

Utah High School Activities Association Basketball Mercy-Rule Change beginning with the 2025-26 Season.

35 Point Rule: An alternate timing rule is in effect for all levels (i.e., varsity, junior varsity, sophomore, freshmen) of Utah high school basketball games **when after halftime is over**, a team's lead exceeds 34 points.

Modified Rule: The clock shall run continuously for the remainder of the game, except for the following reasons:

- a. An official's time-out
- b. A charged team time-out
- c. Free throws are taken

If the differential drops below 35 points, the clock still runs continuously until the game is over, except for the stated three reasons. The shot clock will still be utilized regardless of the score differential.