

## **NCOA Sacramento Basketball Absolutes – Game Management**

- 1. Effective Pre-game duties: Contact partner prior to assignment, participate in pre-game with partner and eventually captains and coaches. Introductions with crew at the table, game administrator, etc. Observe teams warm-up in proper position(s), deal with any issues (safety, headbands, jewelry, undershirts, etc) at this time.**
- 2. Dress and act professionally at all times. Wear the proper jacket with the NFHS patch affixed (expect to be rated down if not correct), make sure that uniform shirts match (if wide panels are worn / partners must match). Be well groomed, slacks pressed, shoes shined, etc. Look and act the part.**
- 3. Know the rules / Apply the rules / Enforce the rules.... Do all this in a firm, fair, consistent manner. See the entire play start, develop, and finish. Then act.**
- 4. Eye Contact with Partner(s) and Coaches goes a long way – face issues and situations confidently – don't ignore marginal behavior. It only encourages it to continue or increase (or both)**
- 5. Keep the game moving. Manage the time when the clock is not running smoothly. Get teams out of time outs, call in subs, work as a team.**
- 6. Be open to feedback. Use time outs, half-time intermissions, etc for communication with partner. DO NOT REMAIN IN THE GYM AT HALFTIME. All officials (especially those working the Frosh/JV sets) should move to the locker room or designated dressing area for private conversation and input/feedback type discussions with partner(s) or observer(s). Failure to comply with this is a red flag. We all need to do this to improve as individuals and as an organization.**
- 7. Preventive Officiating – this comes with experience. Do all you can to prevent any situation that might get out of hand. This can be anything ranging from something like talking to players who are getting too physical, letting a coach know that you are done talking to him/her (use the stop sign or something similar), or some verbal method of avoiding a three second call. Work at developing this skill set.**
- 8. Stay Focused – Be aware of team fouls, game clocks, shot clocks, etc. Is your partner struggling tonight? Is a coach or player, assistant coach or even a person in the stands becoming a distraction or a detriment to the game? Identify issues and address them for the good of the game. Use Game Administrator to deal with any Fan issues.**
- 9. Think Like A Coach..... Many situations in tight ball games can be handled smoothly if the officials recognize when a team goes on a run (Coach calling a time out is very likely at this point), a ball may be loose on the floor & a prone player gets control or a player gets trapped with a 10 second call imminent (expect that timeout call), time is running out & the defensive team needs to foul to put the other team on the Free Throw Line.... Get the foul on the first contact to avoid more violent contact. Think like a coach, anticipate the action, do not anticipate the call.**
- 10. Participate in Post Game – be open to criticism. Be honest. Address issues of note that can help you and your partner(s) be better Game Managers. Complete Game Ratings on time and in detail. Merely “checking the box” is not good enough. Feedback without detail is not really feedback at all.**