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****If you ever have any questions, feel free to clarify with me any time.****

So much more we could go over, but these are things I have seen recently.

1 . Rule 1 in the Vandalia Parks and Rec Rule Sheet-9 If you have 6 or more players, each player must sit a minimum of 5 minutes.

2. Rule 6 in the Vandalia Parks and Rec Rule Sheet, it defines Double Teaming as aggressively sending a second defender to trap. It is not Double Teaming if a Help Defender slides over to help when a teammate has been beaten off the dribble. It then states that the Interpretation of this rule is at the referee's discretion. I propose that you encourage your Help Defender to recover back to their player rather than completely leaving their player and Double Teaming the ball-handler. This is called Help and Recover defense and is a very important part of their basketball growth. However, at the younger ages this would be impossible for you to teach, and for us to officiate, because it happens in almost every possession. Also, once a ball-handler dribbles into the lane it could be argued that every defensive player is Helping. So this would just be a Teaching Point for you to think about.

Rule 6 A Each player is responsible for guarding and moving with one offensive player. This requires the defensive player to move according to the offensive player's movements with or without the

ball.

- Therefore, moving forward, players will not be permitted to sag and just stand in the middle of the paint on defense. They must move with their player and be within a reasonable distance of the player they are guarding. Referees will be looking for this and will stop play to give each player 1 Warning and then have the offense take the ball out of bounds. After that, a Technical Foul will be issued to the Team (not a player) for Illegal Defense. This rule is in place to help the development of all players.

Exception: 4th Quarter and Overtime in 5th and 6th Grade in which Zone Defense is allowed.

Rule 6 D -+ Players may begin guarding once their player has crossed the half-court line (after they cross). This means the offensive player has to be allowed to cross the half-court line before being defended. Referees will award any steals or turnovers back to the offense.

The Vandalia Parks and Rec Rule Sheet has always been used along with OHSAA rules. Meaning, referees will use the application of OHSAA rules for anything not mentioned on the VPRD Rule Sheet.

Examples:

Closely Guarded:

1. Rule 9 Section 10 Closely Guarded A player cannot hold the ball for more than 5 seconds without passing, shooting, or dribbling. This is a 5 Second Violation.

2. Rule 9 Section 10 Closely Guarded A player also cannot dribble the ball for more than 5 seconds unless they get their head and shoulders past their defender while driving to the basket off the dribble. This is a 5 Second Violation.

Defending the Post:

3. Rule 4 Section 7 Article 2 a —5 Blocking, Charging A player cannot, while dribbling, back down a defender who has established a legal guarding position.
 - If the defender keeps moving back on their own this would not be a violation.
 - When a Defender gets to a spot on the floor FIRST, that is THEIR spot. The defender is entitled to a spot on the floor without being physically moved by the offensive player. The Offensive Player MUST change directions (make a Move).
 - If a defender has established a legal guarding position and attempts to hold their own and not back up, the offensive player

must change direction to avoid contact. Meaning, the defender is entitled to their spot on the floor and the offensive player may not make contact that moves the defender back. This is an Offensive Foul (even if the defender doesn't fall to the ground). . See also Rule 4 Section 23 Article 3 d a guard (defender) may raise hands or jump within his/her own Vertical Plane -9 See also Rule 4 Section 45 Verticality.

- **On the other hand, a defender is not permitted to "belly up" or use the lower part of the body or arms to cause contact outside his/her vertical plane. This would be a foul on the Defense. See Rule 4 Section 45 Article 6.

Rule Section

4. 27 Incidental Contact

Some types of contact do not constitute a foul.

Examples:

When 10 players are moving rapidly in a limited area, some contact is certain to occur. Especially with young players who lack the coordination and body control of teenagers or adults. Also, remember kids at this age fall on their own even without any contact, so don't assume that illegal contact was made just because a player falls down. Feet get tangled and that is also incidental contact (unless a defender comes from behind, see Situation 2 below). Also, don't forget that kids see players at the higher levels acting like they were fouled and falling down. Don't expect a foul to be called unless illegal contact is made.

****Basketball is a Contact Sport. ****

2 Players Going for A Loose Ball

- Situation: Two players going after a loose ball and contact occurs while both players have equally favorable positions. This is not a foul on either player regardless of who gets the ball. And, it does not matter how severe the contact is. (A smaller player bounces off of a bigger player due to contact is not a foul on the bigger player, as he/she should not be punished for their size, no matter how bad it looks.) Should the bigger player, or any sized player, purposely push an opponent to gain an advantage, this would be a foul.
- Situation: A player coming from behind or from a position from which he/she has no reasonable chance to play the ball without making contact with the opponent, the responsibility to avoid contact is on the player with the unfavorable position. Usually results in tangled feet, which is not necessarily a foul, but in this case it would be.

5. Rule Section

"Reaching in" is not necessarily a foul. Also, reference to "reaching" only appears one time in the Rule Book, and it is to say that it is **LEGAL**.

