

**4.046 Exceptions to National Federation Rules**

The smaller basketball has been adopted for IESA girls state tournament play. [1-12-1d& e]

Host schools shall provide a black and white striped garment to be worn by the official scorer for all games as required by NFHS rule. [2-11-11 note]

All games shall consist of six-minute periods. Overtime periods shall be three minutes. Member schools may play away basketball games with seven-minute quarters with member schools of the Southern Illinois Junior High School Athletic Association. [5-5-2, 5-7-3]

The Association has adopted the use of a 14 ft. coaching box for basketball. [1-13-2]

The Association has adopted a "mercy" rule for all regular season contests, tournaments and the IESA state series (regional, sectional, and state). [5-5-3 note]

The following guidelines for the administration of the mercy rule shall be used:

- i. A running clock shall be utilized during the fourth quarter in contests with a 30 point differential in score.
- ii. Once the clock begins running continuously because of the point differential, it is to remain running for the rest of the contest, even if the point differential drops under the 30 point barrier during the fourth quarter.
- iii. If a contest should begin its fourth quarter with a 30 point differential in score or greater, the entire fourth quarter will be played with a running clock. The running clock shall not be used prior to the fourth quarter of any contest.
- iv. If, while using the running clock because of the point differential and the trailing team somehow tied the contest at the end of regulation, any and all subsequent overtime periods would be played using the continuous clock.
- v. The running clock would only be stopped once it starts for the following:
  1. A team timeout,
  2. To replace a disqualified player,
  3. To administer a technical foul,
  4. To attend to an injured player,
  5. Any other situation of concern to an official.

It is recommended a safe area be in place for all state tournament series contests as determined by the local and game management. [1-2-1]

The official scorer and timer for all state series games must be at least 18 years of age.