

Good morning!

The dreaded 'blarge'....for our newer officials, this is when we have a double whistle and one calls a block and the other a charge....and the officials do not wait to look at each other and both have a preliminary signal. Take a look at an example of a blarge [here](#).

So now that it happened, how do we proceed? We can NOT just talk and decided that one official was wrong and one was right. In other words, we cannot just ignore one of the preliminary signals and resulting foul. There is a prescribed resumption of play proceeding for this play. If the ball goes has a different resumption of play than if the shot is missed. REGARDLESS, BOTH FOULS must be reported as it is a double foul. This specific play is in the case book at 4.19.8.C as:

4.19.8 SITUATION C: A1 drives for a try and jumps and releases the ball. Contact occurs between A1 and B1 after the release and before airborne shooter A1 returns one foot to the floor. One official calls a blocking foul on B1 and the other official calls a charging foul on A1. The try is (a) successful, or (b) not successful. **RULING:** Even though airborne shooter A1 committed a charging foul, it is not a player-control foul because the two fouls result in a double personal foul. The double foul does not cause the ball to become dead on the try. In (a), the goal is scored; play is resumed at the point of interruption, which is a throw-in for Team B from anywhere along the end line. In (b), the point of interruption is a try in flight; therefore the alternating-possession procedure is used. (4-36)

OK, it happened.....how could we have *avoided it happening*?

First, there needs to be a discussion in pregame about transition plays and how they are officiated. The L needs to have first (and second, third, fourth) crack at making this call. What I mean is that L has THIS matchup to officiate, as in any breakaway transition play or any one-on-one transition play. What else does the L have to look at besides this? The L needs to be given the play and any whistle needed. If (and only if) the L has a brain cramp or does not see something from behind should the C come in and get it....and it should be a 'late' whistle (giving L every chance to call it). 'Late' means maybe a second or two, but C (or in the case of a two-person game, T) MUST give L a chance to make the call. There are several times that I have seen the C blow the whistle on a transition play like this from mid-court or a step into the front court. This is an AT&T call.....let L have the local call! TALK about these transition situations in your pre-game!

Second, what do we do IF we have ANY double whistle? On a double whistle, we need to look at our partner and communicate....say "I got it" or "You take it". When we have a preliminary both is when bad results can happen. HOLD the prelim.....but again, talk about how the crew is going to handle these situations in pregame.

Hope you have a great game tonight...or tomorrow hopefully, or Saturday at the latest. Stay safe on the roads.

Thursday Extra: Do not assume that the visitor's book matches the home book....check them both to make sure they match!

Tim