

Good morning!

Hope you had a great weekend of games and got this week started on the right foot.....STAY HEALTHY!

So.....hand checks.....this is STILL a rule.....and it is actually an easy one! There is no 'judgement' or 'advantage/disadvantage' in the hand check rule! Just as a reminder...here it is.....

#### ART. 12

The following acts constitute a foul when committed against a ball handler/dribbler. A player becomes a ball handler when he/she receives the ball. This would include a player in a post position.

- a. Placing two hands on the player.
- b. Placing an extended arm bar on the player.
- c. Placing and keeping a hand on the player.
- d. Contacting the player more than once with the same hand or alternating hands.

There are plenty of situations in our games that are in the 'gray' area and we have to determine advantage/disadvantage. THIS rule – 10.7.12 – is black and white. There is NO room for judgment! These fouls MUST be called!

[Here](#) is a clip of 10.7.12.d. The coach asked me what he did and the official said 'he touched him 3 times.' ☺ Bottom line is that it is a rule. We have the book to back us up here! There is a line on the PIAA evaluation form that specifically addresses hand checks!

Make sure to talk about hand checks in the pregame.....get the first one...set the tone. Our first hand check can NOT be in the fourth quarter. PLEASE call hand checks like they are supposed to be called!!!

Tuesday Extra: The official scorekeeper MUST wear a striped shirt. There are no exceptions for ANY level game. The game may NOT begin without the official scorekeeper in a striped shirt. This is totally on us as officials and enforcing this requirement. AD's know but many times are not there to 'dress' the official scorer. It is OUR responsibility to tell the official scorer to put the shirt on. Remind him/her when checking the book...or simply ask if he/she has the shirt (if not already wearing it). If not, reply that he/she has 10:00 to find it. Sometimes we are our own worst enemy by not requiring this.....it is an EASY one.....NO EXCEPTIONS!

Have a great game tonight! Stay safe on the roads also.

Tim