

# SPORTOPIALS



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MASTERING THE  
**CRAFT**  
OF OFFICIATING

BE A  
**MENTOR**

BEING A GOOD  
**PARTNER**

WELCOME  
**BOARD 65**

Co3 SCREENING  
**GUIDELINES**

**JUMP BALL**  
ADMINISTRATION

**SPOTLIGHT...**

ON INTERPRETERS:  
**CHARLENE SHEPARD**

ON SECRETARIES:  
**CALVIN PITTS**



# “Officiating basketball requires sharp focus, strong mechanics, and constant self-improvement.”

**Mastering the Craft of Officiating, page 21**



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The International Association of Approved Basketball Officials, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of basketball officiating, through the proper training of applicants by visual and written aids; constant supervision by board proctors and dissemination of rule changes and interpretations.

**On the cover: Lance Cowan, Board III, Maine**

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# DIRECTOR'S COURT

**I**AABO, Inc. is in the relationship business. Point number six in the Association's purpose found in our Constitution is to cooperate with all organizations officially connected with the game of basketball in furthering its interests and ideals. Accordingly, we are bound by our by-laws to foster business relationships that are vital to our existence. Every professional organization and member needs strong business relationships to be successful. These relationships include interactions and connections you build with colleagues, peers, and other stakeholders.

Communication is an important part of a productive business relationship. How you communicate and how often you engage in contact is integral in building that relationship. Members pay dues to IAABO and in return expect some kind of value. The value starts with how connected you are to the organization and how responsive or communicative the organization is to your needs. IAABO prides itself on staying in contact with its members either directly or through the network of local boards.

Twice a month, members receive either Sportorials or Inside the Lines. At least two or three times per week, members receive plays through RQ+ for analysis and group interaction. These two publications and video plays are delivered directly to the members' inbox. In addition, the interactive website contains a plethora of materials and tools to further enhance the members' education on rules, positioning, and signaling. The Director of Membership and Director of Learning and Development meet periodically throughout the year with local board secretaries and interpreters, respectively. This clear communication schedule shows that your organization wants to stay connected with its members and local board leaders.

Every time a member takes to the court to officiate a basketball game, they enter a business relationship. The schools pay for value, skill and expertise and the official provides the rules and mechanics knowledge to carry this game from start to finish. Each game and each play require keen observation and split-second decisions. What an objective official sees may not be in accord with what a subjective coach or spectator sees. This often results in some form of disagreement. This is where interpersonal and communication skills are required to support the business relationship.

By establishing a clear communication procedure, you can show your business contact that you are dependable and want to connect with them often.

Let's see what is required for clear and direct communication for officials:

**Credibility** is established when the individual is transparent, consistent, and competent.

**Conviction** is the belief in oneself and the message that is to be delivered.

**Content** of the message should be succinct using rules-based language.

**Connect** by realizing you are not the main attraction. Be personal and charismatic.

**Collaborate** by having an open mindset and be prepared to answer questions.

**Conclude** by knowing when the conversation is over, and it is time to move on.

Effective communication can help reduce conflict or tension. Most conflicts arise due to ineffective communication tactics, which lead to individuals misunderstanding what was intended. Misunderstandings can result in stakeholders feeling disrespected, disregarded, or simply not performing in the expected manner. It takes time to develop trust and respect in a business relationship, but you may start building these elements by being honest and showing you respect the other person. This can include maintaining eye contact, speaking positively and professionally, and respecting someone else's time. To get respect, you must give respect, and keep in mind that respect is a two-way street.

Stay the Course, Stay in Touch, Stay IAABO

Sincerely,

*Felix Addico*



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It never ceases to amaze me how quickly the high school basketball season flies by. As we approach the playoffs, we should recognize that games will become more intense. I think we can all agree that during this time, the expectations of coaches, players, and fans are heightened. So, what can we do to support not only ourselves but also our partners in the weeks ahead? While pregame discussions with our partners are essential, there are other equally important factors to consider.

First impressions matter. Arriving at game sites professionally dressed—business casual at a minimum—sets the right tone. The way you present yourself speaks volumes about your professionalism and character.

Punctuality is also key. Arriving well ahead of game time is a simple yet crucial responsibility. There is nothing more stressful for a site supervisor or your fellow officials than dealing with a late arrival. Not knowing if you're on your way, caught in traffic, or even aware of the assignment creates unnecessary tension for everyone involved.

That said, being early doesn't mean lingering in the gym for an extended period or engaging in lengthy conversations with coaches or acquaintances. Instead, head straight to your dressing room to organize your uniform, prepare mentally, and conduct a thorough pregame conference.

It is also important to engage with those who contribute to game success. Identify who is responsible for security and determine when the score table crew will arrive. If possible, take a moment to meet with them before heading to your pregame positions. These individuals play a vital role, and their accuracy and efficiency can significantly impact the flow of the game. We've all heard the saying: "Nothing can derail a game faster than score table errors."

A well-structured pregame conference is critical. This is the time to review PCAs, press coverages, points of emphasis, and new rules to ensure that you and your crew are aligned and prepared.

As you head into your upcoming assignments, I wish you all the best. And as Peter Webb often reminded us, we are there for the players—so give them a good game.

In closing, let's not forget about our Officials vs. Cancer campaign. If you haven't yet contributed, please consider doing so by contacting the IAABO office—donations are always welcome. In Canada, my board dedicates the entire month of February to this initiative, with our officials donating \$1 per game. Over the past decade, we've averaged \$1,500 per year, with all proceeds going to a local cancer-related organization within our community. Every little bit helps.

*Don Thorne*

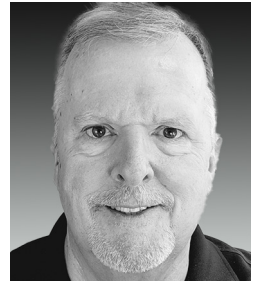
**IN OUR** *Family* **NO ONE**  
 **Fights** **ALONE**

# CONTRIBUTORS



**Layne Drexel** is one of IAABO, Inc.'s four Co-coordinators and the Board Interpreter for Bd. 11, DE. He is a regular presenter the IAABO Fall Seminar and has contributed to many IAABO educational videos and other educational materials.

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**T.J. Halliday** has been an IAABO member since 1985. He is also a Life Member and serves as the Director of Learning and Development for IAABO, Inc. He has presented at the IAABO Fall seminar every year since 2008.



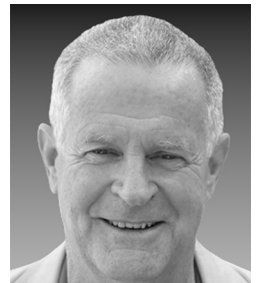
**Joe Maurer** Odenton, MD, has been officiating since 1994. He serves on the IAABO Education and Development Committee and is the current assigner of Board 23 in Central Maryland.

