

## ARTICLE 21

### BASKETBALL

#### 21.1 RULES

- 21.1.1 Official rules for basketball shall be those published in the current edition of the National Federation Basketball Rules Book.
- 21.1.2 For girls' contests, all Conferences shall use the women's size basketball.
- 21.1.3 School athletic programs at all levels are subject to disciplinary action when a school team is removed from the floor or field prior to completion of the contest.
- 21.1.4 Basketball coaches may use the 14' coaching box as prescribed in the National Federation Basketball Rule Book.
- 21.1.5 Mercy Rule – When at the conclusion of the third quarter, or any point thereafter, when a point differential of 30 or more points is reached, a running clock shall be instituted for the remained of the game, regardless of the score with the following exceptions; during:
- Time outs
  - Any injury (clock stopped by official)
  - Technical fouls

The running clock shall continue until one (1) minute remaining in the game. At that time, the game will conclude using regulation clock rules. This applies to all levels of play.

#### 21.2 SEASON OF SPORT

- 21.2.1 The AIA Standardized Calendar shall be used to identify the starting week for practice, competition and the conclusion of post-season competition.
- 21.2.2 The season of competition for a school shall conclude with that school's last AIA sanctioned competition.
- 21.2.3 Winter Season
- |              |                        |                       |
|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Practice     | no sooner than the     | 18 <sup>th</sup> week |
| Competition  | no sooner than the     | 21 <sup>st</sup> week |
| Championship | to be concluded by the | 36 <sup>th</sup> week |
- 21.2.4 Pre-Competition Practice - Practice shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the guidelines set forth in Bylaw 14.17.2 – Heat Acclimatization Protocol, where applicable.

#### 21.3 PRESEASON INTERSCHOOL VARSITY SCRIMMAGE

- 21.3.1 A preseason interschool varsity scrimmage may be played with the following guidelines:
- 21.3.1.1 No official score kept.
  - 21.3.1.2 Game uniforms shall not be worn.
  - 21.3.1.3 AIA officials may be used.
  - 21.3.1.4 Scrimmage shall be open to the public with charging a host school option.
  - 21.3.1.5 Unlimited substitutions
  - 21.3.1.6 Coaching permitted during play.
  - 21.3.1.7 Time-outs are unlimited.
  - 21.3.1.8 Any other adjustments mutually agreed upon by coaches and officials before the scrimmage begins.
  - 21.3.1.9 Scrimmage shall be limited to six eight-minute quarters between two schools.
  - 21.3.1.10 Scrimmage shall be held during the third week of practice.
- 21.3.2 Schools may hold multi-school scrimmages while adhering to bylaw 21.3.

**21.4 SCHEDULES**

21.4.1 If scheduling difficulties occur, schedules may be increased by one game. The additional game shall be approved by the AIA Executive Board.

**21.5 NUMBER OF GAMES IN SEASON**

21.5.1 No school shall schedule more than 20 varsity games, including two invitationals, which shall count as one game each.

21.5.2 No Conference school shall schedule more than 19 junior varsity or freshman games per team.

21.5.3 No player shall participate in more than six (6) quarters/night.

21.5.3.1 **EXCEPTION:** 2A/1A, because of their limited enrollment, may permit a player to participate in an unlimited number of quarters/night during the season.

**21.6 CONTEST PARTICIPATION**

21.6.1 When a student enters an interscholastic contest, regardless of the length of time, it shall be considered participation in the interscholastic contest.

**21.7 INTERSCHOOL COMPETITION** – White jerseys will be worn for home games; dark color jerseys for away games.

**21.8 COACHES / COACHING**

21.8.1 The AIA shall not have regulations concerning coaches coaching their own school teams during the summer vacation period. Summer vacation period shall be identified as beginning with the last day of school and extending to the first day of football practice allowed by AIA bylaw.

21.8.2 Coaches may coach their own teams and/or team members beyond the first day of football practice, providing the team is participating in a summer league play-off game or tournament.

21.8.3 Coaches / Players - Game participation outside the season of sport between coaches and players of a single school for fund raising or entertainment purposes will not jeopardize the eligibility of any high school player.

**21.9 SCHOOL EQUIPMENT**

21.9.1 The only school equipment which may be used out-of-season is weightlifting equipment and basketballs, as well as the school gymnasium.

21.9.2 School Transportation During Summer - School provided transportation for summer activities is a local option.

21.9.3 Schools may, at the discretion of the school district governing board, use the gymnasium during the summer vacation period.

**21.10 POST-SEASON TOURNAMENTS**

21.10.1 Post-Season Tournaments

**NOTE:** See Article 12 for additional post-season tournament rules.

21.10.1.1 Date and Sites

21.10.1.1.1 The AIA Executive Board shall determine the dates and sites for post-season tournaments.

21.10.1.2 There shall be team post-season tournaments as determined by the AIA Executive Board.

21.10.1.3 Single elimination tournaments shall be used to determine each championship.

21.10.1.4 The AIA is responsible for determining pairings.

21.10.1.5 No more than **15** players shall suit up, participate, or be listed on the roster of a school team for post-season tournaments.

*(Section 21.10 cont'd. on next page)*

- 21.10.2 Awards – The AIA Shall be responsible for the purchase and standardization of all post-season tournament awards. (See Article 13, Section 13.1).
- 21.10.3 Practice on Site - A practice or competition on the site of the State Championship tournament, except for a regularly scheduled contest, is not permitted for seven calendar days prior to the post-season Championship, except in the case of the host school.

DETERMINATION: The host school may participate at the site only if that is their regular practice site. (Ex. Bd. 10/77)

21.10.4 Protests

- 21.10.4.1 In the event of a question or a protest during a qualifying tournament or post-season tournament, the decision of the Tournament Director shall be final.
- 21.10.4.2 Regular season protests, if any, will be handled as indicated in the current edition of the National Federation Basketball Rules Book.

**21.11 UNIFIED BASKETBALL** – A joint effort between the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) and Special Olympics of Arizona (SOAZ) to incorporate Unified programs in AIA member schools recognizing and offering opportunities for SOAZ athletes and partners to compete in an AIA sanctioned activity. Unified Basketball programs shall be administered by each participating member school and follow the requirements per AIA Bylaws for eligibility, rules and program administration, unless otherwise stated below.

- 21.11.1 Official rules for Unified Basketball shall be those published by the SOAZ and AIA prior to each season, as approved by the AIA Executive Board.
- 21.11.2 All participants must have the appropriate pre-participation packet completed including the pre-participation physical per the AIA Executive Board as recommended by the AIA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee for the respective participants (See Article 15, Section 15.7).
- 21.11.3 In order to further participation in the Unified Sports initiative, participation by SOAZ athletes will have the following exceptions to AIA eligibility requirements:
- 21.11.3.1 Exception regarding enrollment and domicile (Article 15, Section 15.5 and 15.3.1): SOAZ athletes may participate in a cooperative program among member schools for the purpose of creating combined school teams.
- 21.11.3.2 Exception to Academic Rule (Article 15, Section 15.4.1): SOAZ students participating will follow the guidelines as set forth in their individual educational plans.
- 21.11.3.3 Exception to the Age Limit Rule (Article 15, Section 15.6): SOAZ athletes will be eligible per age limitation of SOAZ and AIA rules for Unified Basketball.

