

Good morning!

Sometimes the topic of the TOTD just jumps out from a play that happened in my game, a clip that was sent or a question that was asked. Today's topic has been occurring more frequently and clips/questions about it have been forwarded often lately. [Here](#) is a clip that was sent to me.

Several years (maybe a few more than 'several'), protection of the free throw shooter was a point of emphasis.

The free throw shooter is actually protected two ways 1) the free throw line may not be crossed prior to the ball hitting the rim, and 2) no contact whatsoever on the free throw shooter is permitted before the ball hits the rim. Recall that if a defender crosses the free throw line plane prior to the ball hitting the rim (or going in) and the free throw misses, there is a replacement free throw.

In the clip above, the defender crosses the free throw line AND contacts the free throw shooter prior to the ball getting to the ring. Since the free throw went in, the shooter does not get a replacement free throw. However, there is definitely a foul (it does not need to be such obvious contact to be a foul since ANY contact of the free throw shooter is a foul prior to the ball getting to the ring). Since there is a foul on the blue free throw shooter (00), blue gets one of these options depending on being in a bonus situation: 1) If NOT in the bonus, blue gets the ball on the baseline for a spot throw-in or 2) if in the one-and-one, blue 00 gets the bonus free throw(s) with all players on the line or 3) if in the double bonus, blue 00 gets two free throws with everyone on the line.

Just to remember, if 00 had *missed* this free throw on which she was fouled, she would have received a replacement free throw with *nobody on the lane lines* since we will resume play after that replacement free throw with a spot throw-in for blue or more free throws.

In a three-person game, C should completely focus on the free throw line and let T have flight of the ball. In a two-person game, T has to make sure the free throw shooter is protected primarily.

More about this can be found by clicking on December 13, 2018 at <http://www.tricitypiaabasketball.com/tips-of-the-day.html>

Wednesday Extra: Make sure to take care of everything we should be in pregame observations. This includes fashion police issues and making sure no dunking is happening, among other things! If you see a player 'close' to dunking, GO TALK TO THAT PLAYER and say 'stay off the rim' or 'be careful about dunking'. Talking can help avoid a potential issue!

Have a great game tonight! HAVE FUN!

Tim