- For a Foul to be called, the "reach in" must involve contact with the offensive player that disrupts the ball-handlers ability to move freely and puts them at a In other words,

contact that doesn't disrupt the ball-handler is not called. Play on.

Example:

An offensive player is dribbling on the fast break and a defender, who is not in a legal guarding position, attempts to make a play on the ball by extending their arm(s) or body or "reaching in", and that player gets run through/blasted, this is not the fault of the offensive player. It is a foul on the No matter how severe the contact looks. defense. A defender has to be careful about reaching in (sticking their nose in) without a legal guarding position.

Contact that does not lead to an advantage/disadvantage may be ignored.

6. Rule Section

7 6 Throw-In Administration

- On a spot throw-in, the inbounder (player throwing the ball in) has a 3 foot horizontal area to move in (pivot/step/jump/chop feet). The inbounder is allowed to move. The referee points to the spot, but movement is allowed within the 3 foot horizontal parameters. There is no rule on the depth/vertical distance (how far back a player may stand). The inbounder must keep one foot on or over the designated area. If the inbounder moves outside the designated 3 foot horizontal spot, then it becomes a violation.
- When inbounding the ball, the inbounder may step on the line, but not over it.
- The receiver of the inbounded pass cannot step on a boundary line. - It is even legal for an inbounder to dribble the ball while out of bounds, as long as they do not do so in the inbounds playing area. - A player In-Bounding the ball cannot "hand" the ball to a teammate that is on the court. They must pass it to them.
- In a Throw In/In-Bounding situation, once the ball has been given to one player by the referee, that player cannot switch to have someone else take it out.
- Obviously, after a made basket or Free-Throw, the Inbounder is free to run the baseline to throw the ball in.

9 2 Article 10

- If an opponent defending the throw-in reaches through the throw-in boundary plane and touches or dislodges the ball while in the possession of the thrower, a technical foul will be called. Normally, there is no warning for this violation. However, we will give 1 per

7. Rule Section

team. After that Free-Throws will be rewarded. If, in the same situation the opponent contacts/touches the inbounder, it is an Intentional Personal Foul. Normally, there is no warning for this violation. However, we will give 1 per team. After that, Free-Throws will be rewarded.

8. Rule 9 Section 1 Article 3 c Free-Throw Provisions - A Free-Throw Shooter is entitled to concentration when shooting once the ball is placed at their disposal. Opponents (both on the court and off the court) may not distract/disconcert the shooter by making noises, waving their arms, etc... Should the shooter miss, they will be granted another throw/shot, under the same conditions. This is called Disconcerting the Free-Throw Shooter. The Bench will be warned 1 time, and then a Technical will be called on the Bench. Free-Throws for the Technical are awarded AND the opponent gets possession of the ball on the side after the Free-Throws. If a player on the court continues to do it, that player can receive a Technical for Unsportsmanlike Behavior.

Rule Section

9. 4 24 Article 5-7 Hands and Arms, Legal & Illegal Use

-A player with the ball is obviously allowed to have a "guard hand" up to protect the ball and create a little space for themselves. However, a ball-handler can not use the "guard hand/armbar" to push the defense away/back or "fend off the defender" in order to push their way forward while dribbling. This is illegal "off arm" usage and is a foul on the offense.

10. Rule 4 Section 44 Traveling

- A player cannot, after catching the ball, fall to the floor. Going down on a knee after the catch is also a violation.
-A player who dives for a "loose ball" is permitted to slide on his/her back or stomach. They are then allowed to pass, start a dribble (from the floor in order to

stand up), call a Timeout, or even shoot. They cannot roll over. However, if they

are on their back, they may sit up. Cannot go to their knees from their back or stomach. If they slide on their knees to retrieve the loose ball, they must stay on their knees.

11 . Rule 4 Section 40 Article 2 Screens

- A legal screen requires the offensive player setting the screen to remain stationary at the point of contact with the defender, giving them a "reasonable opportunity" to avoid the screen, meaning they must allow the defender a space

of roughly one normal step to move around the screen. Contact is LEGAL as

long as the screener is SET. Also, a defender cannot run through the screener. There must be illegal contact for a moving screen to be called, and it is officially referred to as a "Blocking Foul" on the Screener. If the screener is moving to set the screen, but doesn't actually make any contact, there can be no foul.

Rule Section

- The screener must stay within his/her vertical plane with a stance approximately shoulder width apart.

12. 4 37 Article 2 a Rebounding

There is no such thing as

"over the back".

- Nowhere in the rule book will you see this phrase. A taller player or a player who can jump higher grabbing a rebound over an opponent is not necessarily a foul, even if the player in front has good positioning. It's only a foul if the player behind creates an advantage by pushing, bumping, or any other kind of illegal contact while in the process of going for a rebound.
- Fans yell over the back all the time, but an official will never call a foul for going over the back, because, again, there is no such thing. If illegal contact occurs, it would be called a push and is a personal foul.
- To be a foul, the player behind another player must have committed a foul such as bumping the player that is in front, or pushing that player — gaining an advantage to grab the

Rule Section

rebound — but that would be whistled for a push or hold, not over the back.

