

2025-26 Seatbelt Rule

**All coaches shall remain seated on the bench at all times during the game
with the following exceptions:**

HEAD COACH ONLY

- a) In case of an injury, THE HEAD COACH may leave the bench to aid an injured player, provided they are beckoned on the court by an official.
- b) Requesting a prevention or rectification of a correctable error (Rule 2-10) as specified under rule 5, Section 8, Item 4. (Responds to the scorer's signal to grant a coach's request that a correctable error be prevented or rectified. Such a request shall be presented while that ball is dead and the clock is stopped. The appeal to the official by the HEAD COACH shall be presented at the scorer's table where the HEAD COACH of each team may be present).
- c) The HEAD COACH may stand up to call time-out when his/her team has the ball, whether the clock is running or not and signal, forming a "T", calling a time-out.
- d) The HEAD COACH may confer with personnel at the scorer's table regarding a timing error, scoring error, or alternating possession error. If an error is not prevented or corrected, the team will be charged with a time-out.
- e) A HEAD COACH will be allowed to stand and confer with a player(s) whenever the clock is **not running** or **during a free throw**. Communication with the player(s) only, should be done in a positive manner and shall take place directly in front of where the HEAD COACH is seated. When the clock starts following a throw-in or last missed free throw, the coach shall return to his/her seat immediately. *This will allow the HEAD COACH additional opportunities to stand up and instruct players while the clock is **not** running during the game or during free throws.*
NOTE: *The officials will not delay a throw-in administration to permit the HEAD COACH additional dead clock time to visit with player(s).*
- f) Disqualified player: Upon the HEAD COACH'S notification of the disqualified player, the HEAD COACH may stand and congratulate the disqualified player and walk the confines of his/her bench to select a replacement for the disqualified player. The rule states, a disqualified player must be replaced within 20 seconds from the time the HEAD COACH is notified. Any unsporting acts on the coaches' part are subject to being assessed a technical foul.

HEAD COACH AND ASSISTANT COACH:

- g) BOTH coaches may stand up to congratulate a player being substituted for.
- h) During a charged time-out, both coaches may leave the bench to confer with players at or near the bench.
- i) During an intermission, both coaches may leave the bench to attend to their squads.
- j) BOTH coaches may stand up to show approval for an exciting play in the game, when a basket is scored or an outstanding play takes place by a member of their team, and then MUST IMMEDIATELY return to the bench. (IF YOU'RE STANDING LONGER THAN **15 SECONDS**, IT'S TOO LONG. MODIFICATION OF THE RULE IS INTENDED TO ALLOW COACHES TO CHEER FOR GOOD PLAYS; BUT EVERY PLAY CANNOT BE INTERPRETED TO BE A GOOD PLAY.)

PENALTY: VIOLATION OF THIS RULE WILL BE SUBJECT TO TECHNICAL FOULS.