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Basketball Comments on the Rules - 2026-27

BY NFHS ON MAY 26, 2026 | BASKETBALL, RULES



5-9-5 — The addition of the .3-second requirement provides consistency for end-of-period timing situations involving throw-ins and unsuccessful free throws. Similar to existing provisions governing tap attempts, this change recognizes that a player cannot legally catch and release a try with less than three-tenths of a second remaining. Officials and timer personnel should communicate clearly during these situations to ensure proper administration. Schools utilizing clocks without tenths-of-a-second displays are exempt from this provision.

5-10-2 — This revision gives officials additional tools for correcting timing errors by allowing both visible and silent counts to serve as definite knowledge. Officials are encouraged to maintain awareness of elapsed time during all situations, particularly when clock malfunctions or operator errors occur. The rule improves accuracy and game administration by expanding the types of official information available when correcting timing issues.

6-4-4g — The deletion of subsection (g) removes outdated language related to warnings for faking being fouled. Procedures for handling these situations are now covered through current interpretations and no longer require a separate alternating possession provision.

10-6-4 — This change simplifies administration when technical fouls occur during the same dead-ball period. By treating all technical fouls during that dead-ball interval as occurring at approximately the same time, officials can administer penalties more consistently and reduce confusion regarding order of enforcement and resumption of play.

9-2 PENALTY — The restored language clarifies that throw-in violations occur at the original throw-in spot, maintaining consistency with prior rules interpretations. Officials should continue using designated throw-in spots when applicable while recognizing that the original throw-in location remains the basis for enforcement following violations.



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