- Also, according to this Rule, a defensive player "boxing out" cannot displace or push the offensive player backwards. However, we will save this discussion for another day. Just an FYI for now. We were all taught to "Box Out" hard. This is usually not called unless contact is excessive. But it is a rule.

13. 7 1 Defining Out of Bounds and Backboard Are the Sides, Bottom, Top of the Backboard Out of Bounds? - The front, top, sides, and bottom of the backboard are all in play. The ball cannot legally pass over the rectangular backboard from any direction, but it can hit the top of the backboard and come back into the playing area.. The back of a backboard is out of bounds, as well as the supporting structures.

14. Rule 4 Section 1 Airborne Shooter

- Defenders must give airborne shooters the opportunity to land safely (given space to land). Whether intentional or not, this is a dangerous play, and it will be penalized. Note also that if the defender's movement is deemed to be reckless, a Flagrant foul may be assessed.
- Most fans follow the ball once it is released by the shooter.
- One official's responsibility is to protect the shooter and watch their landing.
- The other official is tasked with interior play and seeing if the ball went in the hoop.

Rule Section

- Free- Throws will be awarded to the shooter if not allowed to land safely, and points for the shot if the shot was successful.
- If the foul occurs after the shooter lands (push/excessive contact), it would still be called a foul, but the shooting team would be awarded the ball out of bounds. They would also receive the points of the shot if it was successful.

Always remember:

The primary duty of officials is to ensure fair play, safety, and good sportsmanship.

Officials are on the court to be the only neutral unbiased arbiters of the game and are not concerned with who wins, or loses.

Everyone else in the gym cares about winning, and therefore, cannot look at the game objectively.

Players commit fouls, and violations; officials view those infractions, judge the action, and then apply the rules of the game to what they had observed.

The rules then determine the penalty, which is only called by the officials (it is not the officials that determine the penalty, it's the rules).

The VPRD Referee Staff for Basketball

Greg Justice —+ I am the Head Referee and Assignor for all of the Parks and Rec games. I referee because I want the kids to have an enjoyable experience. I take it seriously and I believe I can make a difference in this capacity. I have an in-depth knowledge of the rules of the game, and the fundamentals, and strategies of the game. I am a certified referee by the OHSAA. I coached at various places and levels of High School Basketball for close to 25 years. At different times I was a Varsity Coach, Varsity Assistant, and JV Head Coach. I was an Assistant Coach on the Vandalia Butler Staff that had players like Taylor Decker (now plays football for the Detroit Lions), AJ Pacher (plays basketball professionally overseas), Ryne Pugh (great athlete at Vandalia), and Sam Hershberger (Coach at Brown University).

Michael Kreil --+ Michael played on Back-To-Back Conference Championship Teams at Vandalia Butler (2017-18 and 2018-19). Michael was a PG/Floor General that could handle the ball as good, or better, than anyone in the Dayton area! He was First Team All-Conference and Honorable Mention All-State as a Senior. Michael played one season at Sinclair Community College and has experience as a Head Middle School coach here in Vandalia. Michael's father is a former Head Coach for Vandalia Butler.

Kort Justice -9 Kort played College Basketball at Cincinnati Clermont and Wisconsin LaCrosse. Kort was a Junior College American. Kort played with Michael at Vandalia Butler and was on the 2017-18 team that won the first Conference Championship in 15 years for Vandalia. As a Senior, Kort was First Team All-

Conference, District 15 Player of the Year, and was 1 of 20 players in the State of Ohio to be selected for the 2018 State All-Star Game. In that game, Kort was the second leading scorer, and threw a half-court alley-oop to Jaxon Hayes, who now plays for the Los Angeles Lakers. He is currently the Head JV Coach at Wayne High School.

Dwayne Chastain -+ "Wayno" has been a High School Basketball coach at various levels in the Dayton Area since 2020. He is currently an Assistant Varsity coach at Wayne High School. Prior to that, Wayno had been the Varsity Head Basketball Coach at Meadowdale High School. Wayno played high school basketball at Thurgood Marshall and was a Senior on their 2014 State Final Four Team. Wayno also played college basketball at Glenville State College.

Declan Scheffler -+ Declan is a Junior at Vandalia Butler. He played basketball in the past, but prefers baseball. Declan plays for Vandalia Butler Baseball. He is an excellent student, and is even taking some college courses while still in high school. Declan is the most dependable and responsible high school student that we have refereeing games for us in the VPRD. He referees basketball, soccer, football, and is an umpire for baseball! He does an incredible job! Follows through on all of his assignments and is just an awesome young man!