MEMORANDUM

December 1, 2015

TO: NCAA Divisions I, II and III Coordinators of Men’s Basketball Officials.

FROM: J.D. Collins
National Coordinator of Men’s Basketball Officiating.

Art Hyland
NCAA Men’s Basketball Secretary-Rules Editor.


Because of the importance of this information, we appreciate your consideration and effort in providing this bulletin directly to all officials and head coaches in your conference. We believe that providing this information to each institution demonstrates a continuing commitment to maintaining and improving the officiating in every game. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

This information will also be available on the ‘Coordinator’s Meeting’ section of the men’s basketball officiating website at www.ncaambb.arbitersports.com

I. We have had a positive start to the 2015/16 season. Officials are addressing the directive to reduce physicality in order to create freedom of movement in six key areas:
   A. Hand checking/body bumping the ball handler – Rule 10.1.4
   B. Physical post play
   C. Freedom of movement
   D. Rebounding
   E. Screening
   F. Offense initiated contact

We must stay diligent in adjudicating these directives. Conference Coordinators will be receiving statistical data in the coming week. Compared to the same point in the season last year, we still have a few conferences that are actually calling less fouls per game this year than last year. While that is possible given the adjustments by coaches, it is unlikely that should be the case. Let’s all continue to be diligent regarding calling fouls on physical plays!
II. Art Hyland, Secretary Rules Editor comments

A. Officials shall use the shot clock to administer the 10-second backcourt rule and shall use a visible 10-second count when there is no shot clock visible. Rule 2-7.9. There is no rule permitting instant replay during the game to determine the time remaining on the shot clock when it has been turned off. Rule 11-2.1.c.

B. A try for goal by Team A from its backcourt with 1 second remaining in the 10-second backcourt count results in the loss of player/team control. Therefore, there is no 10-second backcourt violation as long as the official deems the toss as a try for goal. Rule 4-9.4.c and 9-10.

C. The ball has attained front court status when a Team A player in the front court jumps in the air, catches a pass from the backcourt and then lands in the backcourt. Therefore, there is no 10-second backcourt violation. However, this play could result in a backcourt violation unless the initial pass to the front court was a throw-in. Rule 9-12.3.a, 9-10 and 9-12.10.

D. In the last two minutes of the second period or any extra period, no substitute shall be permitted to enter the game and no timeouts shall be granted until after the results of the review have been communicated to both head coaches. Rule 3-6.1.i, 5-15.1.f and 11-2.1.e.

E. Following an inadvertent whistle committed when a coach requests a timeout during a live ball, the official should immediately put the ball back in play with a reset of the 10-second backcourt count. Since the ball is dead following the inadvertent whistle, either coach may be granted a timeout. Rule 5-14.1.c and Case Play Situations dated November 3, 2015.

F. When there is a delay caused by water on the floor as a result of a team huddling in front of the bench during a timeout, that team should be given a delay warning for failing to have the court ready for play per Rule 4-10.1.e and 4-10.2.
III. I have some general information to share followed by some specific mechanics reminders:

A. The Regional Advisors and I have been evaluating games and noting trends. I want to remind you that the evaluation reports will be sent to you the Coordinators and it is your responsibility to forward these reports on to your officials. The timing of when you send those evaluation reports is your decision, but let’s all do our part to get the evaluations to the officials in a timely manner.

B. The first in-season training video will be released later this week. It will deal with vertical cylinders, arc plays and POV on offense initiated contact. I would request that D1 coordinators forward me clips on the following areas: cylinder plays, faking being fouled and getting the teams out of the huddles. Any other clips you can send my way would be greatly appreciated.

C. Mechanics Review:
   a) Time-outs:
      I have been impressed that officials are slowing down the beginning of the time-out reporting procedure. This process needs to continue for the entire length of the game. By slowing down the beginning of the time-out procedure, we will effectively help ourselves at the end of the time-out.

      It has been suggested to me that there are officials less willing to assess warnings and technical fouls for coming out of huddles because they fear the repercussions of their coordinator. A Class B technical foul is only 1 shot penalty and point of interruption. Be sure to communicate with your staff that you want the procedures followed and that you will support it.

   b) Trail Position:
      I have noticed that some officials are not in the habit of getting near center court on preliminary free throws. Please see page 27 of the CCA Mechanics Manual for the new mechanic.

      I would like to remind everyone that when there is less than 30 seconds left in a period, the Trail official MUST have a visible 10 second backcourt count. By rule, we are not allowed to use the game clock for our count.
c) Trail & Center:
On arc plays, the trail and center MUST be active and engaged. If the defender’s feet are “in, on or above” the arc, the trail & center must engage the lead to offer information on the play.

d) Lead Position:
The lead must mirror the ball and close down to get the best angle possible on plays to the rack. I am still seeing officials setting up too wide at lead and even backing out when the play is coming to the rack. In addition, closing down will allow the lead to be in a better position if a rotation is necessary.

e) Arc plays:
As a reminder, it is possible to have one foot outside the arc and one foot below the arc (from the bottom edge of the arc to the baseline) and not be a restricted area arc play. Everything below the arc is to be considered “not inside the arc.”

f) Old habits:
We are all creatures of habit. This year more than ever requires each of us to embrace new habits. I am still seeing officials that are not attempting to use the mechanics listed in the CCA Mechanics Manual like stopping the clock on all fouls and violations. This most often happens on B/C plays and OOB plays. Encourage your officials to use proper mechanics.

Please emphasis to your veteran officials that they have a leadership role in enforcing the directive to reduce physicality; slowing down the beginning of time-outs, enforcing delay of game warnings and using proper mechanics.