

Good morning!

Hope you are ready for a busy Tuesday play date!

Awareness.....we need to be aware of many things all game long. Can we be perfect? Nope....but the last 2 minutes of a game we need to be. The philosophy is that if we make a mistake earlier that that, the team put at a disadvantage has time to make up for our mistake. When we make a mistake in the last 2 minutes of a game, we put the team that we put at a disadvantage in a position that may not allow enough time to make up for what we did wrong.

Take a look at the clip [here](#) and think about what happened *without know the situation*, then come back and keep reading.

So.....when blue went to the line for the second of two free throws, they were up 2 points with 10 seconds left in the game. Blue missed the free throw so white has 10 seconds to tie the game with a 2 point field goal. In this case, the lane violation was called and blue got a mulligan.....and makes it this time to put her team up three with 10 seconds to play. White is not a good 3-point shooting team so that is certainly a big difference. White does not tie the game with a three and loses.

Was this really a lane violation? Take a look again if you aren't sure. *Before* L bounces the ball to the free-throw shooter, white 5 is already backing off the lane line towards midcourt. Since she was moving before the ball was even started to be bounced and at the disposal of the free-throw shooter (before she HAS the ball), we should blow the whistle and 'reset'. White 5 actually was not illegal here.....she moved while L still had the ball. ANY of the three officials could kill the play by blowing the whistle as soon as it is seen that the ball was bounce WHILE white 5 was not in a legal position. We would give the ball back to L to bounce to the free-throw shooter again since white 5 wanted off the lane line and legally left her spot.

This is a 'get it right' play that very well may have had an effect on the outcome of the game. White was forced to attempt a three (or hope for a good 2 plus a foul). Be aware of the situation, what is happening and WHY we are putting air in the whistle.

Have a great game this evening!

Tim