



**Idaho High School Activities
Association
2025-2026
Basketball Officials Packet**

unbottled.

2025-26 Basketball

Classification based on grades 9-12

6A	1,400 and over	3A	349-175
5A	1,399-700	2A	174-90
4A	699-350	1A	89 and under

2025-2026 Basketball Season

	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>
First Day of Practice	Nov. 3	Nov. 14
First Game	Nov. 14	Nov. 29
Dist. Tourn. Completion	Feb. 14	Feb. 28
State Play-ins	Feb. 14	Feb. 28
State Tournaments	Feb. 19-21	Mar. 5-7

*All teams will be required to enter rosters, schedules and scores on MaxPreps.

Game Limitations for Each Team

Teams are strongly encouraged to limit their schedule to 18 games but may play up to 20 games. If a team participates in a three- or four-game tournament, it is allowed a maximum of 21 games. If a team misses a scheduled tournament game or is unable to attend due to circumstances beyond its control, the lost game may be rescheduled.

Game Limitations for Individuals

During the regular season, athletes in 6A, 5A, and 4A classifications are allowed to play up to 80 quarters of basketball, with the exception of 84 quarters if a 21-game schedule is played due to a tournament. 3A, 2A and 1A athletes may play in 100 quarters of basketball.

6A, 5A, and 4A athletes may play no more than four quarters per day when participating in a single game. 3A, 2A, and 1A athletes are allowed up to five quarters per day in a one-game schedule. All athletes may play up to 8 quarters in a single day if participating in two games against different schools.

6A, 5A, and 4A basketball programs may petition for a waiver of the 4/80 quarter limitation. This waiver would allow sub-varsity players to participate in up to 5 quarters per night and 100 quarters per season. The petition must be signed by the school principal and athletic director and include verification of the following:

1. There are 14 or fewer participants in the program and the program desire to field two teams; or
2. There are 21 or fewer participants in the program and the program desires to field three teams; and
3. The lack of participants will cause the loss of a sub-varsity program; and
4. The lack of participants will cause the school to cancel scheduled games at the sub-varsity level; and
5. A minimum of seven 'varsity only' players must be designated. The designated 'varsity only' players will be limited to four quarters per day and 80 quarters per season.
6. The school's coaching staff has not, and will not, cut players or discourage anyone from participating in basketball, regardless of their ability
7. If 1-6 occur anytime during the regular season due to illness or injury, a school may request a waiver during the regular season.

Individuals may compete in a junior varsity and varsity contest on the same day. Fouling out of a contest has no bearing on eligibility to participate in the second contest.

Individuals may play in a post season tournament (Freshman, J.V., etc.) and then be eligible to participate in the varsity district tournament.

Players who exceeds the limitations of regular season participation will become ineligible for district, state or any other additional IHSAA sponsored basketball competition.

Number of Participants/ Coaches/Support Personnel

Varsity teams may have up to fifteen players in uniform at the start of all play-in and state tournament contests. Violating this rule will result in the school being fined the maximum amount for dressing more than the allowed number of players, and the game will be forfeited if excess players participate. All classifications are allowed four coaches and three support personnel admission without an IHSAA card or tournament pass. Any additional coaches or support personnel must have an IHSAA card or purchase a tournament pass.

Rules

All contests will be played under National Federation rules. Rule books and case books will be provided to school representatives at the district rules clinic.

Rule 5-10

Once a student participates at the varsity level in a district tournament contest, he/she may not compete in the sub varsity level district tournament.

Mercy Rule

If a 30-point differential is reached at any point during the fourth quarter, the mercy rule will go into effect. Once in effect, the game clock will run continuously and will only stop during team timeouts. Officials will notify the timekeeper that the rule is in effect. Once activated the rule cannot be revoked. The mercy rule may be used at the discretion of each district tournament.

The mercy rule does not apply to IHSAA playoff or championship games.

Official Ball

The official basketball for all play-in and state tournament games will be the BX7E-PRO Perfection® ElitePRO™ for boys and the BX6E-PRO Perfection® ElitePRO™ for girls.

