

Good morning! Hope you had a relaxing weekend!

Today's tip.....secondary defender in the paint on a drive from C in three-person (or from T in a two-person game). Take a look at the clip [here](#).

First – the call appears correct – the defender slid further under the ball-handler/shooter AFTER he left the floor. A block is called on this play from C.

Second – should C have had this call? In the thought process in today's officiating world, the lead is generally responsible for secondary defenders. In this play, the drive beats the initial defender(s) in the zone and a secondary defender tries to take a charge. In almost every play like this, the official where the drive initiated (C here) does NOT have positive knowledge of how that secondary defender got to his position.....whether it was legally obtained and maintained. L has a MUCH better look at secondary defender and can officiate this type of contact. As Marty said in his weekly reminder, we need to referee the defense but think like the offense. C (or T in two-person) cannot effectively referee the defense on a drive to the basket with a secondary defender.

This is a MUST topic in a pregame conference.....make sure to get the crew on the same page!

Bonus tip.....checking the books procedure.....

Make sure to go to the table *before* the 10:00 mark. If there IS an issue with the books, hopefully it can be rectified before it IS an issue at 10:00. Make sure to check several items in the book:

- Count the number of players for each team, write that number in the space below the last name and draw a line through the rest of the team spaces (this will tell you if someone erased your check of the book later in the game)
- Make sure there are 5 starters for each team
- Make sure there are no duplicate numbers on a team – if the numbers are not in numerical order, start at the lowest number and place some sort of mark (tic mark) beside each number successively until all numbers have been marked and assuring that there are no duplicates or illegal numbers
- LEGIBLY PRINT your name and partner(s) name(s) in the correct location
- CHECK THE VISITING BOOK ALSO TO MAKE SURE IT MATCHES EXACTLY!
- Talk to the scorekeepers about duties and remind him/her that eye contact when we report a foul is critical
- Talk with the timer about responsibilities (warning horns, etc)
- Check the ball for acceptable inflation

Hope you have a great game tonight!

Tim