



BENCH DECORUM

- The Officiating Sub-Committee, authorized and formed by the NCHSAA Board of Directors, identified behavior of Basketball coaches as a crucial area of needed improvement for game officials to monitor.
- North Carolina has adopted the 28-foot Coaching Box to allow our coaches maximal area to instruct and direct their players during the course of the game.
- The purpose of the Coaching Box is not to promote or encourage coaching involvement towards the officials on every play during the contest.



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- A dramatic increase in aggressive and unsporting action of coaches towards game officials has been observed and identified. Simply stated, this must be addressed and abated.
- A major point of emphasis for game officials this year will be to utilize Rule 10-5-4 Penalty which states, ***“The officials may warn the head coach unless the offense is judged to be major, in which case a technical foul shall be ruled.”***
- When a warning to a coach is given, this shall be recorded in the scorebook and communicated to the head coach and officiating crew.



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- The purpose of recording the warning in the official scorebook is to make clear any further action of this nature will result in a technical foul, which takes away the Coaching Box from the Head Coach.
- Doing so has a major consequence to that team as it limits the instructional opportunity detailed earlier.
- As officials, we do not want to inhibit the ability of coaches to do just that...coach. But over-involvement in questioning or opining about officiating calls must be eradicated from our game.



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- Let's remember that role modeling excellence is a comprehensive responsibility.
- Positive and professional communication is expected. **REMINDER: Only the Head Coach can have communication with game officials.** If an Assistant Coach does so in an unsporting manner, this technical foul is also charged to the Head Coach as one of two they are allowed before removal from the contest.
- Officials – use the warning effectively. Coaches – understand the warning is a protocol to ensure proper behavior and communication.



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