

## **POLICY ON ARRIVING LATE TO MATCHES ESPECIALLY REC BALL AND TOURNAMENTS**

When scheduled for any school and tournament matches we are expected to arrive **AT LEAST 30 MINUTES** prior to the start time of the match and at least 20 minutes before rec ball matches.

We all know that tournament start times are an estimate as matches often go faster than expected. It is important to remember that tournament directors want to keep things moving along so if the start of your first match is 1:00pm and they are ready to start at 12:30pm they are not going to wait for you to arrive. That means that the referee already present is going to work your match. Once they start that match and it goes more than 6 or 7 points then that is their match and when you arrive it is their choice whether to complete the match or turn it over to you.

To ensure that you don't "lose" a match by recommendation is to show up 45 minutes prior to the assigned start time if the assignments is in the late morning or early afternoon. That's just how tournaments roll. So if a ref starts your match and doesn't want to give it up at least you understand why.

For rec ball matches, officials and gym supervisor are instructed to call me if the ref is not there 15 minutes before the match **UNLESS** they've called another ref who is scheduled on another court. Once I am notified I drop everything and scramble to find someone who is close to the gym and can cover the match. If you were the person assigned to the match and you show up late, I highly recommend that you call or text me to let me know you arrived. If you don't and I find a replacement referee then when they arrive at the gym it is their option to work the rest of the evening or not. If they choose to ref then please get down off the stand and go home. If they chose to let you continue the match then they will at least receive your mileage fee and you will not. How do you avoid this situation? Arrive on time or at least call me and the other officials at the school and let us know your arrival status. Be courteous and call ahead of time. It saves time, grief and embarrassment for all concerned. But, be sure to know who is refereeing at the gym that evening and have access to their phone numbers.

This same procedure applies for school matches as well. If you are late and nobody knows about it until the AD calls me then if I find a ref to cover the match (under the assumption that you are not there since no call has been received) that person who gave up their evening to cover a match gets to choose whether to turn around and go home or take the match. If they choose to turn around and go home, they get the mileage fee and you do not.

Thanks for your understanding of this policy.