Practice at State Tournament Site

No team will be allowed to practice at a state tournament site.

2025-26 Girls Basketball Representation

6A		5A		4A	
I	1	I-II	1.5	I-II	1
III	5	III	2.5	III	2.5
IV-V-VI	2	IV	1.5	IV	2
		V	1	V	1.5
		VI	1.5	VI	1
3A		2A		1A	
I-II	2	I	1	I	1
III	2	II	1.5	II	1.5
IV-V	2	III	3	III	1.5
VI	2	IV	1.5	IV	2
		V-VI	1	V-VI	2

2025-26 Boys Basketball Representation

6A		5A		4A	
I	1	I-II	1.5	I-II	0.5
III	5	III	2.5	III	2.5
IV-V-VI	2	IV	1.5	IV	2
		V	1	V	2
		VI	1.5	VI	1
3A		2A		1A	
I-II	2	I	1	I	1
III	2	II	1.5	II	1.5
IV-V	2	III	2.5	III	1.5
VI	2	IV	2	IV	2
		V-VI	1	V-VI	2

State Play-ins

<u>5A Girls</u> 1-2B vs 3C Feb. 14, 2026 1:00 pm PST Grangeville HS	<u>5A Girls</u> 4B vs 6B Feb. 14, 2026 1:00 pm MST American Falls HS	<u>4A Girls</u> 3C vs 5B Feb. 14, 2026 3:00 pm PST Twin Falls HS
<u>2A Girls</u> 2B vs 4B Feb. 14, 2026 1:00 pm MST Cascade HS	<u>1A Girls</u> 2B vs 3B Feb. 14, 2026 1:00 pm PST Prairie HS	<u>5A Boys</u> 1-2B vs 3C Feb. 28, 2026 1:00 pm PST Grangeville HS
<u>5A Boys</u> 4B vs 6B Feb. 28, 2026 1:00 pm MST American Falls HS	<u>4A Boys</u> 1-2A vs 3C Feb. 28, 2026 1:00 pm MST Grangeville HS	<u>2A Boys</u> 2B vs 3C Feb. 28, 2026 3:00 pm PST McCall-Donnelly HS
<u>1A Boys</u> 2B vs 3B Feb. 28, 2026 1:00 pm MST McCall-Donnelly HS	* The team listed first is the home team.	

2025-26 Bracketing

Qualifying teams will be seeded into the state bracket according to the final rankings through and including all regular season and district tournament games. The high seed is considered the home team for all games in the tournament.

#3 Seed

#6 Seed

#2 Seed

#7 Seed

#1 Seed

#8 Seed

#4 Seed

#5 Seed

State Tournaments

Girls: February 19-21

6A	The Ford Idaho Center, Nampa
5A*	Mountain View High School, Meridian
4A*	Skyview High School, Nampa
3A*	Kuna High School, Kuna
2A*	Columbia High School, Nampa
1A*	Owyhee High School, Meridian

*All Championship games will be played at The Ford Idaho Center

Boys: Mar. 5-7

6A	The Ford Idaho Center, Nampa
5A*	Rocky Mountain High School, Meridian
4A*	Eagle High School, Eagle
3A*	Meridian High School, Meridian
2A*	Vallivue High School, Caldwell
1A*	Caldwell High School, Caldwell

*All Championship games will be played at The Ford Idaho Center



2025-26 BASKETBALL RULES CHANGES

4-22-1 & 2: This change removes the offensive team from goaltending violations, simplifying enforcement for officials and reducing ambiguity over whether a ball was a shot or a pass. It also encourages more scoring opportunities and minimizes confusion for players and coaches.

Rationale: The change eliminates the possibility of an offensive goaltending violation, which simplifies the rule for officials and players. It removes the need to judge whether a ball in flight is a try or a pass, resulting in clearer enforcement, greater consistency, and more opportunities for scoring plays near the basket.

4-22-3 (NEW): This rule change establishes that once the ball contacts the backboard, it is automatically considered to be on its downward flight. Therefore, if a player touches the ball after it hits the backboard, and the ball has a possibility of entering the basket, it is ruled as goaltending. This clarification helps protect legitimate shot attempts, reduces rough rebounding situations, and addresses a common rules misconception among coaches and players. It provides officials with a clearer standard for enforcing goaltending in backboard-related plays.

