

Good morning!

Have you ever had that play that you 'see' it then process what happened and then you don't blow the whistle because it is late? Take a look at a great example of such a play [HERE](#).

Thanks to Darius Hughes for this clip and asking that it be used for educational purposes.

Darius was at C on this 3-person game. He actually sent me the clip and told me that he knew that something happened but by the time he processed it and knew there was an elbow to the face, he thought it was too late to call. Is there a 'fine line' about what should and should not be called 'late'? Great discussion question – maybe a great convention session topic!

When Darius and I discussed the play, he knew what happened by the time he got to the division line...so about 4 steps or 2-3 seconds after it happened. If we *are* able to process a play like this and blow the whistle 'late' then we need to. Film does not lie. This is clearly an elbow to the face and sometimes we miss it (personal experience here). If we can process the play and make a call, we should...even if it is a little late.

The result of this play is at the very least an offensive foul on white 4. In 'real time' it appears that there was no intent to hit her in the face with the elbow. In 'slo-mo' it appears that the elbow/arm 'extends' into red's face. Would an intentional be warranted if that is what happened? Just remember that we **must** be able to explain what we **saw** to the coach...not what we **think** we saw. We must be positive.

Monday extra: I hope these plays are good discussion plays and generate philosophy discussions as well as rules discussions!

Monday bonus: There seems to be more table issues this year than I can remember...from books not being done on time to timers not paying attention or not giving a horn on all substitutes to official scorers cheering and visually/verbally disagreeing with our calls. The table is part of OUR team. Remind them of that in your pregame conference with them when you go to the table as the R.

Have a great game tonight!

Tim