

Good morning!

Picture day (Thanks Jeff Lane!)- Here you go!



Just a couple notes about what is (or is not) in this picture.

First, there are 'two tables' in this gym separated by an aisle going up between them and the tables are not floor level either. There are three people sitting at each table and none of them has a striped shirt on. THIS is an EASY fix!!! It is a REQUIREMENT that the official scorer wear a striped shirt. Even when we KNOW who the official scorer is, the striped shirt draws our attention to the correct person to make eye contact with. The R should tell the official scorer that he/she needs to wear a striped shirt.

If he/she does not have a striped shirt, that person has about 10:00 to go to game management and find one. NO DOUBT they have one somewhere.....FIND IT! After checking the books and talking with the timer and scorers, it would be appropriate for the R to go to game management to have a striped shirt brought to the table. Remember, the striped shirt is NOT OPTIONAL!

Second, see the coaches? They are the two guys whispering to each other ☺ at the division line in front of the aisle. Seriously.....why are they there? We DO have a 28 foot coaching box in ALL PIAA games! This is really easy also! In the captains meeting, we can remind the coaches that the coaching box is clearly marked and they must either be in the box to start the game.

What if he/she is outside the box but just COACHING and not saying anything to us? We may not 'see' him/her outside the box the first time, but this is part of our responsibility. The coach for white is almost touching the division line.....we don't think the coach for black sees this? In my opinion, we tell him to get back in his box one time, then if we need to address it a second time, it is a warning written in the book (this is if the coach is NOT complaining about a call). If the coach is out of the box complaining about a call, that is unacceptable and if you were at the 2017 PIAA convention at which Pat Gebhart

'clarified' the procedure we handle coaches in, there would be a double technical foul called for the coaches actions in this picture. Pat is ADAMENT that we 'take care of business' with coaches. A coaching box is nothing more than a coaching box. Once it becomes a complaining box, he/she has crossed the line. The 60-Seconds on Officiating article 'Did you ask a question?' is relevant also.....questions are answered.....statements are reacted to.

Bottom line is.....ENFORCE THE COACHING BOX!!!! EVERYONE from the top of the PIAA down to your partners will support that! Evaluators LOOK for this as well! The PIAA Basketball Evaluation Form has a line item of "Bench Rule/Conduct". The available scores are 3, 2, 1 and 0. Allowing the coaches to stand outside the box is a zero, defined as "Fails to Meet Expectations".

Both issues here are easy to address! Just 'take care of business.'

Have a great game tonight, take care of the table and coaching box, and have fun!

Tim