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**Dave Simon** has been an IAABO member since 1984. He currently resides in Merton, WI, and is an observer of high school officials in southeast Wisconsin.

**David Smith**, Bd. 4 CO, is one of four IAABO Co-Coordinators. David is a Past President of IAABO, Inc., as well as a Life Member. He has been an IAABO member since 1981.







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# WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

## BOARD 65'S DYNAMIC DEBUT IN GREATER PHILADELPHIA

*Board 65 has successfully brought together over 115 officials, creating a cohesive and supportive community dedicated to excellence in officiating. Their initiatives reflect a strong commitment to education, collaboration, and professional growth for their members.*

**I**AABO Board 65, one of the newest additions to the IAABO family, has quickly established itself as a dynamic and forward-thinking group in the Greater Philadelphia area. Under the leadership of President Andy O'Brien, Vice President Alex Landis, Co-Interpreters Aran Hart and Marty Spencer, and Board Secretary Sawyer Hetrick, Board 65 has already made impressive strides in organizing and developing its membership.

### ***Laying the Groundwork***

To kick off their efforts, Board 65 hosted a virtual Zoom session to welcome new members and set the tone for a collaborative and inclusive environment. This session served as a foundational step toward building community and establishing the board's mission. A follow-up PowerPoint presentation was shared with all members, summarizing the key points discussed during the session. Additionally, members received video analysis materials and a self-evaluation assignment to encourage reflection and skill development.

### ***Innovative Training Opportunities***

Board 65 has also introduced an innovative "Office Hours" virtual meeting format. This unrecorded session provided a safe space for officials to engage in open discussions, share game clips, and analyze play scenarios with the board's leadership team. The interactive sessions focused on critical officiating topics such as positioning, play-calling guidelines, and effective partnering skills. By fostering an atmosphere of vulnerability and constructive feedback, the meetings encouraged participants to grow both individually and as a team.

### ***A Warm Welcome to IAABO***

The efforts of Board 65's leadership team have not gone unnoticed. Their dedication to creating a welcoming and supportive environment for officials in Greater Philadelphia exemplifies the values of IAABO. Congratulations to the board members and leadership team for their outstanding work, and welcome to the IAABO family!



# BEING A GOOD PARTNER

*While coaches and fans prioritize their team's success, a great partner remains neutral, leaving it to the players to determine the outcome of the game, while remaining consistent.*

*by Charlene Shepard*

**H**ave you ever officiated a game and thought to yourself, "Geez, I'd rather be out here by myself!"? Has your partner been unreliable? Refused to have a pre-game? Failed to use proper signals or mechanics? Officiated the game as if the whole court were their PCA? Were they overconfident or lacking confidence? Worse, were they confrontational with players, coaches, and sometimes even you? If you answered yes to any of these questions, unfortunately, you are not entitled to additional compensation for enduring these experiences; however, they do provide valuable learning opportunities. While these types of partners exist, hopefully, they are outnumbered by good partners. So, what makes someone a good partner, and what qualities and skills do they possess? With the season in full swing, it is essential to understand what we bring to the game as officials and why we want less experienced officials to emulate the best among us.

First, officials should feel secure in their knowledge of the rules, mechanics, and signals of the high school game while also possessing effective communication skills. These traits help mold officials into competent and confident professionals. However, beyond these fundamental skills, many other attributes contribute to the development of an effective and reliable partner.

A good partner is passionate about officiating. They accept their assignments in a timely manner and confirm their games with their partner(s) and the school. They conduct a thorough pre-game conference before each game. Establishing a connection with one's partner(s) is crucial to ensuring that they function as the best team on the court that day. Good partners are dependable and always in the right place on the court. You never have to worry about them overstepping into your PCA. They understand their responsibilities and make you feel comfortable working alongside them.

Good partners are fair and unbiased in their officiating. They maintain consistency in their rulings on both ends of the court throughout the game. They do not insert themselves unnecessarily into the action, but when the game intensifies, good officials remain poised under pressure. They effectively communicate with players, coaches, and table personnel. They do not allow the game to spiral out of control, nor do they make themselves the center of attention in pursuit of order. Good partners are mentally tough and resilient. When the intensity of coaches increases and the fans are howling at the moon, a good official remains unaffected by the griping and is not swayed by others' emotions. While coaches and fans prioritize their team's success, a great partner remains neutral, leaving it to the players to determine the outcome of the game, while remaining consistent.

There are many other qualities that contribute to being a good partner, and when you are fortunate enough to work alongside such an official, you will appreciate the experience. Good partners make every assignment enjoyable. If you do not get the opportunity to work with one, BE ONE!





Screening has become one of the most common elements of basketball in today's game, at all levels. As a result, it is imperative that officials understand the rules regarding what constitutes a legal versus illegal screen, AND they also must understand the mechanics to accurately adjudicate the screens. The rules do not change whether you are working in a Crew of Two (Co2) game or a Crew of Three (Co3) game. The officials' manuals at both the high school and college levels describe screening as "two-official" plays. That concept works well in a Co3 game but is extremely difficult in a Co2 situation. This article will focus on the rules and mechanics in a Co3 game. Screening rules are listed in Rule 4-40 (NFHS) and Chapter 10:6 (IAABO Rules Guide). As a reminder, IAABO does NOT write the rules, we provide guidance to officials regarding the rules and provide plays to help officials understand how to properly adjudicate those plays.

### The Rule (NFHS 4-40 / IRG 10:6)

The purpose of a screen is "to delay or prevent an opponent from reaching a desired position." In order to do this, the screener must establish a "legal screening position." In order to be legal, a screener must adhere to the following rules:

1. The screener may face any direction.
2. Time and distance are relevant.
3. The screener shall be stationary, except when both the screener and the opponent are moving in the same path and same direction.
4. The screener shall stay within the screener's vertical plane with a stance no more than shoulder-width apart...the NFHS has issued a new Interpretation (CB 4.40.2 Situation B; IRG Play 10-6-1) that states IF the screener's stance is **wider** than shoulder-width, BUT the contact occurs on the screener's

**torso** it is a LEGAL screen. The rationale is that the screener's feet being too wide does NOT change the width of the screener's torso.

Let's break those items down.

1. **Facing any direction** is easy...self-explanatory. The screener does not need to face their opponent...just get in their way.
2. **Time and distance** are dependent on whether the screen is being set on a moving or stationary player, and if the screen is within the opponent's visual field.
3. The screener **MUST remain stationary** in ALL screening situations.
4. Lastly, the screener's feet should be approximately **shoulder-width apart** and their arms/elbows must also stay within that shoulder-width.

If the screen is being set within the opponent's visual field and the **opponent is stationary**, the screener

can take a position as close to the opponent as they want to, **short of contact**. If the screen is being set **outside** the opponent's visual field, that is, a back screen or a blind screen, the screener must give the opponent **one normal step backward before contact occurs**.

