

Screening from behind.....what is required of the screener when setting a screen outside (behind) the opponent? Here are a couple applicable articles from rule 4-40.

ART. 4

When screening a stationary opponent from behind (outside the visual field), the screener must allow the opponent one normal step backward without contact.

ART. 5

When screening a moving opponent, the screener must allow the opponent time and distance to avoid contact by stopping or changing direction. The speed of the player to be screened will determine where the screener may take his/her stationary position. The position will vary and may be one to two normal steps or strides from the opponent.

This is one area I KNOW I am not the best official....screening in generaland it seems to be an area that could use improvement in many of our games. In particular in the clip for today, the screen is set from behind. It is set in the paint and the secondary official (in this case the lead) gets the call. This COULD have come from center also, but either one getting this foul is excellent.

What happens in many cases is that the ball handler and his/her defender are being officiated by the official whose primary area they are in, then a screen is set also within that same primary. When this happens, it is extremely difficult for the official whose primary everything happened in to see everything. The best way to try to help ourselves see the entire play here is to get a good angle between the ball handler and his/her defender. In MOST cases, this will allow the official to also see a potential screen coming. Getting too close to the play limits our field of vision also, so try not to get so close that this happens.

Many teams are running a screen based offense even when facing a zone defense. Screening is going to be in our games night in and night out. Be ready for it.....but also make sure that there is contact. No contact means no foul. We have all seen the screens where the screener leans (would be a foul with contact), but the player being screened avoids the screener by going around. Pre-game screens and make it a point of emphasis to be more aware, get wider, and see a bigger field of view.

Have a great day today, scrimmage tonight or tomorrow!

Take a look at the clip by clicking [here](#).

Tim