

## Basketball Newsletter on the Daily Grind

# January 2015

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter:** Lets look at a few plays...it is good each year to look into your rulebook and casebook to stay on top of your game. Many times we have situations where we have to make a quick judgment and being able to back yourself up with knowledge of the rules can only help.

### PILING ON

#### PLAY 1

A1 is dribbling in the frontcourt, when the ball is tapped away. A1 dives for the ball, retrieves it and covers it with his or her body. As A1 prepares to roll it to a teammate, B1 slides into A1, reaches across A1's body and arm to firmly place his or her hand on the ball. **Ruling:** That is a foul for two reasons: Initial body contact (pushing foul) and reaching across the arm (holding foul). Remember it was because of the illegal contact; B1 was able to tie the ball up.

#### PLAY 2

The ball is knocked away from A1 and A1 dives on it. B1 runs over and reached down through A1's arms to firmly place both arms on the ball. **Ruling:** No foul. B1 reaches through his opponent's arms; B1 is not contacting A1, so that is a legal tie-up/jump ball. The team with the alternating-possession arrow is entitled to the throw-in.

These may be calls coaches overreact to because of the hustle play, which is how they will try to defend their kid in most cases. Let them know the reasoning behind the foul/non-foul.

#### Play 3

Team A is shooting 1-and-1 after the 8<sup>th</sup> team foul on team B. During the shot (that does go in) Team A pushes Team B in the back, which is the 8<sup>th</sup> team foul. What is our order of events? With the new rule of going on the release this is a possibility of happening unless we can talk them out of it since the shot went in. **Ruling:** The free throw went in so it counts, clear the lane and shoot the second free throw for team A. Since this was the 8<sup>th</sup> team foul on team A we will have team B go down and shoot 1 & 1 with the ball in play.

#### Play 4

A1 catches the throw-in pass with one foot on the floor in A's frontcourt and the other foot not touching the floor. The non-pivot foot then comes down in A's backcourt. **Ruling:** Violation. Player and team control are established in A's frontcourt when A1 catches the throw-in pass. The violation occurs when A1 subsequently touches the backcourt with the non-pivot foot.

\*\*\*Free Throw Mechanic- As the T the proper place to stand is at the 28' line not at the division line. Sometimes you may have an irate coach or a situation that you may want to back away so there is less controversy. Otherwise lets make sure we are all on the same page and stand at the 28' line.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter: Lets hear from the coaches

In this section you are going to see comments that come from Coaches across the state. I think as a referee it is always nice to hear what coaches do have to say. These coaches vary from different sizes and locations, but what they are expecting from us. After getting some of their responses basically we all know they want consistency and it is our goal to get us all on the same playing field. \*\*\*Remember what those automatic fouls are and keep calling them deep into the season the kids will adjust as many already have. It makes for a much cleaner and more enjoyable game to watch and officiate.

“Here is what I have seen this year. During our jamboree I asked one of the officials about the new hand checking rules and he told me that it was absolutely not a rule, another official on the crew told me it was but they would only call it if they felt it effected the play. Whether it effects the play depends on which player you ask, if I'm the defender I would say its not effecting anything but if I'm the ball handler having hands on me effects what I do. **In pressing situations I feel like the intent of the rule is not being carried out.** The rule as written permits one contact, I would say in a press if 3 different people contact you once each in a 5 sec or 10 foot span you have been fouled. I understand the ramifications of calling this foul every time but I feel some officials, especially in the girls game don't call it because they don't want to extend the length of the game.”

“ I do like the new rules that were put in place. However I do think there is a ton of inconstancy. **The biggest 2 points that aren't called often enough is the extended arm bar and continuous hand.** I was in a game earlier this year and I was asking the ref is that not continuous hand? His reply well he's touching him when he dribbles but I didn't think it was enough to call the foul. I said continuous hand is a foul and he disagreed. I feel like there are some refs that have done a great job at calling things and some that I have had over the years that are not willing to adjust.”

“Throughout this season I have been happy with the rule changes as it as made for a much easier game to coach offensively. I believe we are giving the offense the right they deserve instead of getting to be so hands on like in the past. I hope that officials keep calling it the way they have started out the season and it does not change during the conference and post-season play. I still believe that to many arm bars are being let go.”

