

September 11, 2019

Dear COA Basketball Officials:

We will kick off our meeting schedule a little differently this year. Our first basketball meeting will be held in conjunction with our Annual General meeting on **TUESDAY, October 8, 2019 at St. Laurence High School**. We will have a basketball meeting at 6:30 followed by our general membership meeting where pizza and beverages will be served. All COA members are encouraged to attend. These general meetings are your opportunity to share your thoughts, comments and opinions on the direction of our organization as well as to elect three Board members. Please come out and support your association.

Our basketball rules interpretation and instruction meetings will again be held at **De La Salle High School**. All meetings commence at **7:00 PM**. The meeting schedule and presenters are as follows:

**Tuesday, October 8, 2019 Special Guest Speaker: Tom O'Neill**

We are very pleased to have veteran NCAA official Tom O'Neill on hand to kick off our basketball season. This is a unique opportunity to have an official of Tom's caliber and experiences speak to you about officiating. Don't miss this opportunity.

**Tuesday, October 15, 2019 Presenters: John Szafraniec & Chuck McNellis**

Veteran official and long time COA member, John Szafraniec will help us all improve our in game communication skills; "Effective communication: what would you say to the player/coach in this situation?" John will also provide a demonstration of accessing and reviewing game video which will help you improve as an official. CCL Assignment Chairman Chuck McNellis will discuss the expectations from an Assigners perspective and what you need to do to advance and succeed in officiating high school basketball.

**Tuesday, October 22, 2019 Presenters: Steve Honacki & John Washo**

New CCIW Assignment Coordinator Steve Honacki along with John Washo will provide valuable insight in "Building Your Foundation" and improving your game. They'll be talking about strategies to help your officiating, whether you are brand new or a long time veteran. Additionally, there will be a panel of officials on-hand to answer any questions you may have about officiating. You will get an opportunity in advance to provide questions to the panel.

**Tuesday, October 29, 2019 Presenter: Jeff Rutledge**

IHSA clinician Jeff Rutledge will provide a thorough discussion and numerous videos relating to game interrupters and how to handle illegal screens, hand checking and those other situations which we all deal with during every game. Jeff will certainly have an interesting and useful presentation which will definitely help all of us as we deal with these critical plays during the season.

**Tuesday, November 5, 2019 Presenters: Josh Schroeder & Christian Kopp**

IHSA clinician Josh Schroeder will be in attendance to provide all with our much needed help in handling those challenging block – charge plays. His insight will certainly help us all as we prepare for the coming season. Josh and Christian will also discuss the importance and benefits of "paying it forward" so we can all do our part to improve and maintain the officiating ranks in high school basketball.

**Tuesday, November 12, 2019 Presenters: Dan Dyra & John Scanlon**

Dan and John will attempt to help you prepare for handling difficult and troubling game situations. The best way to handle any of these situations is to be prepared. Attend this meeting and you will certainly be on the right track. We will also review part 1 of the IHSA test with Professor Scanz. His review will certainly help improve your score and rating.

**Tuesday, November 19, 2019 Scrimmage and Social - De La Salle H.S.**

**Scrimmages begin at 6:00 & Social immediately thereafter.**

Those attending five of the above seven meetings are eligible to receive credit for a level 1 IHSA clinic. Whether you are a longtime veteran official or a beginning official, please attend as many meetings as possible. Your attendance, involvement and participation at the meetings are vital to the overall success of the COA and all our officials.

For those of you looking for yet more officiating help tune into the monthly Webinars of Josh Schroeder. Contact Josh directly at [jschroeder@sphotos.com](mailto:jschroeder@sphotos.com) for training dates and topics.

Many of us have officiating gear that no longer fits but still has some useful life. Every year we get a few new officials who are in need of a shirt, a pair of pants or shoes to get their officiating career started without the major expense of buying all new equipment. Please consider donating any equipment you no longer use for these new officials. If you have anything to donate please bring it to a meeting, we will have these items on display for officials to take home.

***Be sure to visit the COA's website [www.coaofficials.com](http://www.coaofficials.com) to keep abreast of all COA announcements!***

Thanks for being a part of the COA and for your commitment to officiating.

**C.O.A. Basketball Committee**