

Good morning! Hope everyone is healthy and ready for the last 3 weeks of the regular season. February is here this week.....the season has gone extremely fast!

Today's clip can be seen [here](#). Disregard the question of whether center or trail should have taken the foul, it is obviously center or lead.

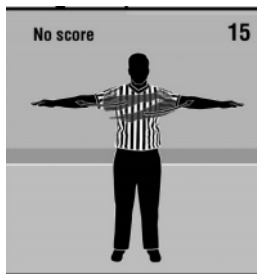
Was it a foul? Sure, the defender was moving towards the shooter when contact was made. We had a double whistle between center and lead.....should he have? If we follow the philosophy of C has the play with the primary defender and L has anything with a secondary defender, this is leads call all the way. The reasoning here is that C really has no way of SEEING how the secondary defender got to his/her position and if C has a whistle, it is almost certainly a guess. Lead SEES how the secondary defender got there and the ensuing contact. This play should be L's whistle AND reporting of the foul all the way.

It is hard to tell if the two officials in this play communicated or even realized that they had a double whistle since they moved so fast after the whistle. The lead did not point to the C indicating 'you take it' nor did the C pat his chest to say 'I got it.' *At the very least*, the two officials need to communicate after the double whistle. Fortunately they both held a preliminary signal until C decided to take it to the table. (Remember that in our NFHS signals, a blocking foul is NOT with fists, it is with open hands on the waist).



Remember that any drive coming from C or T in a three-person game or a drive from T in a two-person game, that official has the primary defender and L has the secondary defender. Talk about that in your pre-game conference.....and remember to HAVE a pre-game EVERY game at EVERY level! It gets you in the correct frame of mind!

Monday Extra: Since I have a signal above, here is another:



The 'no score' signal should be used in any case where there could be any doubt as to whether or not a shot COULD count. If a drive has a foul for which the ball Nadler shoots as soon as the whistle happens,

us the 'no score' signal so that your partners and the players know immediately that the shot cannot count. We don't want to walk to the table to report, turn around and everyone is lined up at the free throw line and have to tell them 'no free throws, throw-in on the baseline.' Our signals are a huge part of our communication tool bag. Use them!

Have a great game today, take your vitamin C and safe travels!

Tim