Screening becomes more challenging when the screener is attempting to set a screen on a **moving opponent**. When an opponent is moving, understanding the concept of time and distance is essential to ruling accurately. The other aspects of the rule (facing any direction, stationary, and width of the screen) still apply, but now the official(s) must also determine whether the screener gave the opponent the appropriate or required **time and distance** to avoid contact. The speed of the player being screened will determine the distance the screener must give that player, which will vary from



# CREW OF THREE (Co3) SCREENING GUIDELINES

play to play according to speed but must be one to **two normal steps or strides from the opponent**. A player who is screened within the player's visual field is expected to avoid contact by stopping or going around the screen. An opponent who sees the screen and then **runs through or "blows up"** the screen has committed a foul. In a blind/back screen, it is possible for even severe contact to be legal **IF** the opponent stops or attempts to stop as soon as contact occurs.

## Adjudicating Screening Plays (IAABO Manual p. 104)

Once you have mastered the screening rules, it's time to understand the mechanics on this **two-official play**. In today's game, with motion offenses, screens can occur anywhere on the floor. However, most screens occur in the area above the free-throw line extended, from sideline to sideline. In these situations, the **Trail** and **Center** have primary responsibility for ruling on the screens.

The basic coverage concept is that the official who has primary responsibility for the ball handler—the Trail in this case—observes the ball handler (A-1) and the ball handler's defender (B-1). The "off" official—the Center in this case—observes the screener (A-2) and the screener's defender (B-2). (See Diagram 1.)

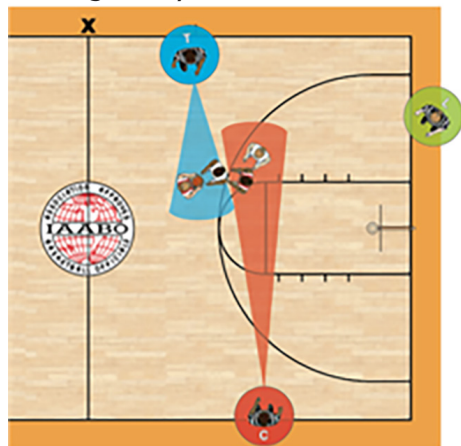


Diagram 1

It is imperative that the "off" official ensures the screener meets the requirements of the rules listed above: **stationary, feet shoulder-width apart**, and most critically, provides **time and distance**. The official has to see the entire play in order to correctly rule on the legality of the screen. The "off" official must also be aware of the actions of the defender (B-2). Does B-2 hold, push or grab the screener? Those actions might cause the screener to bump or move into B-1 and thus give the appearance of an illegal screen, when in reality, B-2 has committed the foul.

If the ball is in the **Center's** PCA, the **Center** has primary responsibility for the ball handler and the ball handler's defender, and the **Trail** has primary responsibility for the screening activity. (See Diagram 2.)



Diagram 2

These same coverage principles apply when a "big" from the low post area comes up to set a screen. Most of the time in this type of play, the **Trail** official will still have primary responsibility for the ball handler and the ball handler's defender, but the **Lead** will have primary responsibility for the screener and screener's defender, as they have moved from the **Lead's** PCA up toward the FT line. (See Diagram 3.)

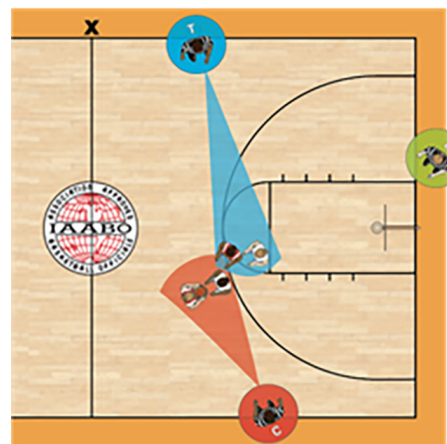



Diagram 3

Screens happen in every game and many plays have multiple screening situations. It is essential that officials know and understand the **RULES** related to screening and then it is essential that officials know and master the **MECHANICS** related to screening. Officials also must make discussing these concepts an integral part of their pre-game conference in the locker room. Knowing **who** is looking for **what** is critical. Most times, we don't want four eyes on a play; with screens that is not the case, if those four eyes are looking at different parts of the play. The off official must anticipate the play, but not the call, and position-adjust as needed to see the play start, develop and finish so they can make an accurate ruling.

Though this article focuses on screens in a Co3 game, screens also occur in Co2 games. In those games, as difficult as it is, the official in whose PCA the ball is located has to try and expand their field of vision so they can see beyond the ball handler/defender in an attempt to watch the screen develop. The other officials, IF they have no competitive, active match-ups in their PCA, should expand their field of vision to assist their partner. This is not easy to do, but we've got to try and get them right.

Stay focused.



***“I think IAABO has provided a plethora of information to officials and Interpreters, some of which I wish had been around when I first started.”***

# SPOTLIGHT ON INTERPRETERS

by Joe Maurer

## CHARLENE SHEPARD

***Board 6,  
Connecticut***

Board 6 and Connecticut State Interpreter Charlene Shepard has been an IAABO official for 27 years. As the Assistant Chair on the Rules Examination Committee and a contributing member of the Official's Education and Development Committee, Charlene brings a wealth of basketball rules knowledge and experience to IAABO. Her dedication to basketball and focus on education makes her an invaluable asset. I had the chance to sit down with Charlene to discuss her work, her approach, and the tools she leverages to support IAABO members.

***Sportorials: Can you describe the innovative approach you've taken with IAABO tools and what inspired it?***

Charlene Shepard: I don't think I've necessarily taken an innovative approach with the IAABO tools. I think it's more important for me to ensure that our membership is aware of what's out there and how it can positively benefit their officiating skills. I think IAABO has provided a plethora of information to officials and Interpreters, some of which I wish were around when I first started.



**S: How has your use of IAABO tools improved your work as an Interpreter?**

CS: Things have gotten so much easier to access because now they are digital. Whether available on the members' or Interpreters' pages, RQ+, Sportorials, or the monthly Interpreter calls during the season, I have an easier time putting my educational trainings together because I don't have to spend all my time doing research.

**S: What challenges have you faced when implementing these tools, and how did you overcome them?**

CS: I think some of our officials aren't as adept with technology as others, so I try to provide the information to them in a way in which they can get out of it what they need. For some officials, I direct them to the IAABO website and for others, I break the information down for them so that they can open an email, read it, and take from it what they feel is beneficial to them.

**S: How do you engage with members to ensure they benefit from the IAABO tools you're using?**

CS: For me, I know I have achieved the desired outcome when officials email or text and inform me that they appreciate all the information that I provide to them. As an educator, I think it's important to reach your targeted audience in the way they learn best, so I try to use email, rules citations, PowerPoints, and videos to enhance learning. I also provide additional trainings on weekends towards specific groups (newer officials, females, etc.) because each group has their own distinct needs and concerns.

