

SE Minnesota Youth Basketball Referee Duties

Duties:

- Prior to the season:
 - Go to the SE Minnesota Youth Basketball website (www.semnyouthbasketball.org) and complete the following:
 - Training videos.
 - Review the League Rules and the Defensive Rules documents.
 - Take the Referee Quiz. It is a document you print and self-correct.
- For each game date:
 - Proper dress – wear an appropriate basketball referee jersey or a plain white t-shirt. Your school may provide the referee jersey for you.
 - Bring a whistle – your school may provide a whistle for you.
 - Be at your game site at least 10 minutes before the game begins.
- Before a game:
 - Conduct a pre-game conference between yourselves and the head coach from each team. Review the following:
 - Remind the head coaches that they are the only ones who are permitted to discuss and question the officials before, during and after the game.
 - Clock rules for the game.
 - Three point shots (if court is properly marked).
 - Pressing and person-to-person defense rules.
 - Substitution rules (players must check in at scoreboard table).
 - Ensure that the teams have provided their player numbers to the scoring table.
 - Sportsmanship.
 - Any questions from the coaches.
- During a game:
 - Use your whistle effectively. Blow it loud and strong to stop play. A good, strong whistle informs players, coaches, and fans that you are in charge.
 - Once you make a call, stick with it, regardless of whether you decide after the whistle that your call was incorrect.
 - Report all foul calls to the scoring table. Approach the table to ensure they know the number and team of the player who committed the foul.
 - Be confident in your decisions; teams will notice indecisiveness and begin to argue every call.
 - Do not comment on another referee's call. If you are questioned about the other referee's call, simply state that it was not your call.
 - If you are unsure of a call to make (i.e. out of bounds), consult with the other referee. If both are unsure, call a jump ball.
 - Take time to explain a call instead of just making them. A referee can be a teacher as well as an official.
 - Players may question a call but they may not argue a call. Warn the player the first time and inform the coach of the warning. Issue a technical foul on any subsequent occurrence.
 - Head coaches are allowed to question your calls; they may not argue, abuse, or yell loudly. Warn the head coach the first time; issue a technical foul on the second occurrence. The head coach must remain seated throughout the remainder of the half on the first technical foul; they are required to leave the gym on a second technical foul. Utilize a site manager, if necessary, to enforce any player or coaching penalties. Questions or arguments from assistant coaches are not allowed.

- Develop a thick skin. Parents, fans, players, and coaches, no matter how much we ask them, will voice their disagreement. Unless the comment is abusive or abrasive, ignore it. Trying to argue your point is almost always pointless.
- Abusive or abrasive behavior of any kind is not allowed, either by players, coaches, or fans. Stop the game immediately and request removal of the individual. Utilize the site manager and/or head coach to enforce your decision. Refusal to leave results in forfeiture.
- After a game:
 - The teams should line up and shake hands at the end of the game.
 - Remain near the line and allow the players and coaches to shake your hand as well. Almost all will want to thank you for your efforts.
 - Do not engage in questions regarding the officiating with any player, assistant coach, or fan. Your only point of discussion regarding officiating before, during, and after a game is with the head coach.