

From: ArbiterSports messaging@arbitersports.com
Subject: Basketball Uniform Compliance - Officiating Memorandum
Date: December 20, 2024 at 4:02 PM
To: timnicometo@gmail.com



Basketball Officials-

The MSHSL shared the memorandum below regarding uniform compliance with all basketball head coaches and Activities Administrators. We are seeing a number of instances where uniforms are not compliant with NFHS Rules or Minnesota Modifications. Specifically, we are seeing dark numbers on dark jerseys or home jerseys using colors that are not dark including yellow, Carolina blue, and other light colors. The below memo is also posted on the Arbiter MSHSL Central Hub Basketball page.

If you see jerseys on your games that do not meet the specifications noted below, please file a contest report which can be found on the Arbiter MSHSL Central Hub, under the Officials and Judges header. Also, the head coach should be charged with a direct technical foul to begin the game.

We realize that uniform policing is not our favorite duty, but it is still part of our responsibility as an official to ensure the best possible experience for all involved. We appreciate your diligence and commitment to making uniform compliance part of your routine before each contest.



2024-2025 MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

To: Basketball Coaches and Activities Directors
From: Lisa Quednow, Director of Girls Basketball; Phil Archer, Director of Boys Basketball; Jason Nickleby, Director of Officials
Date: 12/20/2024
Subject: Uniform Compliance: Contrasting Numbers on Dark Uniforms

Basketball Coaches and Activities Directors:

Uniform compliance is important and required. Ensuring the visibility of player numbers is critical for accurate scoring, officiating, and audience engagement. To this end, all teams must ensure that numbers on dark uniforms are clearly contrasting and easily legible. The best practice is to use white numbers on any dark uniform.

NFHS Basketball Uniform Rules (Rule 3-4) and Minnesota Modification to Rule 3-4:

Dark Uniform Base: Uniforms with a primary color considered dark (e.g., black, navy, dark green, etc.) must feature numbers that distinctly contrast with the base color. Dark - uniforms should use black or the darkest color in the school's color scheme

- **Number Contrast:** Numbers must be in a solid contrasting color. *White is the preferred color for maximum visibility.*

- **Compliance Standards:** All uniforms must adhere to NFHS rules and Minnesota Modifications. Non-compliance may result in penalties.

Recommendations for Non-Compliant Uniforms:

- **Screen Print:** Add white numbers over the current color.

Alternate Uniforms: Work with opponents and wear white uniforms for the season until the issue is resolved.

Order New Uniforms: Place an order for compliant uniforms.

For further Basketball Uniform information, see the [Basketball Uniform Requirements](#) poster. (Also available on the Arbiter MSHSL Central Hub - MSHSL Sports - Basketball

page.)

Compliant uniforms are essential in ensuring a positive experience for players and officials. Please review your current uniforms and address any compliance issues promptly.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.