Good morning!

Thanks to Jeff Levan for the visual for today's tip. Take a look here.

What do you think? YEP, intentional foul at the very least. Remember that we need at least 2 of the following 3 to have an intentional foul: 1: windup, 2) contact and 3) follow thru. I would argue that we have all three. The wind up is the reaching across the shoulder to make contact (the grab with a closing of the hand) and definitely follow thru (he did not let go right away and followed thru by pulling him).

This was in the local newspaper as a progression of pics in Jeff's area. Hopefully the calling official had an intentional right away and all three officials closed down to the play to prevent an altercation after the players got to the floor. Remember that the non-calling officials can go to the calling official (or the whole crew talk with players at their benches) to get the play right.....upgrade to intentional if not initially ruled that way, or flagrant if deemed so.

In either an intentional or flagrant case, the red 3 gets 2 free throws with nobody on the line (2 free throws even if the ball went in). If ruled intentional, the red team gets the ball nearest the spot of the foul. If ruled a flagrant intentional, the red teams still gets the ball nearest the spot of the foul, but white 15 would be ejected to his bench. He could go to the locker room if an adult member of the team goes with him and stays with him. In addition, we would need to file the disqualification paperwork on the PIAA website as soon as possible following the game. In this case, make sure to write exactly what actions were done and/or exactly what was said. Keep to the facts, no opinions. Before resuming play after a flagrant foul, go to the table and ask the official scorekeeper to write the name and number of the player DQ'd, the time it happened and the final score on a piece of paper that you will pick up (at halftime – you will need to get the final score in this case) or the end of the game.

When plays like these happen in a game, we need to address it appropriately. Ruling an appropriate intentional or flagrant sometimes is the best preventative measures we can take. Nobody likes to have these in our games, but we must enforce the rules to the players' actions.

Thursday Extra: Ready for the toss to start the game, what does the R and U (or R, U1 and U2) do? The R obviously has the duty of a good toss! Before that happens, the R should look at the partner(s) to make sure all is ready. The partners should make sure that no players are standing with a foot or part of the body directly behind opponent. The U (or U1 in a 3-person game) should get a confirmation from the table and each team bench that they are ready. The R should step in, blow the whistle hard (not in the face/ear of a player) and let the whistle drop from his/her mouth (no need to have a potential elbow or knee hit us in the face and have a whistle to take out of our throat also!). When the R tosses the ball, we need to be ready right away for a foul or potential violation. Reread the coverage responsibilities and violations that can occur on a jump ball. Get the game started on the right foot!

Have a great game tonight!

Tim