

## Game Video Scouting Rules Clarification

There seems to be some questions about our game videoing policy for coaching purposes. Though I could pontificate endlessly please allow me to get to the bottom line.

I. Common courtesy

Going into another school's gym to video WITHOUT their permission is a breach of common courtesy. Though certainly not intended to offend it should not be "presumed" that it's okay.

II. Agenda item for discussion

Our ACAA committee meets at least three times per year. I always encourage everyone to place any item on the agenda for consideration. "Scouting" has not been on the agenda for a good number of years. However, when discussed it has never been considered a problem because no one travelled to film a game. Therefore, in the absence of an ACAA specific rule we adhere to the National Federation and the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) Rules, which is our standard and adopted practice.

III. Further explanation

The National Federation Coaches Code of Ethics, as adopted by the ACAA says on page 86 of the 2022-2023 Basketball Rules Book that...***Coaches shall not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the league and/or the state high school association.***

THEREFORE, our rule is to comply with THE AHSAA rule which states...

Rule III, Section 23. Video Restrictions: ***A school or anyone representing the school may not video tape, record, internet stream, nor film any contest in which it is not involved unless it has received permission from both participating schools. No outside group or individual may video, tape or film any contest without permission from all participating schools.***

Conclusion: The rule is clear and the path to changing it is clear as well. If we want our league to have credibility, we must adhere to rules that are adopted through due process. We believe that we have done that. We make sure that every school gets an up-to-date National Federation rule book for each sanctioned sport. We make every effort to explain exceptions. As you may recall we discussed our approach to a basketball "shot clock" at our last meeting, and I followed up with detailed notes.

We have excellent athletic leagues for our students. And that is because of the quality of persons in our schools that lead and coach. A special thanks to all of you! THANKS!

Robin Mears, ACEA Executive Director