

IHSA BASKETBALL RULE ADOPTIONS FOR 2024-25

1. The Mercy Rule (Rule 5-5-3) will be used in all regular season contests, regular season tournament games, and through the Super-Sectional level in the IHSA State Series contests. A running clock shall be used in the fourth-quarter games that have at least a 30-point score differential. Once a game reaches this differential and the clock starts running, it will continue running and stop only for one of the following:
 - A team timeout
 - An injury timeout or the removal of a disqualified player.
 - The administration of a penalty for a technical foul
 - An officials' timeout
 - Correctable error situation

Note: The Mercy Rule will not be used during the Boys or Girls State Final contests.

2. The IHSA has adopted the use of a 28' Coaches Box for all regular and post-season contests. Schools and officials are reminded that the use of the box is NOT a requirement. However, if the box is going to be used, it must be placed on the floor in accordance with rule 1-13-2. Schools and officials are also reminded that rule 10-5-4 and 10-6-1 clearly articulate the manner in which coaches can be off the bench within the confines of the box and the manner in which officials are to penalize the head coach or other bench personnel who violate the provisions of the Coaches Box rule.
3. Member schools may use the 35-second shot clock in the regular-season.
 - i. May be used in regular season, regular season tournaments, and shoot-out games without prior approval by the IHSA Office. The decision to use the technology is left to conferences and individual schools.
 - ii. For non-conference games, both schools must agree in advance to use the technology.
 - iii. The model rule previously adopted by the IHSA Board of Directors must be used.

NOTE: Implementation of the 35-second shot clock will begin with the 2026-27 season state series.