Rationale: This change enhances officiating clarity and protects legitimate shot attempts. It also addresses a common misconception among coaches and players by explicitly defining goaltending, leading to more consistent enforcement.

4-34-1: This rule change updates the definition of a player to clarify that a player is one of the five team members legally on the court at any given time, except during time-outs or intermissions. The change ensures consistency in rule enforcement by recognizing that it is difficult to distinguish between players, substitutes, and bench personnel during time-outs and intermissions. This clarification also supports the accountability of coaches for all team conduct during these periods and helps avoid misapplication of penalties such as technical fouls.

Rationale: This change ensures consistent enforcement of penalties for unsporting conduct by bench personnel. It allows officials to issue technical fouls to bench personnel during time-outs, aligning with the current rules for intermissions. It eliminates confusion and potential misapplication of rules and ensures fair and consistent enforcement of penalties for unsporting behavior, regardless of the individual's role.

7-5-4: This rule change updates the procedure for determining the designated throw-in spot following a stoppage of play (not due to the ball going out of bounds) in the frontcourt. Instead of relying on an imaginary line, officials now use existing court markings, specifically the three-point line, to determine the location. This change improves accuracy, consistency, and clarity for officials by using visible floor markings rather than imaginary lines, which were often misjudged.

Rationale: By using the visible three-point line as the line of demarcation, officials will have a clearer and more consistent method for determining throw-in locations. This improves accuracy and reduces confusion, resulting in more reliable throw-ins.

9-2-12 & 9-3-4 (NEW): This rule change addresses situations where a thrower purposely and/or deceitfully delays returning inbounds after legally stepping out of bounds and then becomes the first player to touch the ball upon re-entering the court. Previously penalized as a technical foul, this action is now treated as a violation, aligning it with similar out-of-bounds scenarios. The change reduces the severity of the penalty to encourage more consistent enforcement by officials and prevents players from gaining an unfair advantage through deceptive re-entry tactics.

Rationale: This change lessens the penalty for players who delay their return after being out of bounds, shifting the penalty from a technical foul to a less severe violation. This rule aligns with the penalty structure of similar violations, such as Rule 9-3-3 (where a player steps out of bounds on their own volition). The change is intended to make it easier for officials to recognize and penalize these actions consistently while reducing the severity of the penalty, encouraging more accurate enforcement.

10-4-4b: This rule prohibits players from illegally contacting the backboard or ring in ways that create an unfair advantage or interfere with a scoring attempt. This rule is designed to maintain fair play and protect the integrity of scoring opportunities by penalizing actions affecting the outcome of a shot, with a technical foul.

Rationale: The rule change aims to standardize and clarify the enforcement of basket interference, leading to fairer outcomes and more consistent officiating. The removal of subjective judgments around intent allows for clearer rulings and better alignment with current game dynamics.

4-6-1a & b (NEW): This rule change clarifies and expands the definition of basket interference to include additional actions that unfairly affect the ball while it is in a scoring position. Basket interference now occurs when a player slaps or strikes the backboard, causing the backboard or basket to vibrate, while the ball is on or within the basket, touching the backboard, or within the cylinder.

Rationale: This clarification helps officials consistently identify interference that affects scoring plays and ensures the integrity of the basket area during shot attempts.

2025-26 Basketball Editorial Changes

4-19-3c, 4-47, 5.2.1 SITUATION C, 6-3-2a, 6-3-5b, 10-5-2

2025-26 Basketball Points of Emphasis

1. Bench Decorum and Communication
2. Faking Being Fouled
3. Contact on the Ball Handler



Completing an Ejection Report in Dragonfly

1. In the “Assignments” screen, select the game where your ejection report took place.
2. At the bottom of the page, select the “Add Document”, “IHSAA Ejection Report”

A screenshot of the Dragonfly software interface. The top section has two rows: "Officials" with "No Officials found" and "Workers" with "No Workers found". Below this is a "Key People" section featuring a profile icon and the name "Clint Sanders" with his title "Athletic Director | ID Test School 1" and email "clint@idtest1@dragonflyathletics.com". The bottom section is titled "Game Documents" and contains an "Add Document" button. A dropdown menu is open from this button, showing three options: "IHSAA Ejection Report", "Incident Report", and "Yellow Card Report". To the right of the dropdown, the text "0 game documents to show." is visible.