**S: Are there any IAABO tools or features you believe are underutilized but could make a big impact?**

CS: I think more of our officials would benefit from using RQ+ to watch the video clips. Visual learning is a great tool and being able to see a play, answer the question, and then be provided with the correct answer—with the rules reference—is the key to enhanced learning. It doesn't take much effort or energy, but the long-term impact is crucial to growing as an official. I also wish more officials would use their rules book beyond the pre-season examination process. Often, they ask questions of me when the answer can be easily found at their fingertips.

**S: What advice would you give to other Interpreters who want to make better use of IAABO tools?**

CS: Again, regularly promoting the numerous resources that IAABO provides through the different methods of communication (email, video and in-person training) is vital.

**S: How do you stay current with the latest features and updates of IAABO resources?**

CS: As the State Interpreter in Connecticut, we (the Interpreters on the other five local boards) check in with each other often with game situations and scenarios, which we then use in our local Interpreter's Bulletin. I try to read every email distributed by IAABO. I will bookmark certain emails or plays that can be used later as training questions during our board meetings or to simply remind our officials that they are receiving the same information and should read it.

**S: What feedback have you received from your peers or members about your innovative practices?**

CS: The feedback received from officials, whether on my board or another board in Connecticut, or when coaches and athletic directors reach out to me, is invaluable. I work hard to always be available and approachable to them. I respond to every question asked and respond through my board's "Ask the Interpreter" site, or simply answering game situation questions provided by coaches and ADs. I want all vested parties to feel as though they have a safe space to come to where they will have their questions asked with rules book support and that there are no "stupid questions."

**S: Can you share a specific success story or achievement that resulted from your approach?**

CS: In my first presentation this year to all coaches, I received a great deal of feedback in which coaches stated it was the most comprehensive training they'd ever received in the pre-season. We had very few uniforms, equipment and apparel issues this season, which is outstanding! Also, we had more officials using warnings and technical fouls, which on the surface may not seem like a good thing, but it means that officials felt more comfortable addressing poor sportsmanship issues this season. We need to be consistent with this message throughout the season.

**S: What future plans do you have to continue innovating or improving how you use IAABO tools?**

CS: For as long as I hold the positions of Board 6 and State Interpreter for Connecticut, I will continue to utilize the educational and training tools provided by IAABO because they are the best in the land. Our co-coordinators and leadership take pride in the information they provide to us and our officials will never be led astray as long as they follow the rules as written.

***"I also provide additional trainings on weekends towards specific groups (newer officials, females, etc.) because each group has their own distinct needs and concerns."***

# SPOTLIGHT ON SECRETARIES



by Dave Simon

## CALVIN PITTS

*Board 36,  
New York*

In a wide-ranging interview, Calvin Pitts, IAABO Board #36 (Albany, NY), described some of the tools and innovative techniques that help him effectively handle his position of Secretary. A big fan of IAABO University, Pitts cited it as a “big tool that helps us out” (in the secretary duties).

With “societal headwinds” making recruiting more difficult, Pitts said that IAABO U helps in recruiting the younger applicants necessary for staffing levels. IAABO U’s on-line functions are tailored to appeal and reach the next generation of basketball officials, he explained.

Pitts also said that RefSec, IAABO’s database, allows him to do his job more efficiently through its data entry on membership records. “Before we had this tool, a lot more was required of secretaries – testing candidates and record-keeping, for example. RefSec has helped me in my position,” he said.

Recruitment continues to be a challenge, he said, focusing on “serious head winds” driving officials off (poor sportsmanship, social media anger), citing a case where a member was attacked.

“Social media has hurt us on the recruiting side,” Pitts said. He noted that some stakeholders in the Albany area basketball world haven’t been helpful (athletic directors and coaches posting bursts of anger on social media). “That’s unhelpful. We don’t know if we’ve been able to overcome that,” he added.

One method Pitts is using to overcome some of these challenges is to pair veterans and experienced officials with younger officials coming up through the pipeline. “Those types of pairings, coupled with IAABO U, are a template for recruiting,” he emphasized.

He cited this type of pairing as one of the success stories for IAABO Board #36. “We have the 17-year-old son of one of our members currently working CYO (Catholic Youth

Organization) and youth ball. He mostly officiates with his dad. It’s a good template for us on how to proceed – get the father or experienced official together with their son, daughter, or younger official. Donnie Eppley is helping us out with this.”

To reach out for new officials, Pitts cited Arbiter, email, and Twitter as useful tools.

“We need to combat the negative social media. Those tools also help us keep in contact with our membership.”

In terms of any underutilized resources, Pitts said he could push RQ+ videos more with his membership. “We need to do a better job on this with our membership.”

“Be persistent,” Pitts advises other IAABO secretaries. “Try not to get overwhelmed.”

To stay current, Pitts said he reads IAABO’s Inside the Lines, “which has a lot of useful information.” Feedback he has received from peers has been positive, “even though there is always room for improvement. I helped advance our evaluation process for our less experienced members, migrating to online and digital tools to get more timely feedback from our more experienced members.”

Pitts is keen on pushing IAABO U as a tool to “help with certification and membership in IAABO for the under-30 demographic.” He also advocates for “further use of RQ+ to help with members’ knowledge on how to officiate plays.”

***“Before we had this tool, a lot more was required of secretaries – testing candidates and recordkeeping, for example. RefSec has helped me in my position.”***



# FOCUS ON CONTROL TO BE G-R-E-A-T!

by Layne Drexel

Control what you can and don't allow things that are out of your control to bother you! Easy to say or write and often difficult to accept. It is our hope that this article will provide information and tools that will enable you to be more effective and successful by focusing on the aspects of officiating that each of us has the opportunity and ability to control. Please consider how and why focus on these aspects will improve your effectiveness, both on and off the court. One immediate, critical, and lasting benefit of improving aspects of officiating we can control will be improved perception of others, including those in control. To improve your accuracy of rulings and effectiveness as an official, consider focusing on being G-R-E-A-T.

**G**ear up, Get ready and Get going! Plan and prepare for upcoming games, post-season opportunities you diligently work to earn and options for off-season improvement. Attention to observers, evaluators, and educational materials will improve your knowledge, ability, and confidence. As relatively insignificant as any one suggestion, article, or presentation might seem, your dedication to improvement, quality experience, and expanded knowledge of rules, signals, and mechanics will be recognized and rewarded. Designed or impromptu discussions, review of the IAABO Rules Guide and related rules, mechanics, or procedural guidelines will improve the effectiveness of you and your crew, probably sooner rather than later. Please discuss and take advantage of specific situational information and general areas of interest or concern, available and easily accessible at [www.iaabo.org](http://www.iaabo.org).