We all know that games are going to be longer this year and we have got to accept it, as each team deserves what is right for the game. Consistency, consistency,

consistency...this is what every coach begs for and it is different to each coach, as we know. Our goal is to be consistent throughout the entire state so lets make sure we keep calling those automatic fouls that we noted in the first newsletter.

## **Second Half:**

### **Missed Rotation**

We all have had it happen or will happen when one of the three officials does not recognize it. Don't panic if you have two leads on the floor just remedy the situation. What is the best remedy for a missed rotation?

1. Use your voice. Communicate across the gym to get your partner's attention is the best way to correct the missed rotation. Eye contact and a discreet point of the finger may also work.
2. Don't panic. The most important person in the missed rotation sequence is the new trail. The new trail should be aware of the partner locations, trail the play down court and simply fill in the missing gap.
3. Move on. Don't let a missed rotation affect your play calling. Know in advance that it can and will happen and don't be surprised when it does. As a crew it may be wise to discuss what caused the missed rotation.

### **Communication Between Basketball Officials and Coaches**

It is recognized that both coaches and officials play an integral part in the development of the game and its players. The game is about the players. Coaches and officials are expected to be role models to the players. It is understood that basketball is a competitive environment and that people will have emotional reactions. However, there is an expectation that all participants model acceptable behavior during competition. There is concern with the effect inappropriate responses, reactions, and communications have on the game and its players.

Communication between coaches and officials and officials and coaches should be done in a respectful and sincere manner.

\*Coaches and officials are reminded that it is both what you say and how you say it that delivers a message.

\*Be mindful of the tone you are using to communicate with each other.

\*Communication is not only the words you speak, but include body language and gestures. There is no reason to use hand gestures when talking to a coach or to even show what happened, just explain yourself.

\*If you miss a call and the coach questions you, do not be afraid to admit, "Coach I probably missed it, but at my angle I was not going to guess." Do not think you get every call right.

Communication should not be confrontational or on a personal level.

Communication should be done in a respectful and professional manner.

- \*Coaches and officials should not let their emotions get the best of them.

- \*It is not acceptable for coaches or officials to be yelling across the court at each other.

- \*Treat each other as professionals and adults.

- \*Communicate in the manner that you want to be communicated with. If you are a coach and your first communication of the game is "Ref! That's a travel!" or you are an official and your first communication is "Coach! That's enough!" we are not communicating in an effective manner.

- \*It is a good practice for the officials to introduce themselves to the coaches before the game. Both coaches and officials should look to create a positive working rapport.

**Overtime:** Reminders from our observers.

Be sure to have your schedule up to date as there is nothing more frustrating to come to a game planning to watch a guy work and they are not there. Each official likes to get evaluated and this process of keeping your schedule up to date will only help both sides of the party.

\*\*\*Reminder: When you are in the T position during a free throw do not release too early, as you need to stay and officiate the play.

**From The NHSOA Director:**

As the Trail, close down when a shot attempt goes up or there will be rebounding action on a FT. This will not only put the official in a better position to cover rebounding action but will keep from "baling out" until the ball is secured.

As Center, after a shot is made hold your position until you are sure there will be no pressure. If both the Trail and Center mark a three, C should drop the signal and concentrate on rebounding action. T will have shooter.

As Lead, stay off the baseline at least 4 feet and mirror the ball. Make sure and close down before initiating a switch, continue to officiate your old PCA until the switch is complete.

Basic reminders:

Make eye contact with partners before inbounding the ball, non-administering officials should signal they are ready.

Keep the whistles to a short loud blast on fouls and violations, refrain from the tweet-tweet-tweet. If we are communicating as a crew we shouldn't have to tweet to

bring subs in as well.

Kelly Classen

**A final comment:**

Officials let other be officials and do your best to be supportive of one another or try and help each other out. If you have a daughter/son playing for a team please stay out of the referee's locker rooms as we do not allow other parents in there.

Both officials and coaches should strive for quality communication that supports the development of the game and the players.

Both officials and coaches are expected to be effective, efficient, and respectful in their communications.

Be sharp for post-season as it is around the corner and most importantly enjoy the game. Thank you for all your effort and time.

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**NSAA Observers:** If you have questions or concerns the observers are there to help. Please use these emails wisely and do not give them out to anyone. The observers are being kind enough to share any knowledge they have.

Thanks

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