible may begin practicing 15 school days immediately prior to the date of regaining full eligibility. (All other ineligible students may not practice.)

13.7. If a student has established eligibility in a sport requiring 12 separate days of practice and is continuing to participate in that sport or no school days have lapsed from one sport to another sport in a same season, the student may participate in another sport of the season after completing five separate days of sport specific practice in the second sport.

13.8. Students participating in a sport(s) in one season must have practiced 12 separate days, exclusive of the day of a contest, to be eligible to participate in a sport in the next season with the following exception: the student has continued to practice or participate in tournament play without an interruption of school days. The student must complete five separate days of sport specific practice in the second sport.

§127-4-3. Code for Interscholastic Athletics.

3.1. The school administrator shall:

- 3.1.a. Encourage and promote friendly relationships and good sportsmanship throughout the school by requiring courtesy and proper decorum at all times, by acquainting students and others in the community with ideals of good sportsmanship. These concepts and attitudes shall be publicized so that all members of the school and community can understand their meaning.
- 3.1.b. Ensure full compliance with all rules and regulations of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission, hereinafter referred to in this rule as the WVSSAC.
- 3.1.c. Secure WV registered officials for all contests.
- 3.1.d. Ensure adequate safety provisions for all activities, for both participants and spectators.
- 3.1.e. Approve activities and schedules which are educationally and physically sound for the student.
- 3.1.f. Encourage all to judge the success of the athletic program on the basis of the education goals and the attitude of the participants and spectators, rather than on the basis of the number of games won or lost.
- 3.1.g. Ensure that the students exemplify the highest standards of good sportsmanship as a means of inculcating desirable spectator attitudes.
- 3.1.h. Provide adequate hygienic, sanitary, and appropriately maintained facilities for the dressing and housing of visiting teams and officials.
- 3.1.i. Review with staff the Sportsmanship Rule.

3.2. The coach shall:

- 3.2.a. Demonstrate good sportsmanship in personal behavior and demand the same standards of the students.
- 3.2.b. Recognize that the purpose of competition is to promote the physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being of the students and that the most important values of competition are derived from playing the game fairly.
- 3.2.c. Accept adverse decisions without public display of emotion or of dissatisfaction with the officials.
- 3.2.d. Cooperate with the school administrator in the planning, scheduling and conduct of sports activities.
- 3.2.e. Utilize appropriate educational methods in coaching, giving all students an opportunity to use and develop initiative, leadership, and judgment.
- 3.2.f. Monitor the physical condition and well-being of the students by refusing to jeopardize the health of an individual for the sake of improving the team's chances to win.
- 3.2.g. Prohibit gambling, profanity, abusive language, and similar violations of good sportsmanship.
- 3.2.h. Refuse to disparage an opponent, an official, or others associated with athletic activities and discourage gossip and questionable rumors concerning them.
- 3.2.i. Properly supervise students under their immediate care and specifically observe a coach's responsibilities in conjunction with state interscholastic contests.

3.3. The spectator shall:

- 3.3.a. Realize that they represent the school just as definitely as does the member of a team, and, therefore, has an obligation to exhibit good sportsmanship.
- 3.3.b. Recognize that good sportsmanship is more important than victory by approving and applauding good team play, and individual skill exhibited by either team.
- 3.3.c. Recognize the primary purpose of interscholastic athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the students through the medium of contests.
- 3.3.d. Treat visiting teams and officials as guests, extending to them every courtesy.
- 3.3.e. Respect the judgment and integrity of officials, realizing that their decisions are based upon game conditions as they observe them.
- 3.4. The student shall:
 - 3.4.a. Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times, which shall include being courteous to visiting teams and officials.
 - 3.4.b. Participate to the limit of their ability. The true student does not give up, nor do they quarrel, cheat, bet, or grandstand.
 - 3.4.c. Maintain a high degree of physical fitness by observing team and training rules conscientiously.
 - 3.4.d. Demonstrate loyalty to the school by maintaining satisfactory scholastic standing and by participating in and supporting other school activities.
 - 3.4.e. Understand and observe the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
 - 3.4.f. Respect the integrity and judgment of officials and accept their decisions without questions.
 - 3.4.g. Respect the facilities of host schools and the trust entailed in being a guest.
 - 3.4.h. The cheerleader shall always cheer positively for the team and never negatively against the opponent.
- 3.5. The official shall:
 - 3.5.a. Place the welfare of the student above all other considerations.
 - 3.5.b. Know the game rules thoroughly and give intelligent interpretations.
 - 3.5.c. Maintain confidence and control from start to finish.
 - 3.5.d. Work cooperatively with fellow officials and school administrators.
 - 3.5.e. Refrain from exhibiting emotions or arguing with a student, coach or spectator. Maintain self-control under all conditions.
 - 3.5.f. Be fair, impartial and professional.
 - 3.5.g. Be neat and dress in the appropriate uniform.
 - 3.5.h. Be in adequate physical condition for the demands of the particular sport.
 - 3.5.i. So conduct the game as to enlist the cooperation of students, coaches, and spectators in the interest of good sportsmanship.