**R**equirements, Responsibilities, Record-keeping – Complete off-court business and professional responsibilities outlined by your State, Conference, and Board associations. Update your availability often and become an assigner's ally and not an assigner's nightmare. Initiate expected communication with schools and partners. To disarm potential naysayers who might not have your best interests in mind, earn and maintain a reputation of taking care of business professionally. Avoid behavior or lack of attention to details that might damage your reputation and/or impede your advancement.

**E**valuation – Self-evaluation; honest and appropriate – We are often our own best critics AND our most effective teachers. Review game video, check and double-check rules and proper rule and mechanics application of play situations you encounter or observe. Put the play that just occurred in the back of your mind, so you don't miss the next play. To ensure on-court accuracy, discuss unusual, possibly questionable rulings with your crew. After games, discuss unusual, questionable, or controversial situations with your partners, those you trust, maybe with your interpreter to address at your next meeting. When critiquing rulings, to increase your accuracy of future rulings, ask yourself this question: "If presented with a similar situation in my next game, will I do what I did or what will I do differently?" That question provides a great opportunity for discussion, as well as an excellent teaching and learning opportunity for crews and Boards.

**A**sk to learn and Add what you learn to your repertoire – Solicit information from partners, observers and evaluators. Always remain attentive, respectful, and thankful, even if you don't agree. Avoid replies that might be interpreted as direct or indirect attempts to defend your rulings, signals, or mechanics. "Yes, But," or other seemingly defensive replies will most likely end the observer's interest in providing further feedback.

**T**ake note, Trust, and Thank those who help you! Identify and pay particular attention to partners, observers, and evaluators who are knowledgeable and provide accurate information. Feedback that you believe is meant to help you improve, with no motive other than to make you a more effective official is valuable and should be seriously considered.

Within the parameters of proper rules application, signals, and mechanics, consider experimenting with techniques that might enhance your effectiveness. Note to self: Only experiment when failure won't impact the game! Styles vary, and what works for others may not work for you. However, if a new approach aligns with the rules, signals, and mechanics, give it a try—growth comes from stepping outside your comfort zone.

If you control what you can, maintain a positive attitude, hustle, and strive to be a great partner, your efforts will be noticed. Focus on improving your game and finishing the season strong. Best wishes!



## 60 SECONDS OF OFFICIATING WITH



### TONY LOPES

by Joe Maurer

#### **Time-Out Granted – Start the Clock**

Born and raised in New Britain, CT, this retired official has enjoyed a lifetime of experiences both on and off the court. After spending a professional career in the airline industry, he transitioned to a unique post-retirement hobby: judging barbecue competitions in South Carolina, alongside his wife, Kathy. These events, held to raise funds for charity, allow them to give back to the community while enjoying time together...and great barbecue!

Family remains at the heart of his life. Their son serves as a police captain, while their daughters work in healthcare—one as a surgical technician and the other as an ICU nurse.

Between spending time with their three granddaughters and savoring delicious barbecue, life is as full as it is fulfilling.

#### **15-Second Warning Horn – A Legacy in Officiating**

His officiating journey began in Fall 1971, when he passed the IAABO exam under the tutelage of Paul “Frosty” Francis, a former IAABO Executive Director. Official membership followed in Spring 1972, and in 2022, he celebrated 50 years of IAABO membership—a remarkable milestone.

As a lifelong member of Central Connecticut Board 6, he devoted his career to high school officiating,

holding several leadership roles, including Board 6 President and Connecticut State Board 5 President. Twice, he was assigned as an alternate to state final games, a highlight of his officiating journey. During his decade as Board 6 Secretary-Treasurer, he also served as a liaison to the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) Girls’ Basketball Committee.

For him, the camaraderie among officials and the friendships formed over the years are the most rewarding aspects of officiating. The ups and downs of the profession—having your integrity questioned one night and praised the next—are all part of the unique experience that only fellow officials truly understand.



## PIED...FOR A GREAT CAUSE

Chris Thornton, Board 111, Maine: *"On my way to officiate a basketball game, I got a call that started with, 'I have an idea.' Nothing good ever follows. The proposal? Raise money for [a family whose two-year-old was recently diagnosed with leukemia], allowing them to focus on what's most important! Of course I'm in! The plan? Play on fans' unwavering 'affection' for officials by auctioning off the chance to throw a pie in an official's face. The official? Wait, what?"*

Read More: [Veteran Basketball Referee in Maine Gets Pied for a Great Cause](#)



### Put the Ball Back in Play – Final Thoughts

When reflecting on officiating, he highlights the block-charge call as the most challenging—especially when it involves a double whistle. His favorite moment? Signaling a successful goal after a shooter is fouled, a call that always brought energy to the game. He valued partners who maintained strong eye contact and were always dependable on the court.

Tony's impact on the game and those around him speaks volumes. His dedication to IAABO, both on and off the court, leaves a legacy of excellence, camaraderie, and integrity.

Left to right: Butch Hall (former Secretary), Walter Cummings (President), Kevin Barbee (Interpreter) of Board 18, Maine

## The End of an Era

**A**fter 40 years, thousands of games and hundreds of state tournament games, this trio officiated what was probably their final game as a crew of three this season.

Kevin expressed, "Officiating is rewarding, but when you get to work with a crew like this for 40 years and have a good time doing it, it's that much better! The officials on this crew have been the pillars of Downeast Board 18, holding various positions on the board to ensure that our small board remained intact and provided quality officiating for Downeast Maine, while mentoring younger officials to maintain that tradition."

Congratulations to Butch, Walt and Kevin, and thank you for so many years of faithful service!





by TJ Halliday

# JUMP BALL

## ADMINISTRATION (Co2)

(IAABO Manual p. 37, IAABO Rules Guide Chapter 7, Segment 4)

*A well-executed toss is the officiating crew's first opportunity to ensure fairness for both teams. Understanding IAABO-approved procedures and the NFHS rules related to the administration of the jump ball is essential to ensuring that each game begins properly.*

### JUMP BALL PROCEDURE

#### BEFORE THE TOSS:

- The tossing official holds the ball and stands at the division line near the side-line, opposite the table.
- The officials should verify that the correct number of players for both teams are legally positioned on the court.

#### THE TOSSING OFFICIAL:

1. Indicates each team's basket by stating and signaling direction
2. Sounds the whistle
3. Removes the whistle from their mouth
4. Steps into the circle between the jumpers and prepares to execute the toss.

#### THE NON-TOSSING OFFICIAL:

1. Confirms the readiness of table personnel and verifies the correct number of players for both teams
2. Acknowledges readiness with the tossing official
3. Raises an arm to the stop-the-clock position
4. Prepares to become the Lead in either direction
5. Rules on the legality of the toss and the tap
6. Rules on any foul or violation by jumpers or non-jumpers

7. Signals the timer to start the clock by sharply dropping the arm from the stop-the-clock position when the ball is legally touched by one or both jumpers
8. Remains alert for rulings (e.g., travel, backcourt, out-of-bounds) that may occur behind the tossing official





## WHEN SHOULD A RE-TOSS BE ORDERED?

There are times when neither jumper will be able to tap the ball after the toss reaches its peak. This alone does not necessarily warrant a re-toss unless the non-tossing official rules that the toss was inaccurate.

