

Good morning! Hope you had a great start to 2018 on the court.

Today's tip deal with a play that doesn't happen very often, but is quite important when it does....and if your games are like mine, this play will happen tonight or tomorrow night now that I am talking about it!

What happens when a defender pushes a teammate of the shooter *into* the shooter? We have several questions to answer.....1) who is the foul on? 2) who shoots free throws (if anyone)? 3) does the shot count if it goes in? 4) are there multiple fouls?

I have two clips of a situation like this to look at. The first clip was sent to me from local girls game and the second was shared by Dave Wright.....take a look at [clip 1](#) and [clip 2](#).

Both plays have the defender pushing a shooter's teammate into the shooter. Now is where the questions need answered.

Play 1:

Who is the foul on? Blue for pushing through the screen. In fact, this is VERY likely an intentional foul. She knew what she was doing and there was *at least* contact and follow thru (remember we need at least two of the three of 1) windup, 2) contact and 3) follow thru to give us an intentional). There is also a solid argument of windup on blue as well. SO.....we have an intentional foul on blue.

Who shoots free throws? White 21 will shoot 2 free throws for the intentional foul. IF the foul was not ruled intentional, white 21 would shoot a 1-and-1 if in the bonus or 2 if in the double bonus. If white was NOT in the bonus, white would get the ball *on the baseline* for a throw-in since the foul occurred within the key semi-circle. The shooter would not get free throws since she was not the player fouled by blue. If the shot had gone in, it would count however! Take a look at rule 4-11, continuous motion, to review.

A little added discussion on this particular play needs to take place among the crew to make sure resumption of play is handled correctly AND to discuss the *possibility* of a flagrant foul on blue. Make sure that players from both teams are separated and at their own benches when discussing the play among all three officials.

Just to summarize this play.....intentional foul on blue.....white 21 gets two free throws with nobody on the lane lines, the ball did not go in on the shot, so go goal counted, the shooter gets no free throws and white gets the ball for a baseline throw-in after the two free throws.

Play 2:

This play is much more 'subtle' in regards to the foul that play 1. The announcers were completely fooled....wait, that isn't anything new! Anyhow, let's analyze this play.....

Who shoots the free throws? White 33 was pushed by red 4 into the shooter. Notice the lead official has the call and KNOWS what happened and immediately goes to T to discuss. This is excellent communication. The shot by white 4 did not go in so it obviously no goal (but again, if it had gone in, the goal would count because a foul by the defense does not make the ball dead immediately). In play 1 we had an intentional foul by blue....is the foul by red 4 intentional as well? That is certainly open for debate and judgment, but I would ask 'what was red doing by pushing white 33?' I say it *was* intentional...red 4

pushed white 33 into the path of white 4. Here we have windup and contact. If you do NOT have intentional, that is fine also! Being a 'weird' play, TALK WITH YOUR PARTNER(S) on it if for nothing else than to get their opinions.....remember to make sure players at their own benches also when discussing it.

So to summarize this play with NO intentional foul called on red 4 as was done in this game, no goal for white 4 on the shot because it did not go in, common foul on red 4, white 33 shoots a 1-and-1 here because white was in the bonus (it would have been 2 shots if in the double bonus and would have simply been a baseline throw-in if not in the bonus). Play continues of the free throws as normal.

If there had been an intentional foul called here, white 33 shoots 2 free throws with nobody on the lane lines then white would get a baseline throw-in to resume play (nearest spot to the intentional foul).

As I mentioned, this play does not happen often, but we need to recognize it and rule correctly when it does happen.....remember, if the foul by the defense occurs after the try for goal has started, the goal counts if it goes in since the ball does not become dead on a foul by the defense. This continuous motion play is also relevant when the defender fouls a teammate of the shooter as these plays are.

Have a great game tonight, communicate with your partner(s) on ANY 'weird' play and have fun in your game tonight!

Tim