3.6. Protection, Facilities, and Assistance. The home team shall furnish supervision. Outdoor facilities or playing facilities should be separated from the spectators by a restraining barrier (fence, wire, rope, etc.). Officials should be provided with a parking space, private dressing facilities not accessible to unauthorized personnel, and should be paid in a timely manner. The use of trained, competent, adult “assistant officials,” i.e., scorers, timers, chain and down marker crews, etc., is strongly recommended.

3.7. Statement of Policy. As far as unsportsmanlike actions by students, school administrators, officials, coaches, faculty members, and spectators are concerned, the identical items under the Sportsmanship Rule along with the following guides will be referred to by the WVSSAC:

3.7.a. The school whose coach behaves in a manner likely to have adverse influence on the attitudes of students or spectators may be provided with the choice of taking disciplinary action against that coach or having the entire school disciplined by the WVSSAC.

3.7.b. Any student who in protest lays hands or attempts to lay hands upon an official may be declared ineligible by the principal or by the WVSSAC for up to one year. Any student who strikes an opponent, coach, or a spectator during or following an athletic event may be declared ineligible by the principal or the WVSSAC for a specified period of time up to one year, depending on the seriousness of the act.

3.7.c. Any coach, player, team member, student, or bench personnel ejected or disqualified by rule or by an official, referee, judge, or other such person charged to administer participation, will be suspended for the remainder of a game, match, meet, contest or other interscholastic event, (ejected, disqualified, or disqualification hereafter) (excepting any applicable ejection or disqualification sport specific rule not involving sportsmanship). The coach, player, team member, student, or bench personnel ejected or disqualified will also be suspended an additional contest(s); the suspension is assessed based upon ten (10) percent of the allowed regular season contests for that sport. Regardless of when the suspension occurs (regular season or post season), the length of the suspension (number of contests) will be as follows: golf (two); cross country (two); soccer (two); volleyball (two play dates); football (one); cheer (one); swim (two); wrestling (two weigh ins); boys basketball (two); girls basketball (two); tennis (two); track (two); softball (three); and baseball (three). The suspension will include the number of indicated contests in that sport and at that level and all other sport contests in the interim at any level. A second ejection or disqualification will result in the doubling of the suspension assessed for the first ejection. If an individual is ejected or disqualified for a third time during the same sport season, the individual will be suspended from participating or coaching for 365 calendar days from the date of ejection or disqualification. In accordance with Rule §127-3-15.3, an individual ejected or disqualified may not appeal that ejection or disqualification, but may appeal any subsequent suspension that is a consequence of the ejection or disqualification.

3.7.c.1. Any coach, player or bench personnel who has been ejected shall not be permitted to attend any contest(s) during said suspension. This would include but not be limited to transportation to or from the contest, meeting with the team before, during or after said contest. He/she is not permitted to be in sight or sound of said contest venue. Regular practice or team meetings not affiliated with a contest are permitted.

3.7.c.2. If suspensions are imposed to a student or bench personnel at the end of the sport season and no contest remains, the suspension is carried over to that particular sport until the next school year. In the case of a senior student, the penalty will continue to the next WVSSAC sponsored sport. In the case of an 8th grade student, the suspension shall be served either in the same sport the next school year or in the same school year in the next WVSSAC sponsored sport in which the student participates.

3.7.c.3. Any coach suspension that cannot be enforced during the sport season in which the ejection occurs will be enforced at the beginning of the next season of that same sport.