An inaccurate toss is one that is too high or not straight, making it unfair to the jumpers.

If the toss was accurate (straight and at an appropriate height) and the jumpers missed in their attempt to tap the ball, it is still considered a legal toss if one or both jumpers make contact before it touches the floor.

If the ball lands on the floor without being touched by one or both jumpers, a re-toss should be ordered.

The non-tossing official is primarily responsible for ruling on the legality of the toss. In some situations, the tossing official may need to quickly put the whistle in their mouth to sound the whistle and rule on an inaccurate toss if necessary.

### RESTRICTIONS: ON JUMPERS

The following are considered violations by the jumper:

- Contacting the tossed ball before it reaches its highest point
- Leaving the center circle before the ball is contacted by a jumper
- Catching the ball before jump ball restrictions have ended
- Contacting the ball three times

### ON NON-JUMPERS

Once the tossing official is ready to toss the ball and until the ball is tossed, non-jumpers are prohibited from the following:

- Moving onto the center circle before the ball is tossed
- Changing positions around the center circle

These movement restrictions apply only to players within three feet of the center circle. Until either or both jumpers have contacted the tossed ball, non-jumpers are prohibited from the following:

- Breaking the plane of the center circle with either foot
- Moving into an occupied space (6-3-5)

### PENALTY

When players violate jump ball restrictions, the opposing team is awarded a designated-spot throw-in nearest to where the violation occurred. If the violation occurs in the offended team's frontcourt, the throw-in is from the nearest of the four designated frontcourt throw-in spots.

If the official's toss is poor, or if players from both teams commit violations simultaneously during the jump ball, the official must re-toss (9-6).

### WHEN DO THE RESTRICTIONS END?

The jump ball and its restrictions end when the ball, which was legally touched by either or both jumpers, contact(s) any of the following:

- One of the eight non-jumpers
- An official
- The floor (6-3-8)

### RULING ON CONTACT

During the jump ball, the contact rules need to be applied. If either jumper contacts one another in a manner that inhibits their ability to legally tap the ball, a foul should be charged. The crew should also be aware of contact that could occur near the center circle that inhibits or displaces a player who is trying to put themselves in a position to secure the ball.

The jump ball usually only lasts a couple seconds, but there are many important principles to apply to ensure we start the game properly.



# DEFENDING YOUR OFFICIALS FOR IAABO BOARDS IN 2025

by Alan Goldberger

During the traditional high school and prep season, most IAABO officials work under rules and regulations adopted by their respective state's interscholastic athletic association or similar governing body. In some states, more than one governing body or conference organization may promulgate rules modifications or procedures that affect the "default" NFHS playing rules for interscholastic play. As officials, we work in venues controlled by boards of education, municipalities, religious organizations, and other private entities. In non-scholastic basketball, still other rules variations and protocols may apply; in all venues, state and sometimes local laws may impact our game — and the calls we make. Laws and regulations related to players' hairstyles, adornments and special needs combined with other civil rights laws and legislatively imposed safeguards for potentially concussed student/athletes all present legal challenges for officials' navigation. Outside influences and notions of entitlement can complicate our game in a heartbeat. Against this backdrop, it is inevitable that officials are taken to task at time for this, that or the other ruling, call, or "no-call" during the game. Mostly, the game, and life goes on.

What about, though, when the complaint continues

well after the final buzzer? What about when players, coaches, administrators, principals, parents, politicians, and other onlookers—"experts" in their own minds on the rules of basketball—take their complaints public or formalize their grievances to governing bodies and others? Then what?

All IAABO boards need to have procedures in place for dealing with complaints and defending their officials or otherwise responding to public statements and demanding communications from governing bodies, as well as all manner of partisan and ill-informed onlookers. This is especially true in today's culture, where a sizable portion of the population is of the view that every opinion is worth the same as every other opinion. Among these folks are many who distrust authority of any kind: especially those of us in the striped shirt.

As every IAABO member knows, complaints come with the territory. So, without question, running an IAABO board the right way means you need to have in place a method for dealing with complaints. How, then, do you go about preserving the integrity of the board when one of its flock is under fire? For this, let's unpack a bit.

Defending your officials involves communication, investigation, discretion, and the ability to articulate the facts and not accept a false narrative advanced by those who refuse to take responsibility for their actions. To be sure, answers may depend, to some extent, on the board's contractual responsibilities, the method of assigning, the legal relationship of your board, if any, to the state interscholastic athletic association, and your board's constitution and/or bylaws.

## **First Things First: Determine the Nature of the Complaint**

Experience tells us that complaints containing "judgment call" scenarios or conspiracy theories are not subject to review. For such whining, the briefest point response to that effect is sufficient. In all cases, initial screening must be made to determine if the issue presented is such that your board is authorized to act. Does the subject matter of the complaint relate to an issue that your board is authorized to deal with? In this regard, the operative question for initial review of a complaint against a member, in most cases, needs to be: "If the allegation is true, is there a violation of our board's bylaws or constitution?" Only if that question can be answered in the affirmative, would definitive board action be triggered as appropriate.

It is important also to consider the source of the complaint. Complaints against associations come from a variety of sources. Clearly, a three-page letter from a





## ***Defending your officials involves communication, investigation, discretion, and the courage of the board's convictions.***

superintendent of schools, or the executive director of the state interscholastic athletic association deserves some serious scrutiny. Conversely, an email signed only by *drainitfrom25@freeinternet.com* is just as anonymous as the complaint received without a return address and written in crayon.

Refer to the right people. If a complaint involves an official not appearing for a contracted assignment, making inappropriate personal or harassing remarks, demeaning, or disrespecting another person by acts or words, or a similar offense, there should be a provision covering hearings and sanctions. If the complaint is that an official misinterpreted a rule, you may need to ask an interpreter to review it and then refer to the right committee. The latter complaint, made against an independent contractor/official, reflects an opinion that the official made a mistake—not that they are bad actors. A mistake of this nature is not ordinarily characterized as a bylaw violation necessarily with a view towards disciplinary action.

### ***Gathering Facts: Investigate***

The appropriate person or committee should be identified in your bylaws. Be sure to follow your bylaws to the letter in obtaining your member's response to the charge. Here, your board's counsel can guide officers in a proper protocol for the current investigation and handling of future complaints.

### ***Take Appropriate Action / Response***

Finally, board officers need to keep in mind that an IAABO member is entitled to notice of the charges and a hearing prior to imposing any suspension or expulsion sanctions.