3. Complete all fields (all required). **Be aware that once you have submitted, it cannot be edited. It will also be viewable to all ADs and Commissioners at that time.**

Please ensure when completing the report please do the following:

- **Use language from the rule book in your sport that constitutes an ejection.**
- Be clear and concise and only report information relevant to the ejection.
- Do not include editorial comments or opinions, just facts.
- If the ejection is for language, please use the language that the player/coach used without paraphrasing or characters to replace letters.

4-3 EJECTIONS

- 4-3-1** In any athletic contest, including jamborees, any coach or player ejected for an unsportsmanlike or flagrant act will be suspended for the remainder of the contest/game/jamboree – and, will be suspended for the next regularly scheduled contest at that level of competition, and all other games/meets/matches in the interim, in any sport, at any level of competition. Any staff or parent/fan/spectator associated with a member school ejected for an unsportsmanlike or flagrant act will be suspended for the remainder of the contest/game/jamboree – and, will be suspended for the next two regularly scheduled contests at that level of competition, and all other games/meets/matches in the interim, in any sport, at any level of competition.

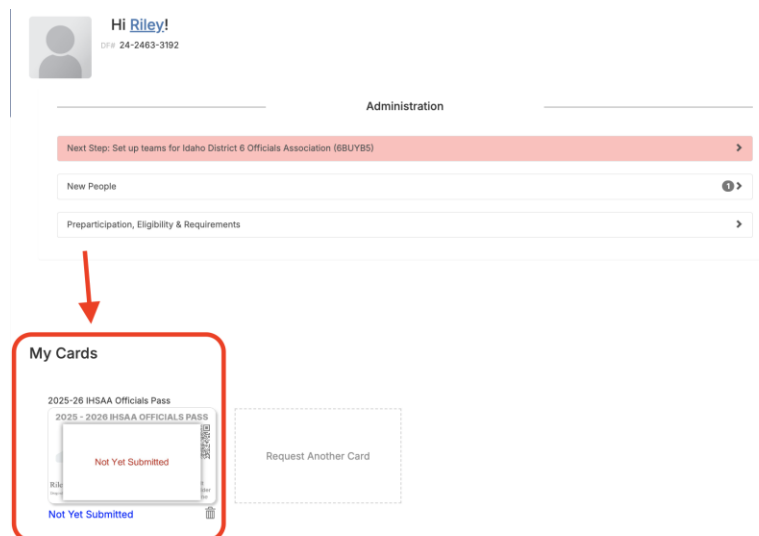
Note: Jamborees shall not be considered a regularly scheduled contest.