3.7.d. In case of spectators physically molesting an official, administrator, coach, or student, the school may be given one of two options: 1) file charges against the offender (s) or 2) accept discipline from the WVSSAC. Any person found guilty of W. Va. Code §61-2-15(a) Assault, Battery on Athletic Officials, while these

individuals are working or as a result of working an athletic contest, shall be banned from all WVSSAC athletic events for a minimum of 365 days from the date of being found guilty. The school filing charges shall notify the WVSSAC of the incident and outcome of any legal action.

3.7.e. The school that does not lend complete cooperation in the host school's effort to promote the spirit of good sportsmanship may be disciplined by the WVSSAC.

3.7.f. A coach may be considered as committing unsportsmanlike conduct if they make degrading remarks about officials during or after a game either on the field of play, from the bench, or through any public news media, argues with officials, or goes through motions indicating dislike for a decision, protests the decision and actions of officials pertaining to the game during and after the contest, or detains the official on the field of play following a game to request a ruling or explanation of some phase of the game. If a coach feels he/she has a legitimate criticism of a penalty call or a request for a rule interpretation, such criticism or request should be made in the privacy of the coach's office or the official's quarters and should be made in a courteous manner.

3.7.g. In the event of an altercation, a student or team attendant shall not leave the bench area, team box area, or their designated off-field area during a game or contest other than during that time permitted by game or contest rules. A coach shall not leave the bench area, team box area, or the designated off-field area during a game or contest other than during that time permitted by game or contest rules unless a student altercation is taking place and the official requests assistance. Violation of this rule shall cause the coach, student, or team attendant to be immediately ejected from the contest; team penalized according to game or contest rules; and that coach, student, or team attendant will not be eligible to participate in the next contest as outlined in §127-4-2.3.

3.8. Procedure. Unsportsmanship action must be reported in detail to the WVSSAC. A copy of the complaint must also be filed with the principal of the school involved. Each principal involved shall report such information or answers to the report as they deem appropriate. Upon receipt of all reports, the Executive Director and/or the Board of Directors of the WVSSAC shall investigate and adjudicate such reports in accordance with the powers afforded in W. Va. §127CSR1, Constitution, sections 8.6, 8.7, 12.2, and 12.3. Penalties up to and including suspension of member schools may be made in accordance with §127CSR4.

3.9. Appeals. All cases involving disciplinary action against member schools, coaches, students, team attendants, or officials may be protested in accordance with W. Va. §127CSR6, Violations of the Rules (Rule §127CSR6). However, disciplinary action imposed by an official, including disciplinary action that is a consequence of a decision by an official, such as a suspension for an additional game or games as a consequence of an ejection, is governed by Rule §127CSR3, section 15.3, and is not subject to appeal.

3.10 Review of Ejections. Disciplinary action imposed by a contest official, including disciplinary action that results in a suspension for an additional game or games as a consequence of an ejection, is not subject to appeal pursuant to Rule §127CSR6. However, if the individual ejected believes the ejection was improper, he/she may request a review of the ejection by his/her principal. If the principal believes there is merit in the requested review, the principal shall complete and submit the WVSSAC Ejection Review Form within 24 hours or the next business day of the ejection to the Executive Director of the WVSSAC. If a review is properly requested, the WVSSAC will review the officials' special report, the WVSSAC Ejection Review Form, and such other information as the WVSSAC deems appropriate. Upon review, the WVSSAC Executive Director or the designated Assistant Director will either sustain the ejection and any consequent suspension(s) or will determine the ejection was improper and void any consequent suspension(s). A decision by the WVSSAC upon reviewing an ejection is not subject to appeal pursuant to Rule §127CSR6.



SPECTATOR SUPPORT INFORMATION FOR TOURNAMENTS

The following sport support information is provided for each specified sport. ONLY those items marked with “Yes” are allowed during tournament play (sectional, regional, and state). It is recommended that schools follow these regulations during regular season play.

Vocal cheering and support from team bench areas are encouraged, however, the items indicated on this page are for use by spectators. Schools must stress GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP when allowing any item to be used. All items must be for support of your team and not directed against the opponent.