### ***When a Complaint Goes Public / When Offense is Better than Defense***

For more serious issues, inquiries or communications from a state high school association or other governing body may be made directly to the official involved. When a state governing body refers an inquiry or a complaint directly to the official involved; or any time an IAABO board is notified by a member or by a governing body that the latter requires a report or statement from the official, the Board needs to take the lead in responding. If there is an unusual or controversial situation, most states require a report from the game officials. A special report is almost universally required in the event of a disqualification for a flagrant foul. If other situations result in a request from a governing body to

commission a report from the official, you will need to get the board involved. Alert boards do not leave their officials to fend for themselves. Aside from assisting the official in responding, your board's attorney can help in coordinating an appropriate response should a complaining coach or school administration go public with their disparagement of your officials. State high school associations customarily have in their regulations prohibitions on public criticism of game officials. Be familiar with those rules in your state; so that you can document in your response (1.) any team personnel violations of the sportsmanship rules during and after the game—including the public disparagement of your officials; and (2.) any evidence of poor or non-compliant administration of the school's ath-



letic program in terms of security, department of coaching staff, and on-site supervision—all of which can place our officials in danger.

### ***Conclusion***

IAABO boards need to deal effectively with complaints from a variety of sources. Defending your officials involves communication, investigation, discretion, and the courage of the board's convictions. Should the complaint be found to be without merit, the position of the board should be explicitly communicated to the governing body or sponsoring organization involved. Should the official commit a bylaw violation, sanctions, after hearing may be merited in appropriate cases. In all cases in which your officials' conduct is at issue, following your board's well-drafted bylaws in addressing the matter may avoid expensive and untoward legal consequences for your board and your officials as well.



# MASTERING THE CRAFT OF OFFICIATING

by Mike Preston

Officiating basketball requires sharp focus, strong mechanics, and constant self-improvement. Whether you are a seasoned veteran or a junior official just starting out, there is always room for growth. Becoming a better official means learning every day and applying your skills with consistency and confidence. Here are some key principles to guide your journey as a basketball official.

## ***Be a Lifelong Learner***

To excel as an official, you need to be a student of the game. This involves not only watching games but also studying the rulebook. A good habit is to read five case book plays every day. This keeps your knowledge sharp and helps you make the right calls in the heat of the moment. The game of basketball evolves, and so should you. Constant education is key because, in officiating, there is no finish line.

As you learn, always use the right terminology for the level you're working. Clear communication with coaches, players, and fellow officials is essential, and using the proper language helps avoid misunderstandings on the court.

## ***Master Your Positioning***

One of the most important aspects of officiating is positioning. In the Trail position, you need to maintain a “big picture” mentality, making sure not to overrun plays. Remain sideline-oriented in a three-person crew, and when the ball is inbound, allow it to enter the court for at least three steps before moving in. This ensures that you maintain a good perspective on the play.

In the Lead position, getting the right angle is crucial. You need to be ballside as much as possible and set up so you can see the front of the basket. When rotating, do not do so blindly—keep your eyes on the action. Focus on the defender in one-on-one situations but also be quick to shift your eyes to the secondary defender, especially when the lowest defender to the end line is involved.

In the Center position, get to the free-throw line extended quickly when there is no pressure in the backcourt. On fastbreaks, do not overrun this position—staying in the right spot allows you to observe the play without being caught in the middle of it.

Across all positions, remaining still and stationary when making rulings is important. Moving too much can affect your ability to get the best angle. Work on your court awareness by watching film and evaluating your positioning. If you watch video in fast-forward mode, you will train your eyes to pick up key details more quickly.

## ***Develop Strong Communication and Game Management Skills***

Good officiating is about more than just making accurate rulings—it is also about managing the game. Be sure to practice your signals. They should be strong, crisp, and clear, not stiff or



sloppy. Clear signals demonstrate confidence and help everyone understand what is happening on the court.

Pre-game preparation is another critical part of success. Effective pre-game meetings with your crew allow you to discuss key situations, such as managing out-of-bounds violations, warnings, potential ejections, or when to offer or ask for help. In-game communication is just as important. If you need help on an out-of-bounds violation, ask for it, and if a fellow official gives you information that might be incorrect, do not let your ego get in the way. Discuss it calmly and work as a team.

### **Stay Focused from Start to Finish**

As an official, every second of the game matters. From the opening tip to the final buzzer, you need to stay engaged. Clock management is a crucial aspect of officiating, and it is your job to ensure the game flows smoothly. This includes managing timeouts—make sure you keep your eyes on the players as they head to their benches and walk with them until they separate and clear the court.

Even when a game is winding down, your job is not over until you've left the visual confines of the court. Treat each possession with the same level of attention and never take plays off. If you are caught behind on a fastbreak, do not recklessly chase the play—pull up and get a good angle instead. The game moves fast, and you need to move smarter, not harder.

### **Maintain Professionalism and Respect**

Basketball officials must uphold a high level of professionalism at all times. Treat players, coaches, and athletic directors with respect, and avoid using any language that could be viewed as unprofessional—especially profanity, as it can never be defended.



Arrive on time for games and communicate with your partners beforehand. Whether by phone or email, a quick check-in with your crew before game day ensures that everyone is on the same page. Your role is to create

an environment of trust and respect, both on and off the court.

### **Stay Fit and Encourage Growth**

Fitness is vital for keeping up with the pace of the game. Work on your conditioning all season long so you can maintain focus and make accurate rulings, even during long or fast-paced games. Beyond physical fitness, mental fitness is important too. Learn to “read the room” and understand the emotional tone of the game—this will help you manage tough situations with calm and authority.

Finally, experienced officials should always look to mentor junior officials, encouraging them to learn and grow. Junior officials, in turn, should be eager to learn from veterans. Basketball officiating is a team effort, and everyone benefits from helping each other improve.

Officiating is a craft that demands dedication, precision, and continuous self-improvement. By practicing good positioning, maintaining open communication, staying focused, and working hard on your fitness, you can improve your officiating skills. Remember, this is a “get better” business, and there is always more to learn. Stay sharp, stay humble, and always strive to be the best official you can be.



# BE A MENTOR

by Bill Gerencer



According to the book ***A Course in Miracles***, the act of teaching others is inherently a process of self-learning and transformation. When the time comes for an official to share their knowledge and experience with others, it benefits both the teacher and the student.

James Naismith was, first and foremost, an educator. He created the game of basketball in response to a need for students attending the International YMCA Training School—essentially a school for gym teachers in Springfield, Massachusetts—to have a game that could be played indoors during the winter months. When Naismith was asked to develop the game, one of the stipulations was that it should be devoid of rough physical play.