- a. At the time of ejection, the person/s must leave the field of play and assume a position that will not enable him or her to see or be seen.
 - b. During the suspension of the next regularly scheduled contest, the player is permitted to watch the contest, but may not participate. The coach is not allowed at the contest. The parent/staff/fan/spectator is not allowed at the next two contests.
 - c. Players will also be required to take the NFHS free, online sportsmanship course and submit a certificate of completion to school administration prior to reinstatement. The course must be completed between ejection and reinstatement.
 - d. Coaches will also be required to take the NFHS online Teaching and Modeling Behavior course and submit a certification of completion to school administration prior to reinstatement. The course must be completed between ejection and reinstatement.
 - e. Parents will also be required to earn the NFHS National Parent Credential which includes the free, online Positive Parenting Within School Programs course and The Parent Seat. Credential Certificate must be submitted to school administration prior to reinstatement. The credential must be completed between ejection and reinstatement.
 - f. Other Persons (staff/fan/spectators that are not parents) will also be required to take the NFHS free, online sportsmanship course and submit a certificate of completion to school administration prior to reinstatement. The course must be completed between ejection and reinstatement.
- 4-3-2** A second violation will result in being suspended for the next two (2) regularly scheduled contests. The third ejection will result in suspension for the remainder of that season. If penalties are imposed at the end of the sport season and no contest remains, the penalty 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 IHSAA sponsored sport.
- 4-3-3** The procedure for suspension and notification is:
- a. The officiating crew must approve any additional suspension by a majority vote at the conclusion of the contest.
 - b. The official/commissioner shall report an ejection to the school's principal and athletic director when a player/coach/staff/parent/fan/spectator is ejected from a competition.
 - c. The report must be submitted within a 24-hour period of the conclusion of the competition in which the infraction occurred.
 - d. The game official that disqualifies an individual for an unsportsmanlike act must notify the District Commissioner with a written report by the conclusion of the next day.
 - e. The District Commissioner, upon receipt of the report, shall notify the District Secretary, President of the District Board of Control, the school, and the IHSAA with a written report of the incident by the conclusion of the next school day.
- 4-3-4** The responsibility to enforce the penalty for being suspended lies with the school principal. Any dialogue concerning the suspension should come from the school principal and be directed to the President of the District Board of Control of the region in which the contest took place. The President of the District Board of Control (of the region in which the contest took place) may appoint a hearing committee to hear any appeals within 48 hours of the receipt of a complete report of the incident. It is the responsibility of the secretary of the District Board of Control in which the hearing took place, to notify the district Board of Control secretary in which the student athlete or coach resides. Appeals may not deal with decisions made by contest officials.
- 4-3-5** When an individual is suspended for the next contest, the interpretation of "contest" is as follows:
- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Football: next game | Volleyball: next match |
| Basketball: next game | Cross Country: next meet |
| Wrestling: next contest | Softball: next game |
| Baseball: next game | Track: next meet |
| Tennis: next match | Golf: next match |
| Soccer: next match | Swimming: next meet |
- 4-3-6** Any ejection that is the result of physical contact or excessive verbal abuse by a player/coach on a game official will be referred to the local District Board of Control for review to determine if any additional reprimand or suspension is warranted.
- 4-3-7** If a coach is ejected from an IHSAA contest, the designated school administrator must appoint an appropriately qualified adult to supervise the remainder of the contest or forfeit the contest.



Applying for a IHSAA Officials Pass in Dragonfly

1. Before the pass will show up as an option for you to apply for, you must first register with IHSAA as an official in one sport + pay the \$35 fee for the pass.
2. Once the above is completed, you will be able to apply for the pass. To begin this process, on your “Today” page, you will see the following under “My Cards”, select the “2025-26 IHSAA Officials Pass”:



3. Complete the questions in part 1 (much of which will be auto-filled using your information already in Dragonfly).
4. Upload a headshot or use your Dragonfly photo ensuring it meets all the requirements listed.
5. You will then be able to submit your request for the card. Cards will be reviewed at least once a week. Once your card is approved, you will receive a email.
6. To retrieve your card in the app, select “Cards” in the bottom right corner of the “Officials” app. This will what you use to gain access for yourself and one guest to contests. There will be no paper/ laminated cards printed.



Athletic Officials Code of Ethics

Believing that mine is an important part in the nationwide school athletic program, I pledge to act in accordance with these principles:

- I will honor contracts regardless of possible inconvenience or financial loss.
- I will study the rules of the game, observe the work of other officials and will, at all times, attempt to improve myself and the game.
- I will conduct myself in such a manner that attention is drawn no to me, but to the young people playing the game.
- I will maintain my appearance in a manner befitting the dignity and importance of the game.
- I will cooperate with the news media in the interpretation and clarification of rules and/or other areas related to good sportsmanship but I will not make statements concerning “calls” after a game.
- I will uphold and abide by all rules of the IHSAA and the NFHS.
- I will give my complete cooperation to the school I serve and to the IHSAA which I represent.
- I will cooperate and be professional in my association with coaches and other officials and will do nothing to cause them public embarrassment.
- I will keep in mind that the game is more important than the wishes of any individual.