Good morning!

THREE days till official games! Think about you goals for this year.....goals of a playoff game or one more round than last year....these are great goals, but also think about what you CAN do to improve your game....those are the little goals that help you achieve those bigger goals. Maybe a great goal is to help the younger official who has potential and could benefit from you taking him/her to a game of yours or to go evaluate him/her on one of that official's games.

Remember that the future of what we do will be determined in part by how WE, as experienced officials, HELP others......most of us are successful in great part to the help that someone gave us. Sometimes we are not aware that a 'good word' has been put in until much later or a phone call was made to ask about us that helped us move along, but those things happen daily! Be a great teacher and share the wealth of knowledge with others!

Yesterday's clip was a back court violation off the jump ball. Today's clip is a jump ball situation as well (thanks Craig Bradley!). Take a look at the clip here. So what do you have on this? Here is the rule book section about the jumpers:

ART. 5

Until the tossed ball is touched by one or both jumpers, nonjumpers shall not:

- a. Have either foot break the plane of the center restraining circle cylinder.
- b. Take a position in any occupied space.

ART. 6

The tossed ball must be touched by one or both of the jumpers after it reaches its highest point. If the ball contacts the floor without being touched by at least one of the jumpers, the official shall toss it again.

ART. 7

Neither jumper shall:

- a. Touch the tossed ball before it reaches its highest point.
- b. Leave the center restraining circle until the ball has been touched.
- c. Catch the ball before the jump ball ends.
- d. Touch the ball more than twice.

ART. 8

The jump ball and the restrictions in 6-3-7 end when the touched ball contacts one of the eight nonjumpers, an official, the floor, a basket or backboard.

NOTE: During a jump ball, a jumper is not required to face his/her own basket, provided he/she is in the proper half of the center restraining circle. The jumper is also not required to jump and attempt to touch the tossed ball. However, if neither jumper touches the ball it should be tossed again with both jumpers being ordered to jump and try to touch the hall

Since the jump ball has not ended (article 8), the jumper may NOT catch the tossed ball (article 7). So whose call is it (whose SHOULD it be)? In a two-person game, the 2 jumpers are the responsibility of the referee (who tossed the ball). In a three-person game, the responsibility of the 2 jumpers lies with U1. In either case, we need to get it right and get the violation.

So what happens after the whistle blows? The ball will be inbounded by the other team (red in the case on the clip) and the ball will be put in play on the nearest sideline. In a two person game, most likely the official who tossed the ball and in a three person game, most likely the U1 or U2. This specific throw-in scenario is not covered in the manual since it is not a L/T in two-person or a L/C/T in three-person scenario.

Next, we must make sure that the arrow is set properly. In THIS clip, white violated on the catch, so red gets the initial possession on the throw-in from the nearest spot OOB (out-of-bounds) and white would get the arrow. Make sure the table gets this correct. It is already a weird scenario with the catching of the toss by a jumper, so if you need to go to the table to get the arrow correct, do so. In YESTERDAY'S clip, remember that we had a jump to start the game, black secured the tip, then committed a back court violation. In that case, black secured the first possession but *then* violated. In this case, white would get the throw-in from the violation AND white would get the arrow. Technically, the arrow was set to white upon black securing the ball on off of the jump. In today's clip, the arrow was NOT set until we had a legal possession which would be when red has the ball for a throw-in.

Be READY for your game from the opening tip! Have a great pregame and TALK about being ready.....something as simple as 'Let's make sure we are ready on the jump for a violation or foul.....and don't let someone steal the tip'!

Have a great day, work that scrimmage hard tonight and make sure to tell those at home they are appreciated for supporting you in officiating!

Tim