

This week, let's all work on our Foul Reporting. Below is the guidance from the National Federation of High School (NFHS) Sports, with some elaboration by me:

(Rule 2-9-1 Signals)

- The Official will move to the designated reporting area on the floor (you don't need to go right to the table, just close enough to be seen and heard).
- Make sure you have the attention of the scorer prior to giving the numbers (look the scorer in the eyes).
- Indicate the color of the jersey for the player who fouled, the number, and the infraction (blue, forty-three, hit).
- The Official shall report fouls to the scorer by using two hands to display the jersey number of the person who committed the foul.
- The official's right hand will indicate the first digit of the number or the tens and the left hand will indicate the second digit of the number or the ones.
- The official shall extend the arms shoulder high towards the table to display the numbers (make sure to do this slowly and deliberately and at shoulder level).
- The digits of the number should be displayed at the same time.
- When reporting, verbalize (loudly) the number as twenty-four **not** two-four (this changed a few years ago).
- Indicate the type of foul using the proper signal (block, player control, hit, two-hands, etc.).
- If one, two or three free throws are to be attempted, after indicating the number, indicate the number of free throws by using one hand.
- If the team is in the bonus for the seventh, eight or ninth foul, indicate the bonus situation raising both hands and display a raised index finger on each hand.
- If the foul is a team control foul, after the official signals the specific type of foul, the official will turn and signal such with an extended arm, closed fist parallel to the table and sideline, indicating no free throws will be attempted.
- After reporting and if no free throws are to be attempted, the official will turn from the table and indicate the throw-in spot to his partners as to where to resume play.

Have a great season and see you in the gym!

- Rob Grunewald, National Federation High School, Certified Basketball Official

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