

TO: NCAA Division I, II and III Coordinators of Women's Basketball Officials.

FROM: Marcy Weston
National Coordinator of Women's Basketball Officiating

Barbara Jacobs
Secretary Rules-Editor.

SUBJECT: December 4 Teleconference Follow-up.

The following coordinators were absent from the call: Gooch Foster (Pac-10), Andrea Osborne (Big West) and Dana Senders (West Coast).

A. Points of Emphasis. (B. Jacobs)

1. Post Play.

Post play must be called according to the guidelines established. Two forearms, two hands and a forearm and a hand together must be called immediately without waiting to see what happens with the ball. These are automatic calls and must be made with consistency.

All pushing and shoving (displacement, dislodgement) must be called. If two players are pushing each other and dislodging each other and officials are not sure who started it, call a double foul.

The initial set-up of the post players to get the desired position close to the basket is where most of the displacement occurs. Officials need to see the whole play and call the displacement early and often (every time it occurs).

2. Hand Check.

For the most part teams are keeping their hands off the dribbler, but officials must not let up because once the hand touching is allowed even just a little, more will follow. Players will do what officials allow them to do. Consistency with this is paramount.

Body checking has become more prominent especially when two defensive players are trapping the ball handler or dribbler. The defensive hands must stay off the ball handler or dribbler and the defenders may not body up and displace the ball handler or dribbler.

The ball handler or dribbler is not allowed to lower the shoulder to try to push through the trap. Displacement by the offensive ball handler or dribbler is also a foul and must be called.

B. Rules Clarifications and Rule Book Corrections. (B. Jacobs)

1. Please refer to the November 26th posting on the web site for the clarifications and corrections.
2. All Division I Institutions must have the proper game clock, shot clock and red light equipment.
 - a. The game clock must have tenths of a second on it. The game clock does not have to be mounted on the backboard as part of the shot clock. However, to have the game clock mounted on the backboard is the ideal situation.
 - b. The shot clock must be mounted on the backboard.
 - c. There must be a red light behind the backboard (see diagram on page BR-32). The red light mounted on top of the shot clock does not meet the requirements. A waiver has been given to NBA arenas where college teams also play for the LED strip of lights attached to the backboard. The LED lights may remain on the backboard as long as they are turned off and there is a red light mounted behind the backboard.
 - d. Coordinators are asked to send me the names of the institutions in their conference that do not meet the requirements and a letter of non-compliance will be sent from the rules committee to them.
3. Artificial noisemakers (this includes inflatable noisemakers, whistles etc.) are not to be used while the game is in progress. The only time the game is not in progress is during timeouts and intermissions.

Handling this situation is up to the home game management and the officials. Officials should contact the game management personnel when the noisemakers are used improperly and allow them the opportunity to get the fans to stop using them. A public address announcement should be made telling them the consequences of continuing to use the noisemakers at an improper time. If this does not stop the use of them while the game is in progress, the officials should assess an indirect technical foul.

4. The wearing of American flags on team uniforms is permitted as long as the flags are in the proper place (See rule 3-5.7).

Coordinators are asked to remind their institutions that the flags may not be worn on the back of the uniforms. There have been no waivers issued for any teams this year to wear them on the back of the uniforms. The flags must be moved to the front left shoulder strap.

5. Coordinators and officials are reminded that there must be media present in order to use the media timeout format (See rule 5-10.3).

For example: A team is hosting a four-team tournament. Only one team has media present for their game. The game that has media present will be played under the media timeout format and the other game that does not have any media present will be played under the non-media timeout format.

C. Mechanics/Rules Application. (M. Weston)

1. Delay of Game ? Huddles (BR 121-22, 10.3.1.c.1).

Repeatedly delaying the game by preventing the ball from being promptly put in play, such as delaying the administration of a throw-in or free throw by engaging in a huddle any place on the playing court

Penalty: One warning to team who fails to comply. Indirect technical foul shall be assessed thereafter.

2. Traveling ? Catching the ball while moving.

Players catching a pass in transition often take too many steps prior to passing or starting their dribble. Officials need to pay attention to this play to insure an advantage is not gained by the offense.

3. Post Play Officiating.

When opposing post players are moving their bodies to maintain position, are not displacing each other and are not holding or violating post guidelines, many times a foul(s) has not occurred. However, if dislodging does occur and the official cannot determine which player is at fault, a double foul may be called.

4. Hand Checking vs. Foul on Shooter:

Officials were instructed at the clinics to delay blowing the whistle when the defender hand checks a dribbler who is one dribble away from the basket. If the basket is made, call the foul and shoot one, if the basket is missed, shoot two. DO NOT CONFUSE this hand check philosophy with a play involving the defender fouling the shooter. Do not delay calling a foul by the defense on the shooter. Call it when it happens and shoot one or two free throws depending on if the shot was made or missed.

5. NCAA Signals.

Officials are to use NCAA approved signals. Do not use signals from other rules bodies!

6. Call Go Tableside Mechanics.

Refer to November 26, 2002 website posting.

D. General Information for Coordinators.

1. Bulletins to National Coordinator.

Coordinators must forward to Marcy Weston copies of bulletins sent to their officials, coordinators and observers. Please send via e-mail (marcy.weston@cmich.edu), fax (989-774-5391) or regular mail (Central Michigan University Athletics, Rose Center, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859).

2. Web Site Access.

Please contact Marcy Weston to give her your conference website access information.

3. Staff Breakdown/Ethnicity Forms.

Staff Breakdown/Ethnicity Forms are due to Marcy Weston by December 15, 2002.

4. Next Conference Call.

Wednesday, January 8, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. EST. is the next officials conference call. The dial in number is 913/981-5558 and passcode is 216058, the same as last call.

BJ/MW:br

cc: Directors of Athletics of Independent Division I Institutions
NCAA Division I, II and III Conference Commissioners
NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee
NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee
NCAA Selected Staff Member