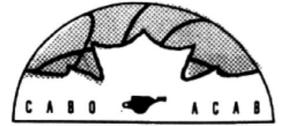




NEWFOUNDLAND ASSOCIATION OF BASKETBALL OFFICIALS



NABO RETURN TO OFFICIATING GUIDELINES 2020

In the era of COVID, in order for NABO members to be able to officiate games in the three branches (SJABO, CNABO, WNABO), the following guidelines are mandated that officials need to follow prior to, while at, and after officiating a game.

INSURANCE - be advised that there is **NO INSURANCE FOR COVID -19!** Your Association has insurance through the NLBA (for NLBA games), its own policy for non-sanctioned games (ie) High School, and if you officiate "for-profit" business, the Association has ensured our officials are covered for liability and medical/injury by the owner(s) of the "for-profit" business.

Prior to the Season Starting:

Please submit the following to your local branch contact as determined by the branch. These forms MUST be signed before you are legally able to referee:

Form 1 - All Members - Declaration of Compliance - COVID- 19

Form 2 - Members over the Age of Majority (19) - RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT.

Form 3 - Members under the Age of 19 - RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT.

AT HOME: (before you go to the gym)

1. Ensure you are dressed at home in your officiating gear. No change rooms will be available.
2. Take your own water bottle (filled), hand sanitizer (>70% alcohol) and/or wipes and a towel.
3. Wash your uniform after you get home. Make sure to clean your shoes and whistles.
4. Bring your own pen for signing waivers at the facility.
5. **Fill out your Daily Attestation form (Form 4)**

AT THE GYM:

1. Provide the league executive, convenor, or organizer in your assigned gym the **DAILY COVID-19 ATTESTATION AND AGREEMENT FORM (Form 4)** prior to **EACH GAME YOU OFFICIATE ON THAT DAY. Please submit this to THE LEAGUE/TOURNAMENT/OWNER OF BUSINESS, BEFORE you step on the court to referee.**
2. Follow all on-site and safety protocols.

3. Be prepared to follow any and all on-site screening by the client, including questionnaires re: COVID-19 and temperature checks.
4. Wear your mask into the gym and upon leaving the facility.
5. Follow the entrance and exit guidelines of the facility.
6. No physical contact with your partner(s) - smile and nods. Try to physical distance from player and others as much as possible during non-playing time.

DURING THE GAME:

1. No Jump ball to start the game. One team (home/away) will start the game with a throw-in at midcourt, as determined by the organizers.
2. Referees should not be asked to take on or agree to any condition, obligation or duty that is not reasonable or consistent with the referees role in the game or directly in the referees' control under the rules.
3. Referees should not take on the responsibility of enforcing COVID-19 related protocols, or any circumstance that may expose the official to additional risk.
4. Organizers should supply a minimum of two (2) balls that have been cleaned and sanitized before the game. The balls are not to be used in the players warm-up or in intervals of play. The balls are to be available at the score table 10 minutes prior to game time and clearly marked 1 and 2.
5. Organizers are responsible to ensure table officials, who are both trained for basketball and COVID-19 matters, are available and at the table 10 minutes prior to game time. They should be properly spaced and have designated roles.
6. At each time-out or interval of play (quarter time and halftime), the ball in-play should be exchanged for the other ball. A designated table official should clean and sanitize the ball to have it ready to be switched back in at the next time-out or interval of play. The game organizer should supply the cleaning and sanitizing tools for the balls.
7. Referees can make small adjustments to mechanics and procedures in an effort to reduce the number of whistles in the game, that would typically be blown in close proximity to players such as:
 - eliminate the whistle at the bench to activate teams out of a time-out
 - no whistle to start the game, after quarter breaks or a time-out;
 - no whistle before a frontcourt end line throw-in;
 - eliminate extraneous whistles; and
 - use the bounce pass mechanic, from 1-3 metres, for all throw-ins
 - In addition, referees are encouraged to use their voices instead of the whistle to communicate in a dead ball period.
8. However, should you need to use your whistle, keep it sharp, clear, and crisp but not long.
Note: CBOC will test electronic whistles for future use and will provide additional guidance after the testing is complete.
9. Refrain from shaking hands, fist bumps and high-fives with players, coaches, table officials and others.
10. When appropriate, practice physical distancing (i.e. dead balls, pre-game, timeouts, and intervals of play.)

11. Refrain from unnecessary touching of the face, eyes, nose, and mouth with the hands. Practice moving the whistle into your mouth and not touching your face.
12. Avoid unnecessary contact with others not directly involved in the game, including spectators and other referees leaving the court before you or arriving after you.
13. Referees must clean their hands with hydroalcoholic gel / hand sanitizer prior to the beginning of the game, at halftime and after the game, before exiting the facility. Alternatively, if locker room facilities are available, they can wash their hands for at least 20-30 seconds with warm water and soap.
14. Referees should strongly consider bringing their own hydroalcoholic gel / hand sanitizer and having it available at the bench for breaks in the game, including quarter time.
15. Ensure you know who will be responsible to address infractions of health and safety protocols by players, coaches, fans and event organizers during the game and use that person when necessary.
16. Have fun! We should all be excited to get out on the floor and referee.

AFTER THE GAME:

1. Referees should clean their hands with hydroalcoholic gel / hand sanitizer or wash their hands for at least 20- 30 seconds with warm water and soap.
2. Leave the facility promptly, take any possessions and garbage you create with you.
3. Respect physical distancing guidelines after the game.
4. Thank your partner and exit from the parking lot as soon as possible.
5. Shower at home immediately after the game. Even if a locker room is available, avoid using public facilities and go home and shower
6. Carry a separate 'laundry bag' to put any clothing or other equipment in that you used while on site.
7. Ensure your whistle is cleaned and sanitized as soon as possible after the game and avoid carrying it in a manner that it may cross-infect or be cross-infected by other possessions. Following the completion of the game, the whistle should be placed in a clean container and washed at home.
8. Ensure your officiating gear is cleaned, sanitized, laundered and ready for your next assignment. Do this soon after your arrival home to prevent any germs from festering in your gear.