Legend: **BSK** Basketball **CC** Cross Country **SB** Softball **TE** Tennis **WR** Wrestling
BB Baseball **FB** Football **SC** Soccer **TR** Track & Field
CH Cheer **GO** Golf **SW** Swimming **VB** Volleyball

SPORT	BSK	BB	CH	CC	FB	GO	SB	SC	SW	TE	TR	VB	WR
Apparel Required Upper/Lower Body Garments	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Balloons	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Banners on wall/ Stadium	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Cheer & Band Member “Human” Tunnels	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Permanent Signage/ Advertisement Senior Pictures	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Confetti/Paper Debris	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Hand-held Signs (one holder)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Inflatable Tunnels	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Laser Pointer	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Miniature sports Balls thrown to crowd	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Noise makers (Horns, cow bells, bells, buzzers, clickers, etc.	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Opening Prayer / Invocation	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Paper banners for team to run through	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Spirit Towels	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pom poms	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Recorded/taped. music over amplifying system (only pregame or halftime)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
School Band, Pep Band	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Pressurized Air Horn Electronic Bull Horn	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Megaphones (as intended)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cannons & Muskets	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
50-50 Drawing	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Reserve Seating State Only	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No



2026-2027 BASKETBALL RULES CHANGES

Rule 5-9-5 (NEW): In the last 59.9 seconds of each quarter or extra period, if play is resumed by a throw-in or an unsuccessful free throw, a minimum of three-tenths (.3) of a second must expire on the game clock when the ball is legally touched by a player inbounds.

Rationale: When play is resumed with a throw-in or unsuccessful free throw, a player may not gain control and attempt a try without at least .3 seconds expiring from the game clock. This change aligns with existing provisions related to tap attempts found in Rule 5-2-5.

NOTE: This rule does not apply when the game clock is not capable of displaying tenths of a second.

Rule 5-10-2 NOTE (NEW): If the referee determines the game clock malfunctioned, was improperly started or stopped, or failed to run, an official's visible or silent count, or other official information, may be used to correct the timing error.

Rationale: Officials currently utilize visible counts for backcourt violations, closely guarded situations, and three-second violations. This change permits officials to also maintain silent counts that may be used as definite knowledge in correcting timing mistakes under Rule 5-10-1.

6-4-4g: Deleted language regarding an alternating possession throw-in following a warning for faking being fouled after a released try attempt.

Rationale: The provision is no longer necessary due to the 2025-26 interpretation change modifying procedures for addressing faking being fouled situations.

8-6-4a thru d: When both teams are assessed technical fouls during the same dead-ball period and before the ball becomes live:

- a. All technical fouls are considered to have occurred at approximately the same time for offsetting penalty purposes;
- b. All fouls are recorded and penalties identified;
- c. If an unequal number of technical fouls are committed, play resumes as though the final single technical foul was the only foul committed; and
- d. If penalties cancel for equal technical fouls, play resumes at the point of interruption.

Rationale: This proposal clarifies that all technical fouls occurring during the same dead-ball period are treated as occurring at approximately the same time.

9-2 PENALTY (Section 2): The ball becomes dead when the violation or technical foul occurs. The location of the violation is the original throw-in spot.

Rationale: Prior to designated throw-in spots, all throw-in violations were administered from the original throw-in location. Language referencing the original throw-in spot was inadvertently removed following implementation of designated throw-in spots. This change restores that language and clarifies administration procedures.

2026-27 Basketball Editorial Changes

1-19, 2-2-1 EXCEPTION, 4-1-1 EXCEPTION NEW, 4-6-2, 4.11.2 SITUATION, 4-22-1 NOTE NEW, 4-22-2, 4-22-3, 4-40-3, 4-44-5b, 4-44-5c, 4.44.5 SITUATION B, 4-44-5c NEW, 4.44.5 SITUATION C, 6-3-2, 6-3-4, 6-4-6, 6.4.6 SITUATION A, 7-5-6c NEW, 9-2-10 PENALTIES 1, TECHNICAL FOUL PENALTY SUMMARY

2026-27 Basketball Points of Emphasis

1. UNIFORMS – EDUCATION-BASED ACTIVITIES
2. TIMING CORRECTIONS AND OFFICIALS' COUNTS
3. BENCH DECORUM, SPORTSMANSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
4. PHYSICAL PLAY AND ILLEGAL CONTACT
5. TRAVELING, CONTINUOUS MOTION AND LEGAL PLAYER MOVEMENT
6. PLAYER EQUIPMENT – TOOTH AND MOUTH PROTECTORS
7. AUTHENTICATING MARK