According to David Hollander in his book *How Basketball Can Save the World*, Dr. Naismith's eureka moment came when he realized, “If he can’t run with the ball, we don’t have to tackle.” This realization



gave birth to the original 13 rules. That first rulebook evolved into the NFHS Basketball Rulebook and the IAABO Handbook. These are living documents that change in response to the evolution of the game. The IAABO Handbook, in particular, is more than just a rules guide—it is both a teaching and learning tool.

In every official's path to development, acting as a mentor to newer officials is a significant step toward becoming a better official. By teaching, we all improve. Let's face it: as with all human endeavors, we are collectively, and perhaps unfairly, judged by our worst moments and the actions of the weakest among us.

The steady march toward excellence in officiating is led by a group of passionate officials who love the game, love officiating, and work diligently to elevate the level of professionalism, expertise, and knowledge of the entire community. This progress is no accident.

Because basketball is a team game, we all need to do our part. Being a mentor is a terrific way to rack up some assists—especially when the volume of learning required for a new official can be overwhelming. There are at least six subjects that need to be mastered: rules, signals, floor mechanics, procedures, communication, and making the call.

The rules are a lifelong pursuit. There are excellent preseason class sessions where officials learn and relearn the rules before the start of every season. New rules and rule changes are covered in these sessions. The rules book is the foundation of our authority as officials. It is our home, our happy place, and it prevents basketball

learned and taught. Words, signals, body language, temperament, and actions all speak for us. Friendly, professional, rules-based language provides the correct platform and reinforces our authority and responsibility to make rulings. When teaching about ruling, remember the words of IAABO Board 21 Interpreter Barry Fuller: "It's just a ruling. Make it calmly, without emotion."

Making the ruling can be the most difficult aspect to teach. For many of us, it comes naturally, but repetition helps. Seeing the game and making rulings improve with experience. It helps if we use correct mechanics, are in the right place, and have the discipline to focus on what we are supposed to be watching. It is also helpful to remember that we are constantly making rulings, and, hopefully, most of them do not require a whistle and a stop-the-clock signal.

from devolving into chaos. When Dr. Naismith presented the game to the first 18 players (it was nine-on-nine back then), there were punches thrown, tackles, wrestling, several black eyes, and a dislocated shoulder. He eventually succeeded in teaching and officiating the rules book. When mentoring a new official, it is helpful to include rule references, including page numbers, with each teaching point.

Signals are especially important. The correct application of signals is akin to speaking sign language. If we signal poorly or with too much emotion, we can easily convey incorrect or confusing information. This never ends well. Calm, precise signals communicate effectively with our partners, the scorer's table, players, coaches, and spectators. It is up to us to speak clearly. Again, rules references are helpful for new officials.

Floor mechanics and procedures are crucial. Knowing how to move, where to look, when to start and stop counts, how and where to report (using signals), how to handle dead-ball situations, how to restart the game, and a host of other situations rely on good mechanics. Floor mechanics and procedures allow us to work as a team. The IAABO Handbook states, "Good mechanics and signals create good teamwork, and good teamwork results in a well-officiated game." Mechanics can be found in the handbook, but experience is the best teacher.

Communication is also key. From the moment we arrive at the gym, throughout the game, and until we leave, how we communicate indicates our respect, knowledge, and professionalism. We communicate with our partners, athletic directors, coaches, players, fans, and others involved. Effective communication is a skill that can be

Finally, some basic teaching points:

Focus on catching your student doing something right. Learning to officiate can be difficult. There is a lot to be aware of and to remember. A mentor who constantly criticizes can be disheartening. Encourage, don't complain.

- Reference the rules. Provide page numbers so students can seek more information. This emphasizes the importance of the rules.
- Observation is important—both ways. Watch their games, invite them to watch yours. Even better, get scheduled together. This allows for hands-on teaching.
- Tell them what you are going to tell them. Tell them. Then tell them that you told them.
- Listen. Don't just talk—you may learn something.
- Stick with them. One and done is not mentoring. Follow up the next year if they are open to it.

Best whistles!

# REMEMBERING IAABO LIFE MEMBER WILLIAM "BILL" KENNEY



## LIFE MEMBER

William Francis Kenney, known as "Bill," "The Hook," or "The Poobah," passed away on December 20, 2024, at 91. Born in Queens, NY, on September 27, 1933, he excelled as a multi-sport athlete at St. John's Preparatory School before attending Yale University, where he played baseball and studied chemical engineering. His passion for sports, especially basketball officiating, defined much of his life.

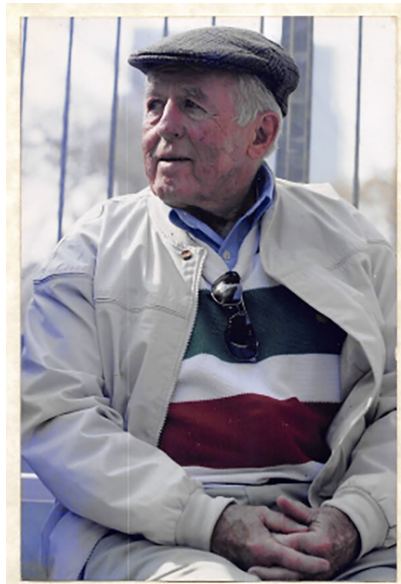
Bill officiated for 54 years, beginning with the Western Suffolk Board on Long Island. His career took him to Syracuse in 1960 and later to New Jersey, where he joined IAABO Board 33. He played a key role in forming Board 168 and became its Interpreter and cadet rules instructor, positions he held for over two decades. He was awarded Life Membership in Board 168 in 2012.

Beyond high school officiating, Bill officiated college games for 30 years, including

in the Northeast Conference and the Big East.

He was named New Jersey's Boys' Basketball Official of the Year in 1993. After retiring in 2011, he remained dedicated to training officials and contributed to IAABO's national training initiatives, Sportorials, and Referee Magazine.

A devoted father of nine and grandfather of 25, Bill also coached youth teams, served his community, and authored detective novels. IAABO honored him with Life Membership in 2020. His legacy as a mentor and friend will endure in the officiating community and beyond.



## OUR CONDOLENCES TO...

### Board 12, DC:

- Richard Ogletree, on the passing of his wife, Juliett Ann Ogletree

### Board 34, New Jersey:

- The entire Board, on the passing of their member, Jay Threadgill

### Board 41, New York:

- Carl Small, on the passing of his mother, Muriel Small
- William Matthews, on the passing of his mother, Dorothy Matthews
- Coz Delillo, on the passing of his mother-in-law
- Mike McMahon, on the passing of his father-in-law

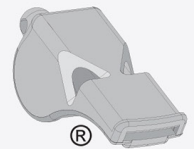
### Board 59, New York:

- The entire Board, on the passing of member and long-time Secretary, Fran Clark

### Board 800, CBOA:

- John Bonczewski, on the passing of this mother
- Jim Miller, on the passing of his mother
- Darrell Sterling, on the passing